

# A NOTE FROM FATHER PHIL

One of the most influential theologians at the Second Vatican Council was the German Jesuit, Karl Rahner. A genius and a very holy man. For my last “Note” I would like to share some thoughts he published on priests, in hopes that you will continue to pray for Fr Mike Cilibrise, Fr Loc, and me. I believe that Fr Mike is very fortunate to be assigned here. I hope that he will feel as blessed as I do for having been part of this community for the last 8 months. God bless you! You have been a blessing to me!



The priest is not an angel  
Sent from heaven,  
He is a man  
Chosen from among men,  
A member of the Church,  
A Christian.  
Remaining man and Christian,  
He begins to speak of you  
The Word of God.  
The word is not his own.  
No, he comes to you  
Because God has told him  
To proclaim God's Word.  
Perhaps he has not entirely understood it himself.  
Perhaps he adulterates it.  
But he believes,  
And despite his fear  
He knows he must communicate  
God's Word to you.  
For must not someone of us  
Say something about God,  
About eternal life;  
About the majesty of grace  
In our sanctified being?  
Must not someone of us speak of sin,  
The judgement and mercy of God?  
So, my dear friends,  
pray for him, carry him,  
So that he might be able to sustain others  
By bringing to them  
The mystery of God's love  
Revealed in Jesus Christ.

— Karl Rahner S.J.