

# A life dedicated to helping others

## Meet Our Priests

This week's featured priest:

Father  
Charles Mazouch

YEAR FOR PRIESTS



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In honor of June 2009-June 2010 being named, “Year For Priests,” the *Southwest Kansas Register* is running the following feature, which each week celebrates the life of different priest presently serving in the Diocese of Dodge City.

### **What was it that made you want to be a priest?**

Somehow from little on, the church and its activities always intrigued me. In going to church in my grade school days I found the liturgies something special. I would watch my pastor and I wanted to do some of the things he was doing. He seemed to be helping people and that has always been a goal in my life even from young on. I worked hard on knowing all the answers to the Baltimore Catechism.

### **Was there a particular individual who inspired you to become a priest?**

I would say that my pastor, Msgr. Clupny, inspired me to become a priest. It was not so much what he said to me, but more the example he

showed me. His dedication and faith were great points of inspiration.

### **Who were people who encouraged you in your vocation?**

My mother was one who encouraged me in my vocation. I really believe that through her prayers and dedication to the church she provided me inspiration to become a priest.

### **What do you like most about being a priest?**

There are many things. I guess I could sum it up as being involved in a special way with so many people. It is through the sacraments of the church that I find enjoyment in my priesthood. I have been able to meet so many great people, and I know I would not have met all of these if it were not for my vocation.

### **What has been one of the greatest challenges you face in your ministry?**

One of the greatest challenges in my priesthood has been trying to answer the “whys” when there has been a death of an infant, death of an 18-year-old, or when there

has been great suffering.

### **What has been one of the highlights, so far, of your priesthood?**

I would say my involvement with my family, namely I was the celebrant and homilist at my mother’s funeral; I have been the priest that witnessed the marriages of my 3 brothers and my nieces and nephews and have baptized all my nieces and nephews and am a godfather to one.

### **What do you like to do in your free time?**

I enjoy being at the computer. There is so much to learn about the computer; it seems every day I learn something new about it.

### **If you could take a vacation anywhere in the world, where would you go?**

I would like to visit the country of Czechoslovakia where my father’s ancestors came from.

### **What are your hobbies?**

I enjoy playing chess and bridge.