



VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK ~~~ PARISH RESOURCES

January 8 – 12, 2007

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT – Bulletin of January 7, 2007

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! Check www.gbvocations.org for vocations information.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT – Bulletin of January 14, 2007

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! Go to www.gbvocations.org for vocations material.

BULLETIN INSERT

An insert for the January 7 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 7, 2007 (Epiphany):

That young women and men may recognize the gifts they have received, and be willing to share those gifts in service of the Church, especially in the consecrated 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.

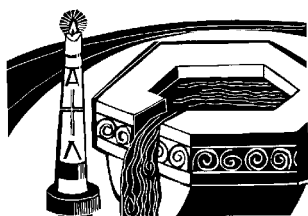
HOMILY IDEA for January 7: Feast of the Epiphany

Use the theme of GIFTS and how we are called to share our gifts with Christ as did the Magi. Share how you recognized God's desire to have you share your gifts. How do we recognize those gifts in ourselves, and in one another? How do we help one another to share those gifts by inviting people to consider a religious or priestly vocation?

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.
- Invite someone to be your parish Vocation Contact Person if you do not have one.
- **Additional resources are found on the diocesan vocations website: www.gbvocations.org**

Vocations Awareness Week: Baptized for Service



God calls. We respond. Our primary call, from our Baptism, is to follow Christ as his disciple.

Within the call to follow Christ, we hear the call to a specific vocation in the way we live our lives. Those calls include vocations to the **married life**, to the **single life**, to the **consecrated religious life**, and to the **ordained life**.

We know within our Church the need to raise up leaders as **sisters, brothers and priests**.

In a particular way, we as Church look for the following gifts in young men and women as signs of a possible call from God to the religious life or priesthood. If you know someone in your parish or family who has some of these gifts, please **PRAY** for them and **INVITE** them to consider God's call to the priesthood or consecrated life.

God may be calling someone who:

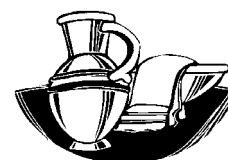
- has a strong personal faith;
- loves people;
- has good physical and emotional health;
- has an enthusiasm for learning and studying;
- has good relationships with men and women and can live a celibate lifestyle;
- is active in the parish;
- has the gifts to serve the Church in leadership.



For more information on **priesthood and religious life**, visit www.gbvocations.org or call Fr. Tom Long at 920-272-8293.



We are baptized for service!



Within the vocations to the married life and the single life, some people are called to serve in Church ministry. Some are called to lay ministry; others are called through the ordained life to the diaconate.

For more information on **Lay Ministry Formation**, contact Tony Picher at 920-272-8268. For more information on the **Diaconate**, contact Deacon Paul Grimm at 920-272-8290. Or toll-free: 1-877-500-3580, ext. 8268 (lay ministry formation) or ext. 8290 (diaconate).