

The Solidarity Newsletter

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“The priestly vocation is essentially a call to sanctity, in the form that derives from the Sacrament of Holy Orders. Sanctity is intimacy with God; it is the imitation of Christ, poor, chaste and humble; it is unreserved love for souls and self-giving to their true good; it is love for the Church which is holy and wants us to be holy, because such is the mission that Christ has entrusted to it. Each one of you must be holy also in order to help your brothers pursue their vocation to sanctity.”

Priesthood and Religious Life: Jesus says “Follow Me” and Men and Women Answer that Call!

During Solidarity this week, the students learned about the priesthood and religious life. Monday was spent watching a video on the vocations of two men, Fr. Josh, a priest at LSU and Fr. Mike, a priest at University of Minnesota Duluth. The video showed that both men never thought that they would become priests while they were in high school. Both priests discussed their love of the priesthood and the incredible ministry that they get to be a part of daily. The video can be found [here](#).

The students then had a discussion about vocation. In the video, Fr. Josh and Fr. Mike talked about how they both had felt voids in their own hearts in high school and how that void was filled in their call to the priesthood. The students also discussed strong priest figures in their own lives. The video and discuss also showed that priests are normal people with an extraordinary call.

The students were unable to watch a portion of the *Light of Love* film—a film that follows the lives of six religious sisters. The video can be found [here](#).

Thank you to the St. Francis of Assisi Solidarity Team for helping put on Mass this week.

Next Week:

The St. Padre Pio Solidarity Team will help put on Mass.

Fr. Eric Ritter and OLPH Seminarian Praveen celebrate Mass at JP II

This week, Fr. Eric Ritter, Pastor at OLPH in Selma celebrated Mass with the faculty and staff of JP II. Wednesday was the feast of St. Matthew, a tax collector that Jesus called to become an apostle. Jesus tells St. Matthew, “Follow Me” and St. Matthew leaves his post and follows Christ.

In his homily, Fr. Eric talked about his vocation to the priesthood and how he never thought that he would become a priest. Praveen, the seminarian who is doing his pastoral year at OLPH also spoke briefly about his vocation. He explained that he studies and will be soon be ordained a priest. Hearing Fr. Eric and Praveen speak was a nice connection to what was covered in Solidarity this week.



*The Calling of
St. Matthew*
By
Caravaggio