



VOCATIONAL CROSS PRAYERS

Diocese of Sacramento

FIRST DAY

Leader: *In the name of the Father,
and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit.*

ALL: **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE PARENTS

Parents:

Lord Jesus, you sanctified family life in Nazareth and gave us in Joseph and Mary excellent examples of whole-hearted love for children; we now beg You to fill our home with your grace and blessings.

Help us to bring up our children to be genuine Christians and to love each other with self-sacrificing, tender, and pure love. Grant us the gift of forming a truly Christian family that will really be a domestic church. We plead for our children that they may grow up healthy in body and soul in true love and that they may never be separated from you. The children you have given us are yours. If you want to call one of them for your service, we will gladly make the sacrifice of not being able to see them often because they live far away. And also, if you deign to look upon our home and select one of our children, we will consider that as the greatest gift You can bestow on us, since we know with certainty that our son or daughter will be happy with You and will do a lot of good for the Church in a life dedicated to You and your kingdom.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

ALL:

Oh Jesus, the Good Shepherd, bless our parishes with many priests, deacons, men and women religious, devoted lay ministers, and missionaries to meet the needs of the entire world which you love and want to save. We especially entrust to you our community; give us the spirit of the first Christians so that we may be a church of prayer, lovingly awaiting the Holy Spirit and His gifts.

Help all our pastors and all who live the consecrated life. Guide those who have generously answered your call and are preparing themselves for the reception of Holy Orders or the Profession of Religious Vows.

Look lovingly on the many youth who are well disposed and call them to follow you. Help them to understand that they can only attain fulfillment in You. For this reason we also invoke the powerful intercession of Mary, mother and model of all vocations. We beg that you sustain our faith with the certainty that the Father will grant us whatever You asked us to pray for. Amen.

OUR FATHER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

HAIL MARY

Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee. Blessed are thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

GLORY

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Leader: *Jesus, Master of the harvest, we beg you –*
ALL: **to multiply priestly and religious vocations and to call many to your service.**

Leader: *Holy Family of Nazareth,*
ALL: **Pray and intercede for us.**

SECOND DAY

Leader: *In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

ALL: **Amen**



Leader: *Let us pray that the Lord will increase priestly and religious vocations in our church, and especially let us pray for our priests.*

PRAYER FOR PRIESTS

Lord Jesus, we humbly prostrate ourselves before You because, moved by your infinite love, You make Yourself present under the appearance of Eucharistic bread, we want to pay You the homage of our faith, love, thanksgiving, and adoration by putting in your hands all that we are and have.

In union with our Blessed Mother, we are here to talk with you, Lord Jesus, as the friend of our soul and the light of our lives. In the marvelous works of creation we discovered the immensity of your power and the glory of your majesty. However, in the Eucharist, we joyfully rejoice in your humble presence, hidden in the Sacrament, but revealed to the believing heart.

In the spirit of deep supplication, we have come to beg You for the world, for all men and women, for your priests and the men and women in consecrated life.

In an very special way we implore you, Lord and Master of the harvest, to send many holy workers to harvest whatever You Yourself have sown in our souls. We submit this prayer to you, Lord Jesus, You who live and reign forever. Amen.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

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ALL: **Pray and intercede for us.**



THIRD DAY

Leader: *In the name of the Father,
and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit.*

ALL: **Amen**

Leader: *Let us pray that the Lord will increase priestly
and religious vocations in our church.*

Leader: *We need men and women who will lend their
lips to speak about you, offer their feet to go and
preach your gospel world wide, use their hands
to bless us and allow us to see the Father's love
reflected in their eyes. We need You, Lord, and
the world and the Church need You. For this
reason we humbly and fervently ask you to send
us priests to dispense your saving power; send
missionaries as well as dedicated men and
women to be light in darkness and salt that frees
us from the corruption of evil and sin.*

ALL: **Lord, send laborers to gather your harvest.**

Leader: *Lord, you commanded us to pray when you
took pity on the multitude that was following
you, because you saw in that multitude all the
multitudes who in the course of history would be
without a shepherd in their journey toward you.
For this reason we humbly pray:*

ALL: **Lord, send shepherds according to your
heart to the Diocese of Sacramento.**

Leader: *The field is huge. Do not allow that the fruit You
bought at the high price of your passion and
death should remain unharvested for lack of
workers to gather the harvest.*

ALL: **Lord, send priests to sanctify your people in
the Diocese of Sacramento.**

Leader: *A priest is another Christ. With the eyes of
faith we see in the priest the Lord who walks
with us in the course of history. We honor his
presence because we see Jesus Christ in him.
A priest is a "man taken from among men"
whom you have chosen to celebrate the
sublime mystery of the Eucharist in order to
perpetuate your love throughout the centuries,
namely, to forgive sins in Your name, to save
in your name, and to bless all people and all of
creation in the name of the Trinity.*

ALL: **Thank you, Lord, for your gift of the priest
hood to the church.**

Leader: *Consecrated men and women leave everything
to follow only you, our greatest benefactor,
in perfect charity. For love of You they surrender
their liberty; they offer the best of their affection
and love to You; poor in spirit, they follow the
path of sacrifice. Great is the generosity of their
souls, and great is the gift of a life consecrated
to the Church.*

ALL: **Lord, send vocations to religious life.**



OUR FATHER

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GLORY

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Leader: *Jesus, Master of the harvest, we beg you –*

ALL: **to multiply priestly and religious vocations
and to call many to your service.**

Leader: *Holy Family of Nazareth,*

ALL: **Pray and intercede for us.**

FOURTH DAY

Leader: *In the name of the Father,
and of the Son
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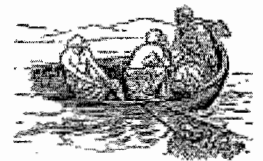
ALL: **Amen**

Leader: *Let us pray that the Lord will increase priestly
and religious vocations in our Church. Lord, our
missionaries preach your gospel to those who
have not yet heard about you in the farthest
reaches of the earth; at times they labor in the
midst of persecution and in danger of their lives.
They suffer loneliness, tiredness, misunder-
standing, and they do all this with love so that
your love may take root in the hearts of those
people.*

ALL: **Lord, send missionaries to your Church.**

Leader: *Lord, we are sure of your promise: "I will be with
you until the end of the world." You are with us
and You do not cease to call men and women
who represent You to accompany us on our
way to You. You continue saying the two words
which have changed the history of so many
lives, namely, "FOLLOW ME." Help those You
call to be generous and not to close their hearts
to your invitation but to respond promptly, as
the prophet Isaiah who said "HERE I AM,
LORD, SEND ME."*

ALL: **Lord, give generosity, faith, and strength to
those whom you have called.**



Leader: *Renew the love for You and your Church in all the zealous as well as in the depressed and struggling priests. Renew those who love You ardently and those who have lost hope. May the virtues of purity and obedience, patience and charity, zeals for souls and humility shine in their lives.*

ALL: **Give us priests according to your heart.**

Leader: *Lord, inspire and help the priests who work in seminaries and houses of formation so that they can give the Church saints, doctors, martyrs, apostles and witnesses of Christ imbued with new missionary zeal for the new evangelization.*

ALL: **Lord, send us holy priests.**

Leader: *Let us pray for those who devote their lives to vocational ministry; we pray that they will not stop throwing out nets in Christ's names so that the Church would have the vocations it needs to fulfill its mission.*

ALL: **We need priests, Lord, please send them to us.**

Leader: *The enemy of our souls, knowing what good one priest alone can do for the Church, never stops setting traps for the ones Christ has called by suggesting they opt for an easier life or a selfish lifestyle. Furthermore, all who receive a call must overcome worldly attractions and their own selfish desires in order to follow Christ. We ask you to strengthen them and to give them the grace to reject everything that could lead them astray.*

ALL: **Lord, please give the spirit of generosity to those You have called.**

Leader: *Send us, Lord.*

ALL: **priests according to your heart.**

Leader: *The harvest is good, the laborers, scarce.*

ALL: **Lord, send laborers to gather your harvest.**

Leader: *Lord, You took pity on the multitude without a shepherd--*

ALL: **Lord, send laborers to gather your harvest.**

Leader: *To the youth who feel called--*

ALL: **give them generosity, Lord.**

Leader: *We pray for all the souls dedicated to You--*

ALL: **increase their charity, Lord.**

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ALL: **Pray and intercede for us.**

FIFTH DAY

Leader: *In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

ALL: **Amen**

Leader: *Let us pray that the Lord will increase the number of priestly and religious vocations in the Church. We pray that our youth will listen to the voice of God and follow Him as priests and religious. For the youth who have doubts about their calling--*

ALL: **Help them resolve their doubts.**

Leader: *For the children who feel your call.*

ALL: **Be their companion, Lord.**

Leader: *We pray for the seminarians of our Diocese*

ALL: **Give them perseverance, Lord.**

Leader: *We pray for priests who are plagued by doubts.*

ALL: **Be their strength.**

Leader: *We pray for lukewarm priests.*

ALL: **Give them holiness, Lord.**

Leader: *We pray for sad priests.*

ALL: **Be their consolation, Lord.**

Leader: *We pray for the priests who feel lonely.*

ALL: **Be their companion, Lord.**

Leader: *We pray for missionary priests.*

ALL: **Give them your zeal, Lord.**

Leader: *We pray for young priests.*

ALL: **Encourage them to seek your glory.**

Leader: *We pray for older priests.*

ALL: **Support them in their work.**

Leader: *We pray for deceased priests.*

ALL: **Give them your glory, Lord.**

Leader: *The harvest is good, the workers, scarce.*

ALL: **Lord, send laborers to gather your harvest.**

Leader: *For our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI.*

ALL: **We beg you, hear us.**



Leader: *For our Bishop, Jaime Soto.*

ALL: **We beg You, hear us.**

Leader: *Let us pray: Oh Jesus, eternal high priest, please send us new priests and new men and women religious who are dedicated to the Church and are shepherds according to your heart. We need your ministers. We need your representatives. They are the instruments of your grace and love. They console us in your name and strengthen our faith, hope and love. They console us in your name and strengthen our faith, hope and love. We need them because we need You and your love. Do not leave us alone, Lord. Send workers to gather your harvest and send fishers of men who catch us with the nets of your mercy. Send us, we beg You with humility and confidence, shepherd according to your heart. The harvest is good but the workers are scarce. Lord, send workers to gather your harvest. We make this petition through Christ our Lord.*

ALL: **Amen.**

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