

# PRIESTLY SPIRITUALITY: The Spirituality of Hans Urs von Balthasar

In the tapestry of Christian spirituality, the priestly vocation stands as a vibrant thread, woven with profound meaning and purpose. Among the many theologians who have explored the depths of priestly spirituality, Hans Urs von Balthasar stands out as a towering figure, whose writings offer a rich and illuminating meditation on the nature of this sacred calling.

## The Nature of the Priestly Vocation

For Balthasar, the priesthood is not merely a profession or a role, but a unique participation in the very priesthood of Christ. He argues that the priest is called to be a mediator between God and the people, a bridge that connects the divine and the human. This mediation is not simply a matter of officiating at liturgical ceremonies, but a profound and ongoing encounter with the living God.



### **Priestly Spirituality** by Hans Urs von Balthasar

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 217 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 118 pages  
Lending : Enabled

FREE

DOWNLOAD E-BOOK



Balthasar emphasizes the importance of contemplation in the life of a priest. Contemplation, for him, is not a passive withdrawal from the world, but an active engagement with the mystery of God. Through contemplation, the priest enters into a deep communion with God, allowing the divine light to penetrate and transform his entire being.

## **The Challenges and Joys of Priestly Life**

Balthasar acknowledges that the priestly vocation is not without its challenges. Priests, he says, are often called to live in a tension between the demands of their ministry and their personal need for spiritual nourishment. They may face moments of doubt, discouragement, and even spiritual dryness.

Yet, amidst these challenges, Balthasar also points to the immense joys that come with the priestly life. He writes of the profound satisfaction of being an instrument of God's grace, of witnessing the transformation of lives through the sacraments, and of sharing in the joys and sorrows of the people.

## **The Essential Role of Prayer**

Prayer, according to Balthasar, is the lifeblood of priestly spirituality. It is through prayer that the priest maintains his connection with God and draws strength for his ministry. Balthasar encourages priests to cultivate a rich prayer life, involving both liturgical and personal prayer.

Liturgical prayer, he says, is essential for the priest to enter into the rhythms of the Church's life and to unite his own prayers with the prayers of the entire Christian community. Personal prayer, on the other hand,

provides the priest with a space for intimate communion with God, where he can pour out his heart and find solace and guidance.

Hans Urs von Balthasar's writings on priestly spirituality offer a profound and inspiring meditation on the nature of this sacred calling. He invites priests to embrace their vocation with a deep sense of purpose and to seek their fulfillment in a life of contemplation, prayer, and service. Through his insights, Balthasar empowers priests to become true shepherds of God's people, leading them closer to the divine light and fostering their spiritual growth.



### **Priestly Spirituality** by Hans Urs von Balthasar

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

- Language : English
- File size : 217 KB
- Text-to-Speech : Enabled
- Screen Reader : Supported
- Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
- Word Wise : Enabled
- Print length : 118 pages
- Lending : Enabled

**FREE** [DOWNLOAD E-BOOK](#) 



## **Lincoln in the Bardo: A Haunting Exploration of Grief and the Afterlife**

An to 'Lincoln in the Bardo' In the realm of literature, 'Lincoln in the Bardo' by George Saunders stands as...



## **Supertato Veggies In The Valley Of Doom: An Epic Adventure for Kids**

Supertato Veggies In The Valley Of Doom is the latest installment in the beloved Supertato series by Sue Hendra and Paul Linnet. This time, Supertato and his veggie friends...