

Justice  
for Priests and Deacons

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Since our founding in 1997, Justice for Priests and Deacons has labored to protect the canonical rights of clergy and laity. In a world that measures success in large numbers, we count it a blessing that we have helped over 800 priests and deacons, as well as women religious, and several lay people through our dedicated canon lawyers. We continue to receive phone calls from clergy in the United States and from other countries. I foresee that this trend will continue.

We are the only organization that assists clergy, religious and laity who are in need of canonical counsel. Often they do not know where to turn when accusations come against them; and their bishops or provincials keep them at a distance with little information. The priest or deacon finds himself in the position of being “presumed guilty until he is proven innocent.” That is a terrible injustice and a serious violation of human rights.

In July, we sent our 2009 annual appeal letter asking you for a donation. Since we have not heard from you, we are sending you this reminder. For your convenience we are enclosing another envelope for your response and donation. Our website also makes it possible to make a donation by credit card ([www.justiceforpriests.org](http://www.justiceforpriests.org)). **Our office is extremely busy and I would like to employ a part-time office manager. This would give me more time to work with clergy and laity who need our canonical expertise.**

A new issue of the newsletter will be published soon. Since we have not heard from you in some time, I am inquiring if you wish to remain on our mailing list. Please respond with the enclosed card if you **DO NOT WISH** to receive our literature. I am hoping you will continue to support us and the people we serve.

Peace and Joy,

Rev. Dr. Michael Higgins, M.A., D.D., D.C.L.  
Executive Director