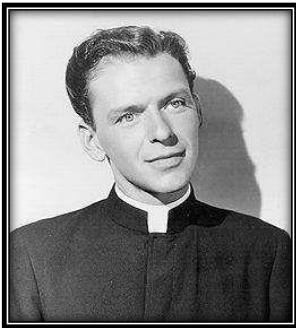




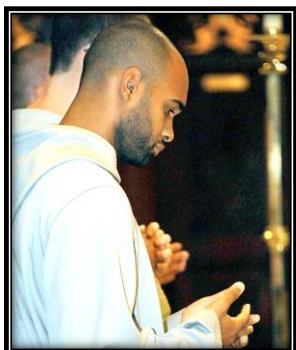
They Were Men Who Thought ...

Did you know that Our Holy Redeemer has been calling men to "follow Me" in the Priesthood for nearly two thousand years and that many of those men have come from right here in Freeport, New York? It's true. According to our 2003 Parish Journal and the hard work of homegrown OHR-Vocation to Consecrated Life Sister Dorothy Lynch, C.I.J, eighteen men were chosen by God to be "fishers of men". Their names are:

Rev. Rian John Carson, O.F.M., Rev. Father Brian Patrick Dunkle, S.J. (*currently an Assistant Professor of Historical Theology at Boston College*), Rev. Father William Fisher, Rev. Father Thomas Fisher, Rev. Flaherty, Msgr. Thomas S. Forker, Rev. Father Francis Glover, S.J., Rev. Monsignor Leo J. Goggin (+1999), Rev. Father James Hahn, O.P., Rev. Father Rene Hashey, S.J., Rev. Father Donald Hopkins, SAM, Rev. Father Basil M. Pennington, O.C.S.O. (1931 – 2005), Rev. Peter Damian Preziosi, O.F.M. (1932 – 1977), Rev. Father Gustave A. Sigivart, S.D.B., Rev. Father Brian Smith, S.J., **Rev. Father Robert J. Sweeney (currently the Pastor of Church of the Holy Rosary, Greenwood Lake, N.Y.)**, Rev. Monsignor Charles Swiger (+2001)



Like many of the men (perhaps you or a man you know) living in Freeport today, these Freeporters from the past, thought they might get married and become husbands and fathers. They were men who liked to sing songs and thought that they might become the next **Frank Sinatra** or Bing Crosby (both of whom *portrayed* Priests in the movies) and sing at Madison Square Garden. They were men who liked to play *Cowboys and Indians* as boys and thought they might grow up to become an Army General like Douglas MacArthur or a Rear Admiral in the Navy like Alan Shepard. They were men who liked to walk the trails of Bethpage State Park and thought that they might become a world explorer like Christopher Columbus or Juan Ponce De Leon, or even an out-of-this-world explorer like John Glenn. They were men who liked to be on stage in school and thought that they might grow up to an actor like Gary Cooper or James Stewart. They were men who liked to play baseball and thought that they would grow up to play for the New York Yankees or the New York Mets. They were men who liked to play Soccer and thought they might become the next **Pele**.



Yes, they were men (and at one time boys) from Freeport's past who thought about becoming one thing, but grew up to become **all things to all men** (cf. I Corinthians ix:19-22). Yes, they grew up and became Priests! In fact, one of the men from Freeport's not-too-distant past, **Br. Pierre Toussaint Guiteau, C.F.R.**, is growing up to become a Priest even as we speak.

On Sunday, 7 May 2017, men and women from Freeport and around the world will celebrate *Good Shepherd Sunday* and pray for Vocations to Priesthood and Consecrated Life. Let us pray: *Sweet Jesus, draw near to one man/boy in Freeport who is walking away from a Vocation to the Priesthood and show him the way to return to*

You: in the Word of God where his heart will burn within him, in the Sacrament of Penance where he will stop looking downcast, and in the Catholic Mass where he will recognize the way to think about becoming the next Father from Freeport!