

Dear Father,

Words cannot express my gratitude for your spiritual fatherhood, and acceptance of Christ's call to the priesthood. I am glad you embrace such a difficult and demanding vocation, but I have one request. This is difficult for me, but it is important.

It is no lie that our culture embraces casual sex divorced from procreation, and the results have been a devaluing of women, children, and the family. In our modern age widespread use of pornography has objectified women, resulting in an increase of sexual assaults, abortion kills innocent, unborn children, and high divorce rates have ruined families, all destroying society which is built upon the family.

Pope Paul VI foresaw the consequences of contraceptive sex, and while being pressured to reject the Church's teaching on contraception by forces outside and inside the Church, he published the encyclical *Humanae Vitae* in 1968. This encyclical upholds the Church's teaching that the conjugal act cannot be separated from its procreative aspect, while warning of the consequences of using contraception.

Unfortunately, most Catholics are unfamiliar with *Humanae Vitae* and the Church's teaching on contraception. For instance, in 2016 a study by the PEW foundation found only 8% of American Catholics believe contraception is morally wrong. This must change.

This is why I am turning to you, Father. When you answered the call to the priesthood you took on the responsibility of instructing the faithful. I am asking you to preach from the pulpit the truths of the encyclical *Humanae Vitae*.

This will not be popular with the secular world, but this is not about making peace with the evils of the secular world. This is about defending human life, the family, restoring the dignity of women, and ultimately the salvation of souls.

When you became a priest, you chose to work for God by working to save souls, and it is time for you and your fellow priests to do so. How many souls have been lost because they were not held accountable to the truth? How many souls have been lost because of the lies that have been preached?

I know that this may not be easy but remember God will be your ally and defender. I will help too. I am enclosing a sheet of the main points of *Humanae Vitae* and the quotes supporting them, and I'd be happy to talk with you about this. Please know that I am also praying for you.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,