



"Pray the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into His harvest." (Matthew 9:37-38)



In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Come, Holy Spirit, enlighten my heart and my mind to listen to your word.

There are many Scripture texts that speak to us about vocation. Chose **one** and invite two people to read the same text, leaving silence for reflection in between each reading.

"Then Eli realised that the Lord was calling the boy. So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. The Lord came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." (1 Samuel 3:8-10)

"And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' Then I said, 'Here am I! Send me.'" (Isaiah 6:8)

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.' Then I said, 'Ah, Lord God! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth.' But the Lord said to me, 'Do not say, 'I am only a youth'; for to all to whom I send you, you shall go, and whatever I command you, you shall speak.'" (Jeremiah 1:4-7)



"The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples; and he looked at Jesus as he walked, and said, 'Behold, the Lamb of God!' The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. Jesus turned, and saw them following, and said to them, 'What do you seek?' And they said to him, 'Rabbi' (which means Teacher), 'where are you staying?' He said to them, 'Come and see.' They came and saw where he was staying; and they stayed with him."

(John 1:35-39)



"And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.'" (Matthew 9:35-38)



"You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide; so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. This I command you, to love one another." (John 15:16-17)



Spend approximately 10 minutes reflecting on God's word in silence. Invite the Holy Spirit to speak to you. What does this text reveal to me about God? What does it reveal to me about myself? What might God be calling me to? How will I respond? Finish this quiet time in thanksgiving for the gift of your vocation.



The Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary

When we pray the Rosary, we sit at the feet of Mary, our Mother, and with her, contemplate the life of her Son. The Mysteries of Light invite us to reflect on the priesthood through the ministry of Jesus.

1st Luminous Mystery: The Baptism of Jesus

Jesus's public ministry began with His baptism. Jesus accepts His mission as the Messiah, the Anointed One, who would give His life so that we may have eternal life. Those who are called to priesthood, are also anointed by the Holy Spirit in baptism, and are being called to a life of service. Let us pray for those who may be experiencing fear: fear of being unworthy, fear of what people might say or think, fear of the cost of ministry...



May the Holy Spirit strengthen them to accept their calling with joy, and may they experience the love of God the Father who says to them: "You are my son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

2nd Luminous Mystery: The Wedding Feast of Cana

Our Mother Mary is ever attentive to the needs of her children. She brings those needs to Jesus, and simply tells us to 'do whatever He tells you.'

May those who are being called to priesthood do whatever the Lord tells them. May they entrust their lives to God in humility and trust following the example of Mary who said, "let what you have said be done unto me."



3rd Luminous Mystery: The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God

In this mystery, Jesus begins His ministry of proclaiming the Good News of God's love and calling each one to return to God. Pope Francis said, "Wherever there is life, fervour and a desire to bring Christ to others, genuine vocations will arise."



May each of us be Spirit-filled evangelisers in our own faith communities, and may those whom God is calling to serve Him through the priesthood experience the joy of the Gospel anew.

4th Luminous Mystery: The Transfiguration

The transfiguration was a moment where Jesus revealed His glory in order to strengthen the faith of Peter, James and John. Jesus gives us transfiguration moments in our faith journey, too.

May those who are being called to priesthood experience the joy of God's love and grace in order to respond to this calling, and to face with courage whatever challenges may lie ahead.

5th Luminous Mystery: The Institution of the Holy Eucharist

Jesus is Emmanuel, God-with-us. He promised that He would be with us always. One of the ways in which He continues His Presence among us is through the Eucharist. The Eucharist is truly Jesus, fully God and fully man. In this mystery, we also celebrate the institution of the priesthood without whom we would not have the Eucharist.

We pray that those whom God is calling may hear His voice and respond generously in making Jesus present in our world.



A Litany for Vocations

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, hear us. **Christ, graciously hear us.**

God the Father of heaven, **have mercy on us.**

God the Son, Redeemer of the world, **have mercy on us.**

God the Holy Spirit, **have mercy on us.**

Holy Trinity, one God, **have mercy on us.**

Holy Mary, **pray for us.**

Holy Mother of God, **pray for us.**

Holy Virgin of Virgins, **pray for us.**

St. Michael, Leader of the Heavenly Host, **pray for us.**

St. Gabriel, Messenger of God's divine plan, **pray for us.**

St. Raphael, Companion of the journey, **pray for us.**

All you Holy Angels and Archangels, **pray for us.**

St. Joseph, Protector of the Holy Church, **pray for us.**

St. John Vianney, Patron of Parish Priests, **pray for us.**

St. Charles Borromeo, Patron of seminarians, **pray for us.**

St. Alphonsus Ligouri, Patron of vocations, **pray for us.**

St. John Berchmans, Patron of Altar Servers, **pray for us.**

St. Maria Goretti, Patron of teenagers, **pray for us.**

St. Patrick, St. Brigid, and St. Colmcille, Patrons of Ireland,
pray for us.

St. Finbarr and St. Fachtna, Patrons of Cork and Ross, **pray for us.**

All you holy men and women, **pray for us.**

Be merciful, **spare us, O Lord.**

Be merciful, **graciously hear us, O Lord.**

Through Your mercy, **send workers into Your harvest, O Lord.**

Through Your kindness, **send workers into Your harvest, O Lord.**

Through the fervent prayers, and sacrifices of your people,
send workers into Your harvest, O Lord.

Through the power of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass,
send workers into Your harvest, O Lord.

Through the intercession of all the Saints and Angels,
send workers into Your harvest, O Lord.

Through the sanctification of the family,
send workers into Your harvest, O Lord.

Through parents being generously open to life,
send workers into Your harvest, O Lord.

Through the example of priests and religious striving for holiness,
send workers into Your harvest, O Lord.

Through a renewed sense of fidelity to our Catholic faith,
send workers into Your harvest, O Lord.

That young people might seek to live the truth of Christ,
send workers into Your harvest, O Lord.

That young people might seek God's will for them in their lives,
send workers into Your harvest, O Lord.

That young people might hear the call to give their lives for the mission of the Church, **send workers into Your harvest, O Lord.**

That all priests and religious might be renewed in the spirit of the new evangelisation, **send workers into Your harvest, O Lord.**

That Bishops may be strengthened to be courageous shepherds,
send workers into Your harvest, O Lord.

That we may always zealously pray for and promote vocations,
send workers into Your harvest, O Lord.

That those who are being called to be priests might respond generously, **send workers into Your harvest, O Lord.**

Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world,
spare us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
graciously hear us, O Lord.

Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.

The harvest is great, but the labourers are few.

Beg the Lord of the Harvest to send out labourers into His harvest.

Let us pray:

Loving God, at Baptism you have gifted each of us with a call to serve you and all people in everything we do.

Give us strength to share your message of love, justice, hope and peace in every part of our Diocese of Cork and Ross.

We ask you, Lord, for the gift of new vocations to priesthood in our diocese.

In your Fatherly care, accompany those who are seeking to know your will for them.

Inspire those you invite to serve as priests and fill them with the courage to answer that call.

Through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**



**“How wonderful it is to be surprised by God’s call,
to embrace His word,
and to walk in the footsteps of Jesus.”
(Pope Francis)**

CONSIDER BEING A PRIEST IN THE DIOCESE OF CORK AND ROSS



A LIFE FOR GOD AND PEOPLE
AUTHENTIC & FULFILLING

IF YOU'D LIKE A CHAT
TO FIND OUT WHAT'S INVOLVED

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