



Our Men in Black



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Favorite prayer

The prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus especially the line: “Jesus, meek and humble of Heart. Make our hearts like unto Thine.” Although my heart is far from the heart of our Lord, I know that one day, with grace, all of us will have hearts that are on fire with a love of God and neighbor, able to endure the thorns of this world, shed our life’s blood out of love, and glow with the fire of the Holy Spirit, and so be able to carry our cross to heaven’s gate.

Favorite saint

St. Peter, because I too was worried about what I would spend my life doing. At the end of John’s Gospel, Peter says to the resurrected Jesus, “Lord, what about him?” Peter was worried that the beloved disciple would have a different or better glory than he. But our Lord put Peter at ease when he said, “What concern is it of yours? You follow me.” St. Peter and I both

had to learn that each of us is called to a unique glory, and we need not be concerned about what we might be missing out on when we accept our vocational call, because God’s plan is what will bring us the most joy.

What has been a holy moment for you in your priesthood?

Every time I celebrate the Eucharist is a holy moment. And the first Mass I celebrated, I had a glimpse of what heaven is like. I could see my own hands holding the consecrated host above the raised chalice, the body and blood, soul and divinity of Jesus Christ. And out of the corner of my eye, I could see my Mom, my Dad, my brothers and all my relatives and friends adoring our Lord with me. That’s heaven.

What have you learned from your brother priests?

Msgr. (Robert) Donovan was well into his 90’s when he gave a homily on vocations, and he said, “Before you go chasing after lucrative jobs or glamorous careers, you owe it to God to consider whether he is call-

ing you to be a priest or a religious sister.” I felt in my heart, right then, that God was calling me to the priesthood, and my life was changed forever.

Advice for young people considering a vocation

Find out what type of life God is calling you to live. The greatest joy you will ever experience is when God whispers to you what he created you to do, and then, with God’s grace in the sacraments, start to live this life and achieve Faith’s goal: your salvation.

What is something unique about you that few people would know?

If I told you then everybody would know it.

Favorite hobby or pastime

Bowling. I’m just good enough to know that I will never be very good, but there is just something special about knocking down ten pins that brings joy to my heart.