

Father Jerry Jecewiz (aka "Priesto") is a Catholic priest of the Brooklyn Diocese and also a member of the Society of American Magicians and the International Brotherhood of Magicians. He illustrates Christian teachings through the medium of magic illusions. It's "magic with a message", an unusual, creative way of visualizing religious truths. He has presented throughout the U.S.A. and in seven foreign countries.

His presentation at the Festival, "The Magic of Forgiveness: the Greatest Christian Trick" is family-friendly, aimed at both children and adults, and "visualize" Christian teaching about mercy in a fun way. He has been presenting it in a variety of venues (from parishes and elementary schools to colleges and retreat houses) for about 30 years. He is bilingual (English/Spanish).

He retired as a pastor but is still helping out in about five parishes. He is in residence at St. Kevin's Church in Flushing, NY.

Here are some media comments about his secular entertainment show:

"The Priesto Magic Spectacular is in the Henning-Copperfield class of Grade-A illusion."

*-TIME OUT NEW YORK magazine*

"The only difference between the priest and world-class magicians may be his costume."

*-THE NEW YORK TIMES*

"Father Jerry kept his audience on the edge of their seats, and laughing, with his sleight-of-hand artistry and comic style...There is hardly a show in town that can beat the Spectacle of Priestidigitation put on by this engaging--and spirited--performer."

*-THE BIG APPLE PARENTS PAPER*

"A polished act that weaves classic and modern examples of the art of illusion, along with comedy, audience participation and animal tricks."

*-THE NEW YORK POST*