

WALLA: GUS' BREATH IS TAKEN AWAY.

044 GUS  
(awestruck)

A- Amen.

SFX: FATHER MCGIRR CONTINUES ALONG THE  
COMMUNION RAIL ONE PERSON AT A TIME.  
(ADDENDUM 2-B) AS MARTHA SPEAKS:

045 MARTHA  
(whispered)  
Gus? Baby, you alright?

046 GUS  
(whispered)  
You were right, Mama. I can see me  
up there in Father McGirr's place.  
Clear as day.

MUSIC CONTINUES.

9 EXT. ST. PETER'S, BACK GARDEN - LATER

AMB: BIRDS CHATTER. A GENTLE BREEZE BLOWS.  
WALLA: INDISCERNABLE CHATTER FROM THE  
CONGREGATION IN THE DISTANCE. SFX: FOOTSTEPS  
AS FATHER APPROACHES.

Side 1  
START >>>

047 GUS  
(pensive)  
Do this in remembrance of me... Do  
this in remembrance of me... Do  
this...

048 FATHER MCGIRR  
You better hurry if you don't want  
to miss out on your mother's Easter  
Sunday apple pie!

049 GUS  
Save me a piece, Father. I'll join  
the party soon. Just doin' some  
thinkin'.

050 FATHER MCGIRR  
It's nearly an hour you've been  
sittin' under this tree. Must be  
quite a thought.

051 GUS  
Lots of thoughts, actually.

052 FATHER MCGIRR  
Care to share?

053 GUS  
When you held the Eucharist up to my face during mass... It was like I really saw Christ in it for the first time. And now His words are singin' in my head, "Do this in remembrance of me!" It's like... What's that called when all the parts of a song go around and around all at once?

054 FATHER MCGIRR  
A fugue.

055 GUS  
That's it! It's like a fugue in my head, it won't stop!

056 FATHER MCGIRR  
And you feel that you are exactly who God created you to be.

057 GUS  
Yes!

058 FATHER MCGIRR  
I know precisely the thing you mean.

059 GUS  
It's amazing, right? I've never felt that before. I'm excited, and...and eager, and deeply happy, and I'm thinkin' about what I wanna do, what I wanna be...

060 FATHER MCGIRR  
Gus - Do you want to be a priest?

BEAT.

061 GUS  
I wanna be a priest. I wanna be a priest!

062 FATHER MCGIRR  
Praise the Lord!

063 GUS

I wanna stand up there and say "Do this in memory of me!" I wanna bring people to Christ in the Eucharist! Father, do you think I can?

064 FATHER MCGIRR

I've known you since you were a little boy, Gus. Even then I saw this in you.

065 GUS

But do you think... Father, I've got no money. I'm way behind in school. I'm a negro. Is it possible?

066 FATHER MCGIRR

Do you believe the Lord's will is in this?

067 GUS

Yes, Father. Without a doubt.

068 FATHER MCGIRR

Then you must run toward it without hesitation. But it will be a challenge, you must know that.

069 GUS

Alright. I can handle it. How do I start?

070 FATHER MCGIRR

First things first, you need to complete your high school studies. Will you commit to working hard enough to graduate in the next two years?

071 GUS

Yessir.

072 FATHER MCGIRR

Then I will commit to doing all I can to make this happen. You graduate, and I'll arrange for your continued study until we can find you a seminary. Agreed?

073 GUS

Agreed!

<<< END