

## World Day of Prayer for Vocations –to the Religious Life, Priesthood and Diaconate

Good Shepherd Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> is also the World Day of Prayer for Vocations , to the *ordained ministries* (priesthood and diaconate), to the *Religious life* in all its forms (male and female, contemplative and apostolic), to *societies of apostolic life*, to *secular institutes* in their diversity of services and membership, and to the missionary life.

The purpose of this day is to publicly fulfil the Lord's instruction to, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). Please pray that young men and women hear and respond generously to the Lord's call to the priesthood, diaconate, religious life, societies of apostolic life or secular institutes

**Light a candle, safely – or if you have a battery one, put it on....and have it lit for the day – and each hour pray: " Lord, send labourers into your harvest."**



Pope Francis invites us:

*Dear friends, on this day in particular, but also in the ordinary pastoral life of our communities, I ask the Church to continue to promote vocations. May she touch the hearts of the faithful and enable each of them to discover with gratitude God's call in their lives, to find courage to say "yes" to God, to overcome all weariness through faith in Christ, and to make of their lives a song of praise for God, for their brothers and sisters, and for the whole world. May the Virgin Mary accompany us and intercede for us.*

To read his letter for this day:

[Message for the 57th World Day of Prayer for Vocations 2020](#)

**At some stage during the day -pray this World Day of Prayer for Vocations:**

Holy Spirit stir within us the passion to promote vocations to the consecrated life, societies of apostolic life, diocesan priesthood, and permanent diaconate.

Inspire us daily to respond to Your call with boundless compassion, abundant generosity, and radical availability.

Help us to remember our own baptismal call to rouse us to invite the next generation to hear and respond to Your call.

Inspire parents, families, and lay ecclesial ministers to begin a conversation with young Catholics to consider a how they will live lives of holiness and sacred service.

Nudge inquirers and motivate discerners to learn more about monastic life, apostolic life, missionaries, cloistered contemplative life.

Ignite our Church with the confident humility that there is an urgent need for religious sisters, brothers, deacons, and priests to live in solidarity with those who are poor, neglected, and marginalized.

Disrupt our comfortable lives and complacent attitudes with new ideas to respond courageously and creativity with a daily 'YES!' Amen.

**Please include in the Prayers of Intercession:**

For young men and women; That God may give them the gift of understanding to discern their service in the Church, the priesthood, diaconate, or consecrated life; And for the gift of courage to follow His call. Lord in your mercy...

For young people; That they may know the personal love of the Lord for them and respond with open and generous hearts. Lord in your mercy....

If you are at home with young people, why not have a conversation with them about priesthood/Religious Life...

Two YouTube videos that you could watch.....

[Vocation 101: What is Vocation?](#)

[Vocation 201: How do I Discover My Vocation?](#)