

National Vocations Awareness Week

Sunday, January 12, 2002

At Masses:

- *Include intentions for vocations
- Announce special events, discussions, guests, etc.
- If your parish is sending cards to seminarians (see "What can the parish do?"), announce that cards of encouragement for seminarians will be collected during the offertory next week. Depending on how your parish chooses to mail them, instruct parishioners how to address envelopes (do they need stamps? names of seminarians? addresses?) This information should also be in the bulletin.

Week of January 13-17, 2002

Encourage faith communities to focus on some aspect of vocations during their meeting.

Topics for adult faith communities:

- How to identify vocations among young people and to invite them to think about their call.
- Reflections on one's own vocation. How has it
 - blessed you?
 - challenged you?
- How have you grown in your awareness of
 - God's love?
 - self?
 - the other?
- Where do you go from here?
 - How can your lived vocation be strengthened?
 - Is there something else God is asking you to do?
- Support existing religious vocations.
 - How? Who?
- Write the Vocations Office for scripture and guided group reflection on the following topics:
 - *Commitment
 - *Stewardship
 - *Service
 - *Multicultural Awareness

Religious Education

*Take advantage of this week and the week prior to explore vocations in class. Ask the vocations Office for lesson plans for levels 1-8. See below for some ideas to consider for high school groups.

For High School

- Catholic Questions Café
The youth group gathers as they would in a café for discussion. Excellent, low-impact way to ask priests or religious questions about vocations and to discuss related issues.
- Journaling and discussion process
i.e. skills assessment, self evaluation, examination at life commitments
- Prayer service for all vocations. Allow students to write intentions, other parts, as appropriate. Write the Vocations Office for suggestions or order *A Future Full of Hope* from NCCV (see catalog from last mailing).

Sunday, January 18, 2002

At Masses, the following items should be focused on vocations

- Homily
- *General Intentions
- *Rite of Rededication
- Collection and mailing of cards to seminarians