

2 Films about 2 Books about 2 Priests

	<i>The Fugitive (1947)</i>	<i>Diary of a Country Priest (1951)</i>
Source	Graham Greene, <i>The Power and the Glory</i> (1940)	Georges Bernanos, <i>Diary of a Country Priest</i> (1937)
Key Idea Tested in Novel	<i>ex opere operato</i> —“from the work done”; the sacraments are effective regardless of the spiritual state of the one authorized to offer them	<i>The hiddenness of sanctity</i> -- the holiness of those chosen is hidden to the natural man.
Fidelity to the Novel	<i>Loose</i> -- Ford changes a number of things, chiefly the sin and character of the priest	<i>Close</i> -- Bresson observes most of the major plot devices of the novel.
Chief Temptation in Film	Fear—The priest is dominated by the terror of being caught and killed.	Physical Suffering & the Dark Night of the Soul
Chief Strength	Fidelity to the Calling of Priest when called upon	Love and Nearness to the Cross of Christ’s Suffering
Perceived Sin	Pride	Prayerlessness
Chief Danger	External Threats to Safety	External Threats to Reputation
Social Threat	Isolation from the Community—high regard by the people; low regard by government	Isolation by the Community—low regard by the people; begrudging regard by the priest of Torcy
Chief Need	Needs the courage to die	Needs the affirmation of his calling
Chief Ability	Ability to administer the sacraments	Ability to supernaturally discern
Reason Hated by Others	Hated because he represents the continued existence of God and the Church	Hated because he discerns and uncovers their hidden motives through frightening innocence
Physical Antagonist	The Lieutenant	The Count
Feminine Counterpart	Maria de Lores	The Countess
Spiritual Antagonist	The Bounty Hunter	Chantal the daughter
Doppelgänger	El Gringo (Lapsed Catholic)	The Lapsed Priest
Happiness	With the people when unthreatened	On the motorcycle
Lesson of Death	Uncovers the lieutenant’s residual faith	Uncovers the lapsed priest’s residual calling
Manner of Death	Public Martyrdom by the State--“I want to live my death.”	Private Witness to the World’s Suffering—“All is grace”
Humiliation	By the governor’s cousin	By the townspeople
Audience Knowledge	We often know as much or more than the priest.	We are limited to the priest’s self-perception in the diary.
Final Cross Image	A cross of light	A cross of shadow