

## Vocation Views - Year A

### “Give me water that I may never get thirsty”

*Reflections for your weekly parish bulletin following Cycle A of the Liturgical Year*

*First Sunday of Advent - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** In our materialistic society, someone must stand up to speak for our spiritual heritage. Could that be you?

*Second Sunday in Advent - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Isaiah says: “The earth shall be filled with knowledge of the Lord.” Who taught you knowledge of the Lord, and who are you teaching today?

*Third Sunday in Advent - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** “As your models in suffering hardships and in patience, friend, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.” (James5:10) A vocation is responding to the call of God.

*Fourth Sunday in Advent - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Vocations from God are not always clear. Not all of us are like Joseph who had an angel appear to him saying: “Take Mary as your wife, and fear not.”

*Christmas A,B,C*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Vocations are born in the family. The priests, sisters and brothers of tomorrow are being born in our local hospitals and playing in our own backyards.

*Feast of the Holy Family - A,B,C*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Families are where kindness, humility, patience and thanksgiving are lived and celebrated. People cannot truly teach these qualities unless they have experienced them.

*Octave of Christmas - A,B,C*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Mary, Mother of the Priest Jesus, is especially Mother to all Priests. Pray to Mary to ask her guidance in your life.

*Epiphany of the Lord - A,B,C*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** More valuable than material gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, is the invaluable gift of our lives. There is no greater gift than to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.

*Baptism of the Lord - A,B,C*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Baptism is the starting point; union with God is our goal. How we serve others in between is our Vocation.

*Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Isaiah’s vocation was to be a light to the nations. Nations and neighbourhoods need missionaries - lay, clergy and religious. Listen to the call!

*Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Jesus said: “Come after me and I will make you fishers of men.” Today he could say: “I will make you mechanics of souls; doctors of wounded hearts, counsellors of broken families; clowns in a joyless society.” But regardless, Come.

*Presentation of the Lord - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Christ is ‘the light to enlighten all nations’. How are you called to help him bring that light to the world? Pray to discern your vocation.

*Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** A child's handful of pulled dandelions will bring joy to a mother. A small act of kindness will surprise the lonely heart. Who will bring joy and kindness today?

*Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Jesus speaks on Vocations: "You are the salt of the earth. You are the light of the world. Your light must shine before people so that they may see your goodness in your acts, giving praise to your heavenly Father."

*Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** God in his wisdom predestined our glory before the ages began. Some people he predestines to be priests or religious – might you be one of them? Listen to the call!

*Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** We read in Leviticus: "You must love your neighbour, as yourself!" Some are being called to love their neighbour as a priest or religious. Pray that many will answer the call to love.

*Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** "The Lord will bring light to all that is hidden in darkness." He can only bring that light if you will be his hands and his feet and his heart in the world. Be people of light.

*Ninth Sunday of Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** "I am the vine and you are the branches, says the Lord; those who live in me, and I in them, will bear much fruit." May our prayers bring forth the fruit of many vocations in our parish and Archdiocese.

*First Sunday of Lent - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Lent is a season of renewal, of spiritual growth. These forty penitential days invite us to strive for our true calling.

*Second Sunday of Lent - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** The Lord called Abram to go forth to a new land and begin a new nation. There's no telling what we can become by responding to the Lord's invitation to us.

*Third Sunday of Lent - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Only the Lord can give true living water, fullness of life. Our body cannot survive without water; our spirit cannot survive without living water. Now is the time to renew our lives in the waters and Spirit of Baptism.

*Fourth Sunday of Lent - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** If we can't see where we're going, we'll never get there. The Good Shepherd leads us to green pastures, refreshes our souls and brings light to a darkened world.

*Fifth Sunday of Lent - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Seeing physically dead people return to life is not a common event. But Christians, serious about their vocation, are eager to help the "down and out" find new meaning in Christ and live a full life.

*Palm Sunday - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Today's world is so filled with suffering, injustice, anger, depression and loneliness that it cries for people waving palm branches of hope and resurrection, proclaiming new life.

*Easter Sunday - A,B,C*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** You have been given new life in Christ. Forsake earthly materialism, in order to live life to the full.

*Second Sunday of Easter - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** It is only through people like you that others will be able to say: "We have seen the Lord." With the resurrection to empower you and with Jesus to lure you, you too can inspire others who have not seen to believe.

*Third Sunday of Easter - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** We can feel the Lord's call at the strangest places and times. The call can haunt us and pursue us until we say, "Lord, what will you have me do?"

*Fourth Sunday of Easter - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** This is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. "The harvest is great but the labourers are few. Pray to the Lord of the harvest to send more labourers into the Harvest."

*Fifth Sunday of Easter - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** The new ministry of "Deacon" is mentioned in today's Scripture. Perhaps the Lord is calling you to assist with the charitable, educational or liturgical needs of the Lord's People today.

*Sixth Sunday of Easter - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** That Jesus rose from the dead is our Faith. That we can be reborn in the Spirit is our Hope. That we can do God's work is our Love. Follow God's Call.

*Ascension of the Lord - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Through His death, resurrection and ascension, Christ showed us the path to eternal life. Know that the Lord is with you always, through your struggles and triumphs, and that he will hear your prayers.

*Pentecost Sunday - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** "There are different gifts, but the same Spirit." Each of us has been graced with certain gifts of the Spirit. And they are active, if we utilise them for the building up of the Church. Name the way the Lord has gifted you.

*Trinity Sunday - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Each of us experiences a story of God's self-revelation in a unique way. Tell your story. Add to the beautiful mosaic of God's life in this world by the story of your life.

*Corpus Christi - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** That we can collaborate with God is a humbling truth. That God lives among us is startling. That we are the Body of Christ is our vocation.

*Sts Peter and Paul, Apostles - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Peter 'chief of the apostles' and Paul 'apostle to the Gentiles' were martyred for their faith and are remembered for their faith and leadership. Pray that the Lord will continue to raise up strong and courageous leaders for the Church. Pray for vocations to the priesthood.

*Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Through our Baptism, we are called to not only follow Christ but to be witnesses through our family, work and social lives. Let our actions and words reflect the love that Christ has for each of us, and proclaim the Kingdom of God is near.

*Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Jesus knew that when we are committed to whatever we are doing no obstacle can prevent us from reaching our goal. So Jesus could say: "If you will not take up your cross and come after me you are not worthy of me."

*Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Have you discovered yet that there is more to life than what only material things have to offer? We live in the Spirit. Only in the Lord can we find lasting peace. Speak the Good News.

*Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Jesus knew that when we are committed to whatever we are doing no obstacle can prevent us from reaching our goal. So Jesus could say: "If you will not take up your cross and come after me you are not worthy of me."

*Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Have you discovered yet that there is more to life than what only material things have to offer? We live in the Spirit. Only in the Lord can we find lasting peace. Speak the Good News.

*Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** The seed of a vocation seeks fertile surroundings. Sometimes it gets stepped on, sometimes it gets choked, sometimes it lacks depth. But other times it is nourished by loving and caring friends.

*Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** There are many weeds growing with the wheat in our lives. Sometimes the weeds strangle our growth, or prevent us from hearing clearly God's voice. We need time to reflect on the garden of our life.

*Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Finding our vocation in life is like finding a buried treasure. We will do whatever we have to in order to be able to possess it. Finding the treasure is a gift, possessing it is our vocation.

*Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** If some people did not hoard the riches of this world, all people would have enough to eat and drink. Too many people starve to death every day. Who will speak loudly of justice today?

*Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Why is it that we lack real trust when the Lord calls us? We think we may drown, or have to give up too much, or fear failure. These attitudes can help to strengthen our faith in the Lord.

*Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** It's so easy to push people out of our lives. But the Lord knows no boundaries or races or colours. Spread the Good News that we are all God's people.

*Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Many of us fear people in authority as authority can be used rightly or wrongly. As Christians we are called to see power as service. We shall all be judged on love.

*Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Don't run away from what you are called to be. Christians take the less travelled road. "What does it profit us if we gain the whole world but ruin ourselves in the process?"

*Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** How much would the world be changed if everyone were completely forgiving? Probably totally! Jesus' stories of forgiveness are so loved because they are so needed. Re-tell them! Re-live them!

*The Exaltation of the Holy Cross - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Today we remember the paradox of the cross as a sign of humiliation and death, yet the source of victory and life. Following your vocation in today's culture is also a paradox. Pray for all priests, religious and married couples that they be true to their vows.

*Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." Make a stand for mercy, empathy, forgiveness and selflessness!

*Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** We can never be called "generous". All that we possess we have received from God. It is our vocation to return to God all the talents God has entrusted to us.

*Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** We cannot act overly proud just because we have responded to God's call. Responding is our duty and source of happiness; serving God with perseverance and happiness fulfills us.

*Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** An employer would probably fire any employee who never does the job properly. God's plan calls us to live our vocation daily in the best way we can.

*Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Once we have been captured by the beauty of God's promised reward, we want to go out into our world and invite others into the heavenly banquet. Who will tell the Good News? Now is a good time to begin.

*Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** We do not choose a vocation completely on our own. We must prayerfully reflect on how we can best give to God what is God's, and then live as though everything depends on God.

*Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** We must stop just putting Band-Aids on the wounds of society. We must tell the world that we are God's people. God loves us and we were created to serve God, and others in God.

*Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** We remember those who have gone before us, whose lives and witness showed us the truth of the Gospel and the joy of faith. Pray especially for deceased priests and religious who gave their lives in the service of God and his Church.

*Dedication of the Lateran Basilica - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** We honour the local Church of Rome as a link with earliest Christian tradition and a sign of our communion in Christ. Pray for all priests who follow Christ's example of service and love. May their ranks be swelled by many more ardent young men!

*Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** "Credibility" becomes a household word, not because there is so much of it, but because there is such a lack of it. The Church also needs people who not only practice what they preach, but can also preach what they practice.

*Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** We usually put a great amount of preparation into big events like weddings, anniversaries and parties of all kinds. We should prepare much more for the final banquet in the Kingdom of Heaven!

*Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Don't just bury your talents. Dream your best dream about your life and then live it to the full. God calls you to live in happiness.

*Feast of Christ the King - A*

**A VOCATION VIEW:** The Church year ends today. We can proclaim Christ as King because we sense our vocation as being members of Christ's Royal Family, called to serve God and one another.