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## Vocations are everyone's responsibility!

"I will give you shepherds after my own heart." In these words from the prophet Jeremiah, God promises his people that he will never leave them without shepherds ... By faith we know that the Lord's promise cannot fail. This very promise is the reason and force underlying the Church's rejoicing at the growth and increase of priestly vocations now taking place in some parts of the world. It is also the foundation and impulse for a renewed act of faith and fervent hope in the face of the grave shortage of priests which is being felt in other parts of the world. Everyone is called upon to share complete trust in the unbroken fulfillment of God's promise.

John Paul II  
Pastores Dabo Vobis #1, 1992  
(I Will Give You Shepherds)

St. John's Vocations Committee  
relies entirely upon volunteers  
to accomplish its goals.

If you are interested in joining us  
in this important work, please contact:

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Cathedral Vocations Committee

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## A Prayer for Vocations

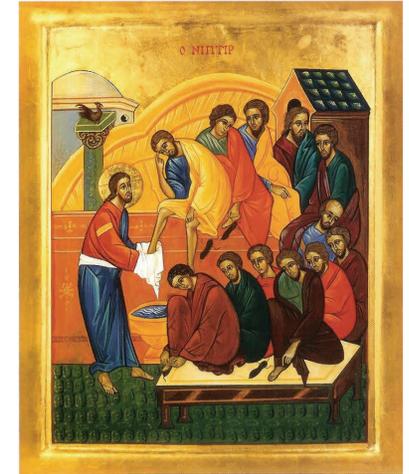
Lord Jesus Christ, shepherd of souls, who called the apostles to be fishers of men, raise up new apostles in your holy Church. Teach them that to serve you is to reign, to possess you is to possess all things. Kindle in the hearts of our young people the fire of zeal for souls. Make them eager to spread your Kingdom upon earth. Grant them courage to follow you, who are the Way, the Truth, and the Life, who live and reign forever and ever.

Amen.

### About our cover illustration ...

A religious vocation is, above all, a call to a life of service. The model for all priests and religious is Christ, whose symbolic action of washing the feet of the Apostles at the Last Supper demonstrates the humility and sense of service that are so vital to a religious vocation.

# Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist



## Vocations Committee

Praying and working to  
foster and support  
religious vocations  
in our own parish,  
in our own time.

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## Our Mission . . .

The basic call to discipleship is addressed to all Christians, in whatever way of life God has destined for each of them. But the Lord calls some to a particular way of life, a life of total commitment to serving the Church as a priest, deacon or religious.

The mission of the Cathedral Vocations Committee is to encourage, foster, and pray for religious vocations. We strive to raise awareness of the important and distinct role of priests, deacons, and religious brothers and sisters in the Church.

We ask the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into the vineyard so we will enjoy a flourishing of religious vocations in our own parish and in our own time, as well as in our diocese and in the whole world.

We believe that God always provides an abundance of vocations, but sometimes His call cannot be heard above the din and confusion of the world. Bishop Michael Driscoll has called all people of the Diocese of Boise to offer special prayers for increased vocations, asking that they spend time before the Blessed Sacrament for this intention. In accord with this request, we encourage parishioners to spend some time each week praying for vocations during Eucharistic Exposition, which follows each weekday Mass in the Cathedral Chapel.

## Our Work . . .

The Cathedral Vocations Committee is pleased to sponsor the following events and projects throughout the year in support of vocations:

### **CATHEDRAL VOCATIONS COMMITTEE 2012-2013 ACTIVITIES**

#### Support for our Priests and Religious

- ✘ Clergy Ordination Anniversary and birthday celebrations
- ✘ Day of Prayer for Priests. Prayer cards available after 8:30 am Mass.
- ✘ Parish religious sister birthday observance.
- ✘ Feast of St. Lawrence, deacon and martyr, in honor of permanent deacons. Prayer cards available after 8:30 am Mass.
- ✘ Clergy Appreciation Potluck, October 26. Parish potluck sponsored by Vocations Committee and Knights of Columbus.
- ✘ Priesthood Sunday, Oct. 28.
- ✘ World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life, February 3, 2013. Presentation to Sister Maria Elena at 1 pm Mass.
- ✘ World Day of Prayer for Vocations, April 21, 2013.

#### Vocations Awareness Activities

These are examples of events of activities that the Vocations Committee will sponsor to promote Vocations Awareness: "Dinner at Fr. Henry's" for Hispanic young men who'd like to find out more about the priesthood; Vocations Awareness Sunday, January 13. "A Day in the Life of a Priest: What Do Fr. Henry & Fr. Brian Do All Day" for parish first-graders and "Pray a Day for Vocations" signup; Good Friday Stations of the Cross & Hike to Table Rock for Vocations w/Fr. Henry, March 29; "Summer Prayers for Seminarians" signup; Third Annual Come & See Day for Vocations, June; Vocations Day Trip to Visit the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist in Pocatello, Summer 2013.

#### **✠ Special Projects**

We honor priests and seminarians by remembering them with birthday cards and special celebrations. We also present small gifts and/or spiritual bouquets to each newly-ordained deacon and priest.

\*We have a Vocations presence at as many parish events as possible. Meetings are bi-monthly in September, November, January, March, May, and July on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 11 am in the JP II Room.

## Our Hope . . .

With complete confidence in God's bountiful love for His people, we entrust our work and its success to the Lord of the harvest, from Whom all vocations come and in Whom all vocations flourish.

The family plays an irreplaceable role in fostering religious vocations. Children first learn generosity and self-sacrifice at home, through the example, in word and deed, of their parents. Because religious vocations are born in the family--which is the Domestic Church--our hope is that all parents will encourage their children to seriously consider whether God is inviting them to become a priest or religious.

A religious vocation is always a personal invitation from the Lord, but often that invitation is heard in the voice of others. Many priests and religious will say that the first stirrings of their vocations welled up as a result of a conversation or comment from a pastor, a teacher, or a member of their parish. We hope that more people will have the courage to invite a young man or young woman to consider a life of total commitment and service, in the form of a religious vocation.

We hope that you will pray fervently for abundant vocations to spring forth in the Cathedral parish. And we hope, finally, that you will consider joining us in this rewarding and vital work for the life of the Church!

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