

Madeline Kosobucki, *Lewis Hall Senator*
Abraham Figueroa, *Knott Hall Senator*

A RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE THE NEED FOR PRIESTS IN ALL RESIDENCE HALLS

Whereas, 5 out of 16 women’s residence halls do not have a priest in residence;

Whereas, 7 out of 17 men’s residence halls have more than one priest living in them;

Whereas, 24 priests are living in Corby Hall;

Whereas, having a priest in residence contributes to the community atmosphere of each residence hall at Notre Dame, which is a unique aspect of our campus residence life system;

Whereas, the historical tradition of having an in-residence clergy should be continued into the future of Notre Dame residential life;

Whereas, priests are required for access to the sacraments and are able to offer pastoral support and care to every student regardless of faith background;

Whereas, “Priests serve as role models for undergraduate students”¹;

Whereas, the mission of the University of Notre Dame “encourages a way of living consonant with a Christian community and manifest in liturgy, prayer, and service”;

Whereas, a priest-in-residence priest allows for this mission to be fulfilled in its entirety;

Whereas, the lack of priests in women’s residence halls creates an issue of *spiritual inequality* on campus;

Whereas, the University of Notre Dame should strive everyday to ensure that all students are cared for spiritually, regardless of gender, in order to fulfill its goal of “[nurturing] the formation of mind, body, and spirit” in all its students; therefore, be it

***Resolved*, by the Student Senate of the University of Notre Dame du Lac, that designated community priests or chaplains should be assigned to each women’s hall for the remainder of this school year, and Notre Dame should make every effort to assign a priest in residence to each residence hall by the beginning of next school year.**

¹ Dardis, L., & November 4, 2021. (2021, November 3). *Rectors, priests in Residence Reflect on Dorm Life*. Irish Rover. Retrieved November 23, 2021, from <https://irishrover.net/2021/11/rectors-priests-in-residence-reflect-on-dorm-life/>.

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