

# Prayers for Vocations

Almighty and eternal God,  
in your unfailing love you provide  
ministers for your Church.

We pray for those whom you call  
to serve the Church of the Archdiocese  
of Omaha as priests.

Inspire in them a generous response.

Grant them courage and vision to  
serve your people

May their lives and service call your  
people to respond to the presence  
of your Spirit among us

that, faithful to the Gospel and  
hope of Jesus the Christ, we may:  
announce glad tidings to the poor  
proclaim liberty to captives,  
set prisoners free

and renew the face of the earth.

O God, Father of all Mercies, Provider of a bountiful Harvest, send Your Graces upon those You have called to gather the fruits of Your labor; preserve and strengthen them in their lifelong service of you.

Open the hearts of Your children that they may discern Your Holy Will; inspire in them a love and desire to surrender themselves to serving others in the name of Your son, Jesus Christ.

Teach all Your faithful to follow their respective paths in life guided by Your Divine Word and Truth. Through the intercession of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, all the Angels, and Saints, humbly hear our prayers and grant Your Church's needs, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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Loving and Generous God,  
it is You who call us by name  
and ask us to follow You.

Help us to grow in the Love  
and Service of our Church  
as we experience it today.

Give us the energy and courage  
of Your Spirit  
to shape its future

Grant us faith-filled leaders  
who will embrace Christ's Mission  
of love and justice.

Bless the Church of Northeast Nebraska  
by raising up dedicated and generous leaders  
from our families and friends  
who will serve Your people as Sisters,  
Priests, Brothers, Deacons and Lay Ministers.

Inspire us to know You better  
and open our hearts  
to hear Your call.

We ask this through our Lord.

Loving God, you call all who believe in you to grow perfect in love by following in the footsteps of Christ your Son. Call from among us more men and women who will serve you as religious. By their way of life, may they provide a convincing sign of your Kingdom for the Church and the whole world. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

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Gracious and loving God, help the  
men and women of our parish to hear the  
call to serve in the Archdiocese of Omaha.

Our needs are great and our people  
thirst for your presence.

Open the hearts of many, raise up  
faithful servants of the Gospel, dedicated,  
holy priests, sisters, brothers and deacons,  
who will spend themselves for your people and their needs.

Bless those who are serving now  
with courage and perseverance.  
Grant that many will be inspired by their  
example and faith.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

He said to them "Come and See." They came and saw where he was staying  
(John 1:39).

God of all nations, we are most grateful for the first Catholic missionaries and  
explorers who came to Nebraska. As strangers in a strange land they brought  
with them countless skills, talents and traditions, but their greatest treasure was  
their faith. May the good News of Jesus Christ, which molded and shaped their  
lives, continue to mold and shape our lives today. Bless our archdiocese with  
men and women who will follow in their footsteps to serve the Church as  
religious brothers, sisters, priests, and deacons.

Lord Jesus Christ, help to hear your call to "Come and See."

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Hail Mary, full of grace;  
all generations call you blessed.

Hail Mother of God; when asked by the angel  
to bear the Son of the Most High,  
filled with faith, you responded:  
"Let it be done unto me."

Holy Mother of Jesus, at the wedding feast at Cana,  
you prompted your Son to perform his first sign.

Be with us as we discern our life's work  
and guide us in the way we are called to follow  
in the footsteps of your Son.

Holy Mother of the Savior, at the foot of the cross  
you mourned the death of your only Son.

Bless and embrace the loving parents of all priests,  
deacons, brothers and sisters.

Holy Mother of the Good Shepherd,  
turn your motherly care to this nation.

Intercede for us to the Lord of the harvest  
to send more laborers to the harvest  
in this land dedicated to your honor.

Queen of Peace, Mirror of Justice, Health of the Sick,  
inspire vocations in our time.

Let the word of your Son be made flesh anew  
in the lives of persons anxious to proclaim  
the good news of everlasting life.

Amen.

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Gracious God,  
You have called me to life  
and gifted me in many ways.  
Through Baptism You have sent me  
to continue the mission of Jesus  
by sharing my love with others.  
Strengthen me to respond to  
Your call each day.  
Help me to become all You desire of me.  
Inspire me to make a difference in  
others' lives.  
Lead me to choose the way of life  
You have planned for me.  
Open the hearts of all to listen  
to Your call.  
Fill all with Your Holy Spirit that  
we may have listening hearts and  
the courage to respond to You.  
Enkindle in my heart  
and the hearts of others the desire  
to make the world a better place  
by serving as  
Lay Minister, Sister, Priest,  
Brother or Deacon.  
Amen.

Father, we're your people, the work of your hands. So precious are we in your sight that you sent your Son, Jesus. Jesus calls us to heal the broken-hearted, to dry the tears of those who mourn, to give hope to those who despair, and to rejoice in your steadfast love. We, the baptized, realize our call to serve. Help us to know how. Call forth from among us priests, sisters, brothers and lay ministers. With our hearts you continue to love your people. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.

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Loving God,  
your Son, Jesus, has shown us that an open heart finds the way.  
Help me to find my way in this world.

Keep my heart open to following Jesus' way of serving  
others in love.

Give me the courage to accept the guidance you offer me  
through my family, my friends, and my parish community.

Through the Holy Spirit, you call me to a particular way of  
life.

If it is the way of a priest, sister, brother or deacon, then  
help me to walk it in joyful service to your people.

With you, my God, I know I can find my way.  
Amen.

O God, Who wish all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of Your truth: send, we beg You, laborers into Your harvest, and grant them grace to speak Your word with all boldness; so that Your word may spread and be glorified, and all nations may know You, the only God, and Him Whom You have sent, Jesus Christ Your Son, Our Lord, Who lives and reigns world without end. Amen.

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Loving God,  
Is it I, Lord?

Are you calling me to a vocation  
of ministry in the Church as  
Priest, Sister, Brother or Deacon?  
Or if I am already living out a life's  
vocation, are you asking me to help  
call others to the ministry of  
leadership in the Church?

We do need men and women to help  
lead us as Church, Lord. We are your  
people of the valley, prairie and pines,  
the Archdiocese of Omaha.

Speak to us Lord.

Open the minds and hearts of many  
men and women to live your Word  
and build your Kingdom.

Speak to me Lord.

Plant your Word within me so that  
whatever you call me to be or do  
I may say Yes, Here I Am Lord.

Lord here I am!

What would you like me to  
do with my life?

(Pause to listen to God for a moment)

Teach me to do your  
will, Lord.

And let your Holy Spirit  
guide me!

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O Father, you desire all of us to be happy. Stir up the grace of a religious vocation in the hearts of many men and women. Grant to them the willingness and generosity to give of themselves, their lives, their time and their talents to the service of Jesus Christ, Your Son, Our Lord and Savior, and to His Holy Church. May more men and women go forth as priests, deacons, brothers and sisters to bring the truths of our Catholic faith to all others so that soon they, too, may know You better and love You more...and serving You, be truly happy. Amen.

Father you call each one of us by name and ask us to follow you.

Bless your church by raising up dedicated and generous leaders from our families and friends who will serve your people as Sisters, Priests, Brothers, Deacons, and Lay Ministers.

Inspire us as we grow to know you, and open our hearts to hear your call.

We ask this in  
Jesus name  
Amen.

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Creator God,  
Life is your gift to me,  
Through Baptism you invite me to share  
the gift of my life in service to others.  
Be with me as I choose each day to show  
Your presence in our world.  
Give me the courage and generosity to  
respond to Your love, to Your call.  
I pray especially for those who serve you as  
Priests, Brothers, Sisters, Deacons  
and Lay Ministers.  
Open the minds and hearts of many other  
men and women that they may accept  
Your challenge to build the Kingdom.

Loving God, you have made me in Your image and likeness, and for this I shall praise You forever. Through baptism You invite me to serve as Your son Jesus served. I offer You this day all that I have and all that I am in union with His saving cross.

Father, in the power of the Spirit, You send us forth to build up Your kingdom. I pray especially for those whom You are calling to serve the church as priests, deacons, sisters and brothers. Help them to hear and answer Your call to discipleship.

The harvest is plenty, but laborers are few. Please provide for us men and women who will help to gather in a great harvest of souls. I make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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O loving and gracious God, Father of all, you bless your people in every time and season and provide for their needs through your providential care. Your Church is continually in need of priests, sisters and brothers to offer themselves in the service of the gospel by lives of dedicated love. Open the hearts of your sons and daughters to listen to your call in their lives. Give them the gift of understanding to discern your invitation to serve you and your Church. Give them the gift of courage to follow your call. May they have the spirit of young Samuel who found fulfillment in his life when he said to you, "Speak Lord, for your servant is listening." We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer.  
Amen.

Loving God,

You speak to us and nourish us  
through the life of this Church  
community.

In the name of Jesus, we ask you to send your Spirit to us so that men and women among us, young and old, will respond to your call to service and leadership in the Church. We pray especially, in our day, for those who hear your invitation to be a priest, sister, or brother.

May those who are opening their hearts and minds to your call be encouraged and strengthened through our enthusiasm in your service. Amen.

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Father in heaven, you sent us your only Son to redeem us and to build your kingdom on earth. Please give us the wisdom and strength we need to follow His call. Grant to the faithful a spirit of generosity, that Church vocations may flourish. Bless our priests with holiness and courage, that they may lead your people to Christ. Help all sisters and brothers to fulfill their sacred promises and so be effective signs of your kingdom. Lord, invite more men and women to your service. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Loving God, the provider of all our needs, we, your faithful people, ask that you bless this parish and our Diocese with an increase of men and women for priestly and committed ministry.

Provide from among us those who will lead and work with us in priestly and consecrated service.

As you call, so may you also provide the context for listening so that they may respond with generosity and joy.

Form our hearts so that we may be a people given to Gospel living and generous for Christian service.

Help us all to discern and pursue our vocation in life with strength and courage, making of us a priestly people.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, the priest and servant of our hearts. Amen.

Our Lady, Queen of Peace, pray for us!

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Loving God, to be your prophet is my  
desire, but too often I am more  
concerned about the bottom line. I  
want to bring your message to the  
world as so many before me have done.

My heart leads me to you, but I'm not  
always sure how to respond.

Let me know what it is you are calling  
me to do and the life you are asking  
me to live.

Give me the strength to share with  
others who are in need of the blessings  
with which you have enriched my life.

Thank you, God, for hearing my prayer.

Amen.

Good and gracious God,  
you have called us through Baptism to  
discipleship with your Son, Jesus Christ,  
and have sent us to bring the Good News of  
salvation to all peoples.

We pray you to grant us more priests and  
religious to build up your Church here within  
the Archdiocese of Omaha.

Inspire our young men and women by  
the example of Blessed Junipero Serra to give  
themselves totally to the work of Christ and  
His Church.

We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

Amen!

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Thank you, Lord, for all the many great and  
wonderful gifts you give to our family.  
Help us to live each day with joy and humility.  
Keep us totally dedicated to serving you.  
Teach us to recognize the many ways you  
make your Spirit known.  
Then help each of us to accept your gift - the  
grace to answer your call to form, strengthen  
and expand the Body of Christ.  
We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Father, hear the prayers of your people,  
and bring to maturity the seeds you have sown  
in the field of your Church.  
May many of your people choose to serve you  
by devoting themselves to the service  
of their brothers and sisters.

Raise up worthy ministers for your altars  
and ardent but gentle servants of the Gospel.  
May those who follow in the footsteps of Christ your Son  
grow, and provide by their way of life  
a convincing sign of your kingdom  
for the Church and the whole world.  
May all the ministers of your Church  
increase in numbers,  
and persevering in their prayer,  
perform their ministry with gentleness and concern  
for others.

Father, keep them all faithful to the call of the Gospel  
that the world may see in them  
the living image of your Son, Jesus Christ,  
who is Lord for ever and ever.  
Amen.

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Lord Jesus, we pray to you for the Catholic priesthood. Give us more priests, but most especially we ask you to give us holy priests. Messengers of a truth that is all-encompassing and eternal, holy priests who know how to offer this truth to the people of their own time and place. Holy men for today, priests firmly rooted in the tradition, yet imbued with the spirit of this age. They have undertaken a mission in your name, Lord. May the reflection of your power in them always make it clear that they are your witnesses.

Grant that they may conform their lives to the paschal mystery that they celebrate each day in the Eucharist. May they sense in this mystery the anxious hunger of the world and of their own brothers and sisters for salvation.

May they know, despite this hunger, how to respect the spiritual freedom of others; for it is your word which has given the world a taste for this freedom. May they understand and speak the language of their own time. And may they be careful never to compromise, with opinions that come and go, the imperishable newness of your Gospel.

May they always keep through the dark wintry night of the soul an obstinate hope for the springtime to come. And when they meet those who persecute you, may they always remember the road to Damascus and the hidden ways of your providence.

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Lord Jesus Christ,

You are the Savior of the world.  
Please manifest in Your Church  
the Spirit whom You also abundantly  
bestowed on Your apostles.  
Call very many to Your priesthood  
and Your religious life.

May zeal for Your glory  
and for the salvation of the world  
in flame those You have chosen.  
May they be saints in Your likeness.  
May Your Holy Spirit strengthen them.  
May they be priests and religious according to Your own heart!  
Amen.

O Lord, help me know your will  
for me  
Let your light shine in the depths  
of my heart  
that I may know what you want  
me to do with my life.  
Help me believe that you have  
a special plan for me.  
Lord, I know I pass through this  
life only once;  
help me decide how you want  
me to make a difference.  
Like our Blessed Mother, give me  
the wisdom to hear your voice  
and the courage to answer  
your call.  
Above all give me peace  
of mind and heart.  
I offer this prayer in the name of  
Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

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God our Father,  
you will all men and women to be saved  
and come to the knowledge of your Truth.

Send workers into your great harvest  
that the Gospel may be preached  
to every creature  
and your people, gathered together  
by the word of life  
and strengthened by  
the power of the sacraments,  
may advance in the way  
of salvation and love.

I ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you  
and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

LORD, JESUS,  
we ask you  
to send more servants to your people.  
Choose from our parishes,  
from our homes,  
from our schools and colleges,  
an abundant harvest  
of apostles for your Kingdom: priests,  
sisters, brothers, deacons and lay ministers.  
We pray that those you call  
may never lose awareness of the  
dignity and need of their vocation.

O Virgin Mary,  
Mother of the Church,  
teach to all those the Master calls  
to say a joyful "yes"  
as you did at the Annunciation  
Amen.

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Gracious God, thank you for calling us  
at Baptism to be your people.

In response to your call we again say, "Yes."  
Keep us faithful to your mission  
and our vocation.

Bless with a renewed spirit of zeal and enthusiasm  
all who dedicate their lives  
in service to your people.

Inspire more women and men of faith and compassion  
to serve as lay ministers and deacons  
sisters, brothers and priests.

Fill them with your Spirit of Wisdom  
to proclaim the Good News and  
to witness your presence among us.

O, God, You have asked us to pray for vocations; that there might be young men and women willing to give their lives for the sake of souls. Hear our prayer and the prayers of your Church and send us good and holy priests and religious. We offer you this day, all we shall think, do or say for this intention, through Christ, Our Lord, Amen.

O God, You call all in Your Church to live a holy life. Like a wise harvest master, clearly call laborers to reap the harvest of souls. May some become holy priests, formed by the Gospel; may some find their way to religious communities filled with love for You. Inspire them by Your Holy Spirit to leave their way of life and share the work of Your Son Who lives forever and ever.

Amen.

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Creator of the Universe, God of the Nations,  
Your people are longing to hear your word.  
Send laborers into your harvest -  
women and men on fire with your love:

Dedicated single people -  
who incarnate your presence  
in their daily lives,  
whose availability enables them  
to respond to a diversity of needs.

Married couples -  
whose relationships serve as a sign  
of your fidelity to your people,  
whose love overflows  
to their children and neighbors.

Ordained Ministers -  
who gather the prayers and longing  
of your people  
who serve as a channel of your presence  
through the sacraments.

Religious sisters, brothers, and priests -  
whose life in community foreshadows  
our eternal unity in Christ,  
whose service brings your life to the world.

May each of us respond with courage and generosity  
to our particular vocations, and may the Church recognize  
the Spirit's call to men and women of good will,  
trusting in your abundance to answer all our needs.

Amen.

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God, the source of  
creation and love,  
You invite each of  
us to serve you through the life  
which is your gift.

May your grace  
encourage men and women to heights  
of holiness through service to the church  
as priests, sisters, brothers, and lay ministers.

Make me an  
instrument to encourage others  
to give of themselves and  
challenge me to do the same.

Amen

Lord, through Baptism, you invite me to share the gift of my life in service to others. Be with me as I choose each day to show your presence in our world. Give me the courage and generosity to respond to your love, to your call. I pray especially for those who serve you as priests, brothers, sisters and deacons. Keep them close to you. Open the minds and hearts of many other men and women to be witnesses to your gospel.

Lord Jesus, Son of the Eternal Father and Mary Immaculate, give to our young people the generosity necessary to follow Your call and the courage required to overcome all obstacles to their vocation. Give to parents that faith, love and spirit of sacrifice which will inspire them to offer their children to God's service and to rejoice whenever one of their children is called to the priesthood or religious life. May Your example and that of Your Blessed Mother and Saint Joseph encourage both young people and parents and let Your grace sustain them. Amen.

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God, our Father,  
in Baptism You called us by name  
making us members of Your people,  
the Church.

We praise You for Your goodness,  
We thank You for Your gifts.  
We ask You to strengthen us  
to live in love and service to others  
after the example of Your Son, Jesus.

Father, look upon Your Church with love  
and bless Your people  
with generous single men and women,  
with loving husbands and wives,  
with understanding parents,  
with trusting children  
with dedicated priests, sisters,  
deacons and brothers.

Help us to see our vocations  
as a journey toward You.

You have called us,  
not to set us apart,  
but to bring us together  
with others who need our love.

Make us faithful signs of Your  
presence in their midst.

We ask You through Christ, our Lord.  
Amen.

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O God, our Father, you have called us  
in Baptism to follow your Son  
through lives of loving service to you  
and to one another.

Grant us your assistance as we seek to live  
out our vocation in life.

We pray especially for those who have  
answered your call as priests,  
brothers, sisters, deacons and lay  
ministers.

Keep them faithful in following your  
Son and dedicated in serving  
their brothers and sisters.

Grant that many more men and  
women will be open to the  
challenge of dedicating their lives  
in the ministry of building your  
Kingdom.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

God, our Creator,  
Life is Your gift to me.

Through Baptism, You invite me to share the gift  
of my life in service to others.

I ask LORD, "Who will be Your Priest, Deacon,  
Brother, Sister, Missionary, Lay Minister? Is it I?"

Give me the courage and generosity to respond  
to Your love, to Your call.

Give those you have called to the married and the  
single state the graces their lives require. I  
pray especially for those who serve You as  
Religious. Keep them close to You.

This we pray through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Heavenly Father,  
You so loved the world  
that You sent Your only Son, Jesus,  
to bring eternal life  
to those who believe in Him.  
I join Him in His prayer  
for laborers in Your harvest.  
May Your Holy Spirit  
inspire and strengthen  
generous men and women  
to continue His mission in the World.  
May this same Spirit  
make known to me Your will  
in my regard.  
Where You lead, I will follow.  
Let it be done to me  
according to Your word.

I make this prayer  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

O God, in the past you called men and women to dedicate their lives to you through priesthood and religious life. Today stir up the grace of a religious vocation in the hearts of many within our parish community. Grant them the willingness and generosity to place their lives completely in your hands as priests, brothers and sisters. Help me to support them by my own fidelity to your call to holiness through prayer & Christian service. If you desire that one of my family or friends follow you in this way, grant me the wisdom and insight to support and encourage that person to listen to your voice and follow you without delay.

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Loving God,

You speak to us and nourish us  
through the life of this Church  
community.

In the name of Jesus, we ask you to  
send your Spirit to us so that men and  
women among us, young and old, will  
respond to your call to service and  
leadership in the Church. We pray  
especially, in our day, for those who  
hear your invitation to be a priest,  
sister, or brother.

May those who are opening their  
hearts and minds to your call be  
encouraged and strengthened  
through our enthusiasm in your service.  
Amen.

Lord,  
I know you love me  
and have great plans for me.

But sometimes I am overwhelmed  
by the thought of my future.

Show me how to walk forward  
one day at a time.

May I take heart while I search openly  
for what it is you want me  
to do with my life.

Inspire in me wisdom and understanding  
to see your vision for my life  
and respond with openness to  
whatever you call me to be.  
Show me your way Lord!

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Gracious God,  
You are the gentle presence,  
the peaceful light,  
that fills our whole world.

We believe that you care  
for all your creatures  
with wisdom and love.

Take care of us, your Church, this day.

Give to us all grace and courage  
to live out our baptism  
as faithful disciples  
of your son, Jesus Christ.

Give us good pastors who  
will call us to love and forgiveness  
and lead us in worship  
in the community of the Spirit.

Bring forth from among us other ministers  
whose many splendor gifts  
will strengthen our community.

Raise up people in religious life  
who by their unusual witness to the Gospel  
will call us to the love of God and neighbor.

You have enfolded the smallness of our  
humanity in your divinity.  
Fill us all with your Holy Spirit.

Amen.

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Jesus, high priest and Redeemer  
forever, we beg you to call young  
men and women to your service,  
as priests and religious. May they  
be inspired by the lives of dedicated  
priests, brothers and sisters.

Give to parents the grace  
of generosity and trust toward you  
and their child so that their sons  
and daughters may be helped to  
choose their vocation in life with  
wisdom and freedom.

O God, you have called us to salvation and have sent your Son to establish the Church for this purpose, and you have provided the sacred ministers. The harvest is ever ready but the laborers are scarce. Inspire our youth to follow Jesus by serving Your People. Amen

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## Parents Prayer *for* Vocations

Gracious and loving God  
you have blessed us with the privilege of becoming Parents.  
We ask that you provide us with all that we need  
in accepting this awesome responsibility.

We pray that we will be open to your spirit  
who is our source of strength  
as we witness to our children  
your love for each of them and your desire for them  
to be happy and to live a full life.

We ask your help  
so we may guide and encourage our children  
to believe that they each have a special calling  
and to use their gifts and talents for others.

We pray, Heavenly Father,  
that our children will discover  
and respond enthusiastically to your desire for them  
whether it be to the vocation of single, married,  
ordained or consecrated life.

We offer this prayer in the name of Jesus  
through the grace of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.