



# Our Men in Black



## Father John A. Slampak Pastor, Blessed Sacrament, North Aurora



The ceremony at which St. Therese of Lisieux was named a Doctor of the Church. Her little way is sheer, uncomplicated simplicity.

### **Favorite prayer**

“Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray the Lord my soul to keep. / And if I should die before I wake, I pray the Lord my soul to take.” For it’s abject simplicity.

### **Favorite saint**

St. Bernadette Soubirous, for her utter simplicity which confounded the learned. And for the fact that Mary simply smiled upon Bernadette.

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

### **What have you learned from your brother priests?**

A fellow priest taught me that, “sensitivity is both a Cross and a crown.”

### **Advice for young people considering a vocation**

For those considering a vocation: practice silence so that God may speak to your soul. Learn to listen, not merely being quiet. Pray the Scriptures, daily. Read the lives of the saints. Do all that you can to live a simple life, uncluttered. Then do

what He tells you. Pray.

### **Something about you few people would know**

If you don’t know you haven’t been reading my columns.

### **Favorite hobby or pastime**

Genealogical research of my family.

### **Favorite temporal things**

Movie: “Dr. Zhivago.”  
Book: “To Kill a Mocking Bird.”  
Play: “The Elephant Man.”  
TV show: “Iron Chef.”



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