Marion Academy drive yields 1+ tons of clothing

Marion Academy’s sophomore theology classes and campus ministry co-sponsored a winter clothing drive with a goal of collecting a ton of clothes, literally.

The students tried to collect more than 2,000 pounds worth of gently used winter-wear. When the drive ended Oct. 31, the sophomore class soared above the amount of gently used winter-wear. When the drive drive with a goal of collecting a ton of clothes, literally.

and campus ministry co-sponsored a winter clothing collection. Six months to a year later, when he is ordained a priest, he would be able to confer the Eucharist and absolve sins.

However, that priest would not be able to ordain other priests by himself presiding over the sacrament of holy orders. The ability to perform the sacrament of holy orders upon another is a duty that only bishops can do.

So when a priest is going to be made a bishop, he comes forward for one more ordination ritual. Things may be even muddier now than before, but I hope I’ll clear it up for you right here. We say that there are three degrees of holy orders, each of which you can only receive once.

A deacon is ordained to the ministry of service, a priest is ordained to minister at the altar, and a bishop is ordained to receive the fullness of the priesthood. The bishops receive this fullness, because when they are ordained as bishops, they are brought into a line of leadership and governance in the Church that is a part of an unbroken line going back directly to the Apostles.

All priests then, receive their ordination as a participation in the work of the bishop of their diocese. Deacons, too, are ordained to serve within the diocese, but in a different way than the priests. Some are laymen who will serve as deacons all their lives. They are called permanent deacons.

Others are on their way to priesthood, and are called transitional deacons.

So again, to reiterate, there is one sacrament of holy orders, but three degrees within it.

We would not say that a bishop has received three separate holy orders, but rather that he has received all three degrees of the one sacrament. So when we say that holy orders is received only once, we are saying that it is a sacrament of the heart of the sacraments. — The Holy Spirit coming down to consecrate the man and to imbue a special power for the sake of sanctification or for the propagation of the faith.

It is not repeated, but there are three occasions on which the Holy Spirit desires to give the grace of ordination, and thus there are three degrees within the sacrament of holy orders.

The events in Father Romke’s life are an excellent example.