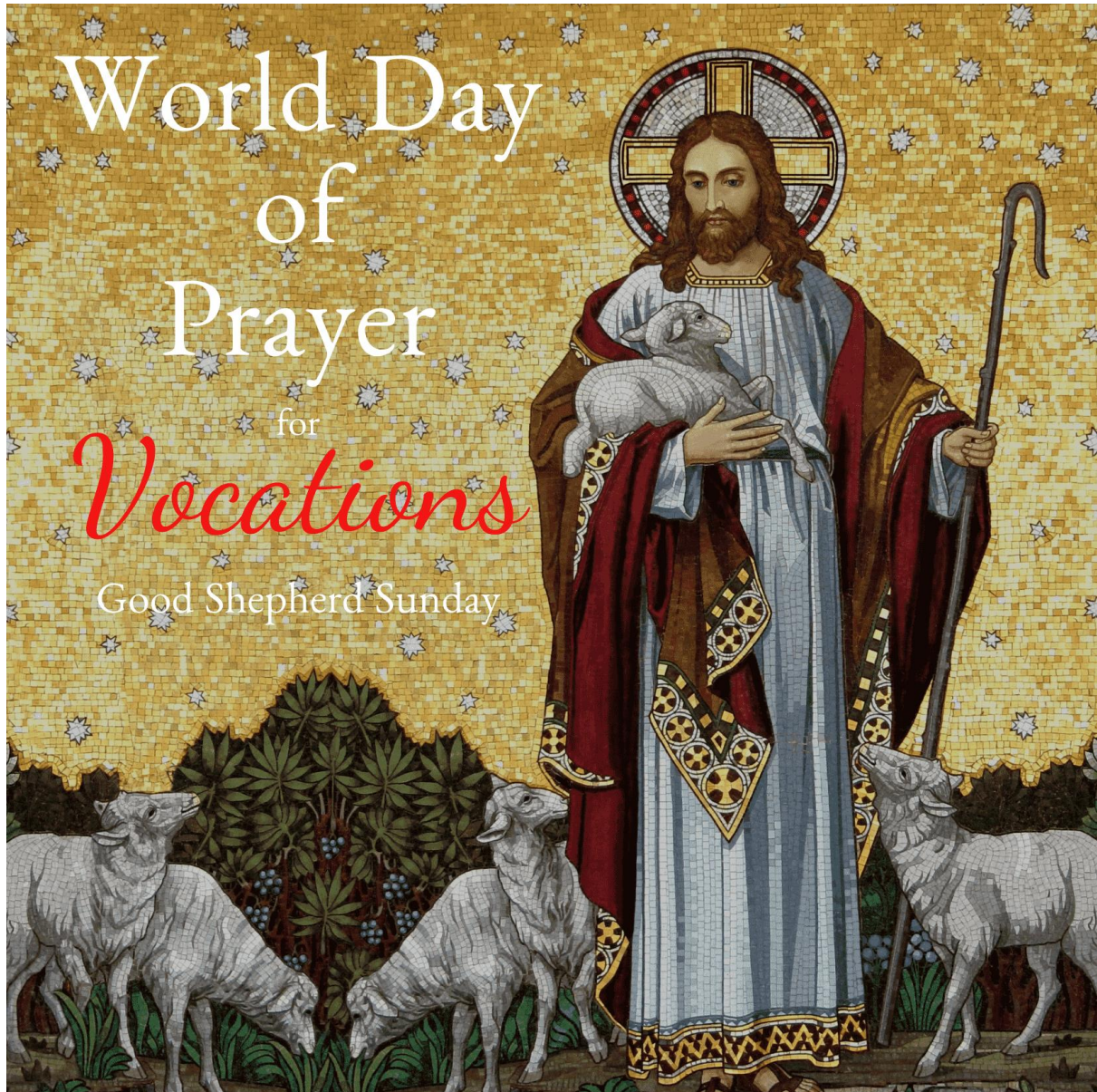


Parish Resources for Vocations Sunday 2023



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Hymns For Vocation Sunday

Will You Come and Follow Me

(Peacock, Maule, Bell)

Will you come and follow me
If I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
And never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
Will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown
In you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind
If I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
And never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
Should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
In you and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide
If I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
And never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
To reshape the world around,
Through my sight and touch and sound
In you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true
When you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
And never be the same.
In your company I'll go
Where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
In you and you in me.

Take My Life, and Let it Be

(Havergal)

Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee,
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing
Always, only, for my King;
Take my lips, and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee,
Filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold;
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect, and use
Every power as Thou shalt choose,
Every power as Thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it Thine;
It shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart; it is Thine own;
It shall be Thy royal throne,
It shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure-store.
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee,
Ever, only, all for Thee.

Be Thou My Vision

(Forgaill)

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art.
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true
word;
I ever with thee, and thou with me, Lord.
Born of thy love, thy child may I be,
thou in me dwelling and I one with thee.

Be thou my buckler, my sword for the
fight.
Be thou my dignity, thou my delight,
thou my soul's shelter, thou my high
tow'r.
Raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of
my pow'r.

Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise;
thou mine inheritance, now and always.
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
Ruler of heaven, my treasure thou art.

True Light of heaven, when vict'ry is won
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright
heav'n's Sun!
Heart of my heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

The Servant King

(Kendrick)

From Heaven, You came helpless babe
Entered our world, your glory veiled
Not to be served but to serve
And give Your life that we might live

*This is our God, The Servant King
He calls us now to follow Him
To bring our lives as a daily offering
Of worship to The Servant King*

There in the garden of tears
My heavy load he chose to bear
His heart with sorrow was torn
"Yet not My will but Yours", He said

Come see His hands and His feet
The scars that speak of sacrifice
Hands that flung stars into space
To cruel nails surrendered

So let us learn how to serve
And in our lives enthrone Him
Each other's needs to prefer
For it is Christ we're serving

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

(Traditional)

Make me a channel of your peace
Where there is hatred let me bring your
love
Where there is injury, your pardon Lord
And where there is doubt true faith in You

Make me a channel of your peace
Where there is despair in life let me bring
hope
Where there is darkness only light
And where there's sadness ever joy

Oh, Master grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console
To be understood as to understand
To be loved as to love with all my soul

Make me a channel of your peace
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned
It is in giving to all men that we receive
And in dying that we are born to eternal life

Oh, Master grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console
To be understood as to understand
To be loved as to love with all my soul

Make me a channel of your peace
Where there's despair in life let me bring
hope
Where there is darkness only light
And where there's sadness ever joy

Here I Am, Lord
(Schutte)

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save.

I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.

Finest bread I will provide
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

Shepherd Me, Oh God
(Haugen)

*Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life.*

God is my shepherd, so nothing I shall
want,
I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and
love,
I walk by the quiet waters of peace.
Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life.

Gently you raise me and heal my weary
soul,
you lead me by pathways of righteousness
and truth,
my spirit shall sing the music of your
Name.

Though I should wander the valley of
death,
I fear no evil, for you are at my side,
your rod and your staff, my comfort and my
hope.

You have set me a banquet of love in the
face of hatred,
crowning me with love beyond my pow'r to
hold.

Surely your kindness and mercy follow me
all the days of my life;
I will dwell in the house of my God
forevermore.

Contemporary Songs

Build my life (Housefires)

God of justice (Tim Hughes)

I will offer up my life (Matt Redman)

Lord I give you my heart (Michael W
Smith)

The Stand (Hillsong)

This is our God (Graham Kendrick)

Prayers for Vocations Sunday

PRAYER TO DISCOVER YOUR VOCATION

Almighty God,
You have made me to know you,
To love you, and to serve you,
And thereby to find and fulfil myself.

I know that you are in all things
And that every path can lead me to you,
But, of them all, there is one path especially
By which you want me to come to you.

Since I will do what you want of me,
I pray you; send your Holy Spirit to me;
Into my mind to show me what you want of me;
Into my heart to give me the determination to do it,
And to do it with all my love, with all my mind,
And with all my strength, right to the end.
Amen.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

God our Father, send workers into your harvest.
May the Spirit we received in baptism
Touch the hearts of many
To offer themselves in priesthood, religious life
And other forms of service.
Give the parents and families of our diocese
The wisdom and courage to support young people
In searching for and following the call of God in their lives.
Amen.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

O Jesus, send labourers into your fields, which are awaiting holy apostles, saintly priests, heroic missionaries and dedicated sisters and brothers.

Enkindle in the hearts of men and women the spark of a vocation.

Grant that Christian families may desire to give your Church, helpers in the work of tomorrow.

Amen.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Loving God,
your Son, Jesus, has shown us that an open heart finds the way.
Help me to find my way in this world.
Keep my heart open to following Jesus' way of serving others in love.

Give me the courage to accept the guidance you offer me through my family, my friends, and my parish community.

Through the Holy Spirit, you call me to a particular way of life.

If it is the way of a priest, sister, brother or deacon, then help me to walk it in joyful service to your people.

With you, my God, I know I can find my way.
Amen.

PRAYER FOR MY VOCATION

Dear God,
You have a great and loving plan
for our world
and for me.
I want to do my part in your plan.

Help me to see
the signs that You give me.
Open my heart to respond to You.

Grant me the courage
to follow your call.
Give me the strength
to serve You and your people
with generosity and love.
Amen.

GENERAL PRAYERS FOR VOCATIONS

Lord help us to believe that we are all ordinary people made extraordinary through your vision and your power. Take our insecurities and feelings of inadequacy and give us the courage to see ourselves and others as you see us, with gifts and potential to transform your world and build your Kingdom.
Amen.

Lord, you call us by our names. Help us to be confident in our own unique identity. To find opportunities to develop our specific gifts and our passions. Enable us to hear and recognise the call of Jesus in our lives, and those of others. Help us to find appropriate and life-giving ways to spread your Good News in a way which draws others to you and helps them experience your radical and extraordinary love. **Amen.**

Lord, enable your church to be the safe harbour as we search and explore a vocation in life and in ministry. Help it to be the lighthouse too, enabling us all to navigate our lives with skilfulness and joy, risking an adventure in Christ as we follow his leading, believing against the odds that we will discover the vitality of a new vocation. **Amen.**

God who calls us all to contribute to His Kingdom, take our insecurities and vulnerabilities and weave them through with your holy confidence, which always reassures us that we have something to offer. As we explore what you are asking of us, we pray for integrity of heart, clarity of mind, and a yearning to love and serve others wherever that may take us; For deep peace about this next step, and for God's Light in our eyes. **Amen.**

God of every aspect of our lives, help us to hear clearly what you are asking of us each day, whatever situation we find ourselves in. You are the God who calls us to stay where we are or to move at your bidding: to seek and speak courageously, sharing your love, defending the vulnerable and bringing dignity to those who have no voice. Help us to sense your presence, in perseverance and in hope, in those everyday places which can be continuously renewed by your grace. **Amen.**

Loving and Generous God, it is You who call us by name and ask us to follow You. Help us to grow in the Love and Service of our Church as we experience it today. Give us the energy and courage of Your Spirit to shape its future. Grant us faith-filled leaders who will embrace Christ's Mission of love and justice. Bless your Church by raising up dedicated and generous leaders from our church, families and friends who will serve Your people. Inspire us to know You better and open our hearts to hear Your call. **Amen.**

God our Father, Lord of all the world, through your Son you have called us into the fellowship of your universal Church: hear our prayer for your faithful people that in their vocation and ministry each may be an instrument of your love, through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people, that in their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, you have entrusted to your Church a share in the ministry of your Son our great high priest: inspire by your Holy Spirit the hearts of many to offer themselves for the ministry of your Church, that strengthened by his power, they may work for the increase of your kingdom and set forward the eternal praise of your name; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, look with compassion on the world you have redeemed by the death of your Son Jesus Christ. Move the hearts of many to offer themselves for the sacred ministry of your Church, so that by their lives and labours your light may shine in the darkness and the coming of your kingdom be advanced, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Jesus, Lord and Master, you transform the lives of men and women. In your strength we can do all things and please our sovereign God. Tame our natures Lord, mould us to your need, fashion us to your taste, and conform us to your will. Enable us and all who hear your call to ministry to give ourselves generously to your service. Send us as workers into the Church and into the world. **Amen.**

Lord, as you called your disciples, call us now.
Open our ears to listen to you calling;
Open our eyes to see you;
Open our hearts to your love.
Help us to hear you, to experience your presence with us and to love you.
And loving you, let us serve you, our servant King. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL FOR VOCATIONS SUNDAY 2023

(Please select an appropriate number of intercessions from the samples listed below.)

Celebrant:

With faith and confidence, we now bring our prayers to God our Father who sent his Son to be our Good Shepherd and to lay down his life for us in love and service.

1. We pray for the Church, that her members may care for each other with the spirit of the Good Shepherd who laid down his life for his flock so that we might have life and have it to the full. Lord hear us.

2. For vocation to priesthood and religious life: that those discerning a vocation to the priesthood, diaconate, or consecrated life will find guidance in the name of Jesus Christ. Lord hear us.

3. On this Vocations Sunday, we pray for those whom God is calling to serve him in the priesthood and religious life. May they sense that call with greater clarity and have the courage to respond generously. Lord hear us.

4. We pray for those who work to promote vocations in our Diocese, that they may work with our priests to create a culture of vocations in every parish community of our diocese. Lord hear us.

5. For Bishop Tom and all the priests of our diocese - that they might be renewed in faith and continue to be good shepherds of the people of God with truth, charity and joy. Lord hear us.

6. That Catholic families will pray for and nurture the gift of vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life from among their children. Lord hear us.

7. For all seminarians who are studying for the priesthood for our diocese. May the Lord bless them, guide them and all those preparing for priesthood. Lord hear us.
8. For our civic leaders, doctors, nurses and all who serve the common good. May the spirit of the Good Shepherd, of care and service continue to be strong at this difficult time. Lord hear us.
9. For retired priests, that they may experience God's abundant love as they walk a new path of witness and prayer in retirement. Lord hear us.
10. That this parish family may always embrace our priest(s), and sustain his ministry by our love, our constant prayer, and our trust in his leadership. Lord hear us.
11. For priests who now sleep in peace of the resurrection, and for those who may die this year or this day, that God lead them gently into their eternal reward. Lord hear us.

Celebrant:

Merciful Father, hear the prayers of your people who praise you for your care. Through these prayers of intercession may we never grow indifferent to the needs of your people. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

USEFUL WEBSITES ON VOCATIONS

National Vocations Office

www.vocations.ie

Vocations Ireland

<https://vocationsireland.com/>

Diocese of Meath

www.meathvocations.com

Vocation Centre

<https://vocationcentre.org.au/home/what-is-a-vocation/>

Year of Prayer for Vocations 2022-2023

<https://derryvocations.org/>

National Office for Vocation

<https://www.ukvocation.org/>

Vianney Vocations

<https://vianneyvocations.com/>

HELPFUL VIDEOS ON CATHOLIC PRIESTHOOD

How should I discern the priesthood?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XdxYHfExkfo>

How to Discern Your Vocation w/ Fr. Mike Schmitz and Dr. Scott Hahn

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a9Gz6gMbp5w>

What's My Vocation?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJz9PbakIzY>

Priest Reveals 3 Steps to Finding Purpose in Life

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GNrehHdbLnA>

Discernment 101

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9EMOgG7lfmE>

Inside the Life of a Priest: Clerically Speaking Podcast (Part 1)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CEgYTtDvi4E>

The Day My Life Changed Forever

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9s0HSu971tg>

Answering the Internet's Most Asked Questions About Priests

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lTrGHZs_zGo

The Making of a Catholic Priest

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HumCsGbVAp4>

Six Paths to the Priesthood

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uAWaFWL6SEw>

A Week in the Life of a Priest

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jbhZ9J0NxzU>

Sources:

<https://diolc.org/consecratedlife/prayers-for-vocations/>

<https://www.vocations.ie>

<https://www.thehookoffaith.com/single-post/resource-pack-for-vocations-sunday>

<https://www.ireland.anglican.org/our-faith/vocations/vocation-sunday-resources>

www.dublindiocese.ie