

Letter to Parents/Guardians

This week our parish and school are celebrating Vocation Awareness Week. This year we will be focused on how vocation discernment takes prayer and patience and that "there are rarely trumpets or midnight visions." Time should be set aside to reflect on vocations. God calls all of us to be saints in heaven, but not all are called to the same path. God will call some to a vocation of service to the Church, such as priests, deacons and religious, while others will be called to married life or to remain single.

During this week, we give special attention to the callings for religious life, diaconate and priesthood. Parents are the first and best teachers of their children. Children will need encouragement, guidance and support to seek what God's will is for their lives, and to figure out His call.

Parents can help by:

- Praying as a family and individually for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.
- Discussing with your children what religious vocations are and how their service enriches all our lives.
- Creating a Catholic home environment with family prayer, family rituals and celebrations.
- Encouraging your children to learn about the saints and see them as examples to be followed.
- Spend some time reflecting on and discussing the important roles that priests, deacons and religious have had in your life.

Please encourage your children to seek out the vocation to which God is calling them. God is the source of all lasting happiness and we will all find our greatest joy and satisfaction in life by following His plan for us. The new website for the Vocation Office of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati provides detailed information about vocation discernment: www.cincinnati vocations.org.

Thank you and may God pour His blessings upon you.

Sincerely,