



The St Mary's Centre impresses the Vatican

Recent research published by the St Mary's Centre has been profiled on the Vatican website. Once on that site the research has been picked up by many other parts of the Catholic Church, including the Catholic Bishops' Conference in Australia and the Malaysian Catholic Church.

The research was led by Professor Leslie J Francis, who worked with a Catholic priest, Dr James Burns from Boston University.

The research examined the psychological profile of Catholic priests serving in the USA. The data described a group of men who were:

- more concerned with their personal inner life than with the social world of other people;
- more concerned with conserving the past than shaping the future;
- more concerned with the good functioning of the institution than the wellbeing of people;
- more committed to routine than open to new possibilities.

The research was published in *Pastoral Psychology* (2013) volume 62, pages 239-246.

For more information visit the Vatican website:

<http://vaticaninsider.lastampa.it/en/reviews/detail/articolo/preti-priests-sacerdotes-27015/>