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# **St Josemaria talks about the mission of priests**

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06/25/2024

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of a gathering in Brazil, June 1, 1974, when St Josemaria was in the fiftieth year of his own priesthood.

- Father, I'm a university lecturer. We know that you, Father, are in the fiftieth year of your priesthood. We are giving thanks to God for the immense fruitfulness of your work. Father, could you please talk to us briefly about your life as a priest and also a little about the mission priests have in today's world?

- My son, I am very happy to reply to a university man, a colleague.

Ever since I was sixteen I've been in contact with the university world. And... you didn't say I was old, but you said that I'm in the fiftieth year of my priesthood; you were very cautious. And it's true. In the first place, I have to thank God our Lord for these fifty years of work. I have worked, -- shall I say it the way I usually do, because you'll

understand me very well? -- "ut  
iumentum factus sum apud te..."  
don't worry, I'll translate: like a little  
donkey, do you get it?

- Yes, Father.

- Before God, I'm like a little donkey,  
pulling the cart. That has been the  
job I have dedicated myself to. My  
job is serving God, and, in God's  
service, serving all souls without  
distinction. That's the answer to part  
of your question. And how do I serve  
our Lord? By talking to souls about  
God and only about God.

I forget that I'm a lawyer, I forget  
that I have three doctorates, they are  
no use to me. I only want to  
remember that I am Christ, and  
Christ speaks about peace and war,  
Christ speaks about giving, and  
giving ourselves, and Christ always  
speaks about love. So, my son, I've  
given you your answer. I only know  
how to talk about God; I can only talk

about God; if I talked about anything else except God, I'd get it wrong. And I think that is the mission of a priest: to talk about God, to repeat again and again the words of Christ our Lord, the saving teachings of the Redeemer, and to administer the holy sacraments..., without distinction, with love for everyone equally.

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