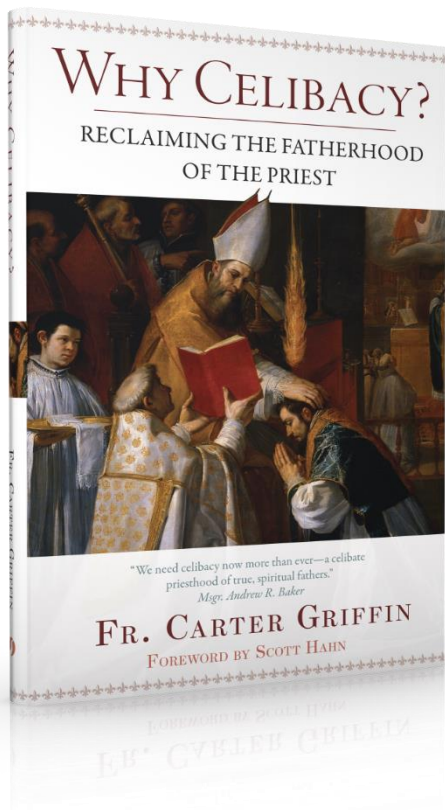


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Why Celibacy?

Reclaiming the Fatherhood of the Priest

By Fr. Carter Griffin

Foreword by Scott Hahn

“The Church today demands a profound renewal of celibate priesthood and the fatherhood to which it is ordered.”

(STEUBENVILLE, OH) Priestly celibacy, some say, is an outdated relic from another age. Others see it as a lonely way of life. But as Fr. Carter Griffin argues in *Why Celibacy?: Reclaiming the Fatherhood of the Priest*, the ancient practice of celibacy, when lived well, helps a priest exercise his spiritual fatherhood joyfully and fruitfully.

In a critical moment for the Catholic priesthood, Fr. Griffin brings light and hope with a new perspective on the Church’s perennial wisdom on celibacy.

Why Celibacy? addresses

- the question of optional celibacy
- some pitfalls of celibate paternity
- the selection and formation of candidates for celibate priesthood
- why biological fathers are also called to spiritual fatherhood
- the powerful impact of celibacy on the Church and the wider culture

Fr. Carter Griffin is the Rector of Saint John Paul II Seminary in Washington. He is a graduate of Princeton University and a former line officer in the United States Navy.

—Praise for *Why Celibacy?*—

“Fr. Griffin clearly shows that we need celibacy now more than ever—and a celibate priesthood of true, spiritual fathers.” —**Rev. Msgr. Andrew R. Baker, S.T.D.**
Rector, Mount St. Mary’s Seminary

“Griffin’s careful study is an antidote to the impoverished understanding of the priesthood that is prevalent today. [Essential] reading for priests and those who form them.” —**Dr. Mary Healy**
Sacred Heart Major Seminary

“A thoughtful, trenchant, inspiring, and very timely defense of the ancient tradition of celibacy in the Latin-rite Catholic priesthood, written by one of America’s finest priests.” —**George Weigel**
Distinguished Senior Fellow and William E. Simon Chair in Catholic Studies, Ethics and Public Policy Center

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