

VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK ~~~ PARISH RESOURCES

January 11 – 16, 2009

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT – Bulletin of January 11, 2009

Vocations Awareness Week begins today! During this week, let us be aware of our need to answer God's call in our lives. That call began at Baptism, and continues as we live out the vocation to married life, the single life, the consecrated life, and the ordained life. In a special way, let us pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life in our families. Our children and grandchildren need to know that we will encourage and support them if God calls them in this way!

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT – Bulletin of January 18, 2009

This past week, we celebrated Vocations Awareness Week. We all know, however, of our need to promote vocations, especially to the priesthood and religious life, year round. If you know of a young man or woman whom you feel God may be calling, please pray for them, and ask them if they have considered a religious or priestly vocation. If not, tell them why you think they would make a good sister, brother or priest. God uses us to invite! Let's do so!

BULLETIN INSERT

An insert for the January 11 bulletin is on the opposite side of this paper. Please copy!

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

A suggested petition for the Prayers of the Faithful for January 11, 2009 (Feast/Baptism of the Lord):
That young women and men may recognize the gifts they have received in baptism, and be willing to share those gifts in service of the Church, especially through religious life and the priesthood, we pray to the Lord.

A suggested petition for the Prayers of the Faithful to be used throughout the year:

For an increase of happy vocations to the married life, to the single life, to the consecrated life and to the ordained life, we pray to the Lord.

HOMILY IDEA for January 11: Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

We all have a vocation, which comes to us from our baptism. In his baptism, Jesus recognized his call to announce the good news of the kingdom. Out of our call (vocation) to be a disciple of the Lord, God calls us to the specific vocations of married life, single life, consecrated life and ordained life. Share how you recognized God's call in your life, and how you responded. How is living your vocation life-giving? How do we help each other to live out our vocations by strengthening marriage? How do we help nurture vocations to the priesthood and religious life in our families and our parish?

OTHER IDEAS

- Create a vocations display for your church, hall, or gathering area.
- Have a priest, sister or brother talk to students in your Catholic School or Religious Education program, with your Women's Society or Altar Guild, or to the Knights of Columbus.
- Highlight religious orders that have served your parish.
- Have classes "adopt" a seminarian of our diocese, or a person in formation for a religious community.

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