



# The Kids' Catholic Virginian

“Let the little children come to me” – Matthew 19:14

## We have 3 new priests!

Three new priests have been ordained in our diocese! **Father Andrew Clark**, **Father Samuel Hill**, and **Father Matthew Kelly** received the *sacrament of holy orders* on June 7. They are accepting a great gift from God – and they will be a gift to us!

Without priests, we would not be able to receive Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.

Without priests, we would not be able to go to Mass, where heaven and Earth meet to adore God.

Without priests, we would not have our sins forgiven in confession.

When a man is ordained a priest, he promises to pray for us and teach us the Catholic faith, celebrate Mass and the sacraments, try to grow closer to Christ, and be obedient to his bishop.

Each priest receives an *indelible mark* on his soul – that means he is a priest forever and nothing can change that.

Priests do so much to help us grow in faith. Please pray for Bishop Knestout and all of our priests, that they can continually be strengthened in their ministry!



**F**ather Andrew first started thinking about becoming a priest when he was seven years old! He was living in Italy and it came to him at Mass, just a few weeks after his first Communion.



**F**ather Sam likes to ride his bike through Italy, where he has been studying. He has been on long bike rides around lakes and up mountains – even in the Alps!



**F**ather Matt loves to sing! He traveled to Europe with a choir group while he was in college. He first heard God speak to him about becoming a priest while he was singing at Mass!



### Ask the Bishop

**Q.** Why did you want to become a priest?

— Kate Adamson, 10;  
St. Bede, Williamsburg

**A.** I first began to think about becoming a priest when I was in college. I attended a retreat which was run by Augustinian friars. I was impressed by their joy and dedication.

I began thinking to myself that priestly life would be a wonderful way to live and serve God. I attended some vocation retreats and talked with the priests at my home parish about what I thought might be my call to the priesthood.

After I completed my college degree in architecture, I decided to discern my vocation more seriously. So I applied to study for the priesthood and was sent to Mount Saint Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland. I was strengthened in my vocation in the seminary, leading eventually to being ordained a priest.

Kids 12 and younger: make sure to check with your parent/guardian, then email Bishop Knestout YOUR question.

AskTheBishop@catholicvirginian.org  
Include your full name, age, and home parish.

