

Holy Hour for Vocations

To be made in front of the Blessed Sacrament when or if possible

Opening Prayer Intentions

For the intentions of the Holy Father, Pope N., we pray to the Lord.

Response: *Recite one Our Father, one Hail Mary and one Glory Be.*

For our Bishop, Bishop N., for our priests, seminarians, deacons, brothers, sisters, religious and all those living a consecrated life, and for all those discerning a call to religious life, we pray to the Lord.

Response: *Recite one Our Father, one Hail Mary and one Glory Be.*

For our personal intentions, and the intentions of all those gathered here.... (offer aloud or in the silence of your hearts). We pray to the Lord.

Response: *Recite one Our Father, one Hail Mary and one Glory Be.*

Most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Prayers of the Holy Rosary include the following:

Apostles' Creed - I believe in God, the Father almighty creator of heaven and earth and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father almighty. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. 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 art thou amongst 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 Be - Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Oh My Jesus - O my Jesus, forgive us of our sins. Save us from the fires of hell. Lead all souls into heaven, especially those in most need of thy mercy. Amen.

Hail Holy Queen - Hail Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our Life, our Sweetness, and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then most gracious advocate, Thine eyes of mercy toward us, and after this, our exile, show unto us, the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary. Pray for us O Holy Mother of God, That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ. Amen.

Final Rosary Prayer - Let us pray. O God, whose only begotten Son, by His life, death, and resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life, grant, we beseech Thee, that meditating upon these mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise, through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Litany for Vocations

Response (R): O Mary, intercede for us.

Mother of the Word Incarnate, help us to become more aware of the need for vocations to the priesthood and religious life... R

Mother of God, grant that others, like yourself, may say "yes" to your Son's call to the religious life... R

Mother of the Church, may many workers be added to the service of your Son's Church... R

Lady of Mercy, enlighten our minds that we may respond to our responsibility as parents to foster vocations in our homes... R

Queen of Heaven, help our young to follow your Son's footsteps... R

Blessed Mother, open our hearts and minds to love our priests and religious, to recognize their humanness and their needs as we do our own... R

Hail Mary, help our children to bind themselves closer to God through a vocation in the Church... R

Queen of Angels, give our Church true disciples who will serve as priests, sisters and brothers... R

Dearest Mother, keep our young open to hear God's call... R

Mother of Love, make us more open to the love our priests and religious have for us... R

Our Lady Queen of Heaven, help us to recognize that God alone does not call... R

Holy Family, help the families in this parish to discuss vocations to the religious life in a positive and encouraging manner... R

Queen of the Rosary, remind us to pray for our religious and those studying for the religious life, that they will remain zealous and dedicated to their call... R

Our Lady of Lourdes, we ask for happiness among priests, seminarians and all those engaged in a special Christian vocation to service... R

Silent Adoration

Approximately 20 minutes in duration

Invocation for Priests and the Religious Life

Leader: Lord Jesus, moved by Your great love for us, You remained with us under the appearance of the Eucharistic Bread. Prostrate in Your presence, we offer You our faith, love, gratitude and adoration, and place in Your hands all that we are and all that we have.

In union with Your most beloved Mother, we come here to accompany You and meet You as the Friend of our souls and the Light of our lives. In the wonderful works of creation, we discover the greatness of Your power and the glory of Your majesty, but in the Eucharist, we experience the joy of Your humble presence, hidden in the sacrament but revealed to every believing heart.

We come to offer You our heartfelt prayer for the world, for all people, for Your priests, and for men and women living the consecrated life. O Lord and Master of the harvest, we implore You particularly to send numerous and holy laborers to reap what You Yourself have sown in souls.

Response: We need You, Lord

Leader: We need men who will give You their mouths to speak to us of you, their feet to travel the world preaching your Gospel, their hands to bless us, their eyes so we can see how You look on us as a loving Father. We need You, Lord. The world and the Church need You. We ask You humbly and earnestly, to send us priests, vessels of Your saving power. Send us missionaries, consecrated men and women who will be light in the darkness of the world and salt to free us from the corruption of sin and evil.

Response: Lord, send laborers to Your harvest.

Leader: When You took pity on the crowd that followed You, and saw in it all the multitudes of people who throughout history would need shepherds on their journey toward You, You told us to pray. Hear now our humble prayer.

Response: Lord, send us the shepherds after Your own heart.

Leader: Lord, the fields are vast. Do not let the fruit that cost You the high price of Your passion and death remain unharvested for want of laborers to gather the harvest.

Response: Lord, send priests to Your Church.

Leader: The priest is another Christ. Through faith we see in him the Lord who walks with us in history. We honor him because in him we see Jesus Christ himself. A man among men, You have chosen him to celebrate the sublime mystery of the Eucharist, to perpetuate Your love through the ages, to forgive sins in Your name, to save in Your name, and to consecrate mankind and all creation in the name of the Blessed Trinity.

Response: Thank you, Lord, for the gift of the priesthood to Your Church.

Leader: Men and women who live the consecrated life leave everything in order to follow You alone, the Supreme Good, in perfect charity. They give their freedom out of love for You; they offer up the best of their affection and love to You; they follow You in poverty on the path of sacrifice. Great is their generosity and their consecrated life is a great gift to the Church.

Response: Lord, send Your Church vocations to consecrated life.

Leader: In the remotest places in the world, at times in the midst of persecution and at great risk, Your missionaries preach Your gospel to those who have not heard of You. They undergo loneliness, fatigue and misunderstanding, yet they bear it all with love so long as they can see Your love take root in the hearts of those people they reach out to.

Response: Lord, send missionaries to Your Church.

Leader: Lord, we are sure of Your promise, *"I will be with you until the end of time."* You are with us, and You never stop calling men and women to be at Your side in Your place as we journey toward You. You continue to pronounce the words that have changed the story of so many lives: *"Follow me"*. Help those You call to be generous not to close their hearts to Your call, to answer it promptly, like the prophet Isaiah: *"Here am I Lord, send me."*

Response: Grant generosity, faith and courage to those You have called.

Leader: Renew all Your priests in their love for You and Your church: the fervent and the downcast, those who struggle, those who love You passionately, and those who have lost hope. May the virtues of purity, obedience, patience, charity, gentleness, understanding, a burning zeal for the salvation of souls, humility and simplicity, all shine forth in their lives.

Response: Grant us priests after Your own heart.

Leader: Lord, inspire and help those priests who work in seminaries and houses for formation. May they give Your Church saints, doctors, martyrs and apostles – a new host of witnesses on fire with zeal for the new evangelization.

Response: Lord, send us holy priests.

Leader: We pray to You, Lord, for all those who dedicate their lives to promote vocations. May they never cease to cast out their nets in Christ's name, to provide the Church with the vocations she needs to fulfill her mission.

Response: We need Your priests. Send them to us, Lord.

Leader: The enemy of our souls knows the good that a single priest does for the Church, and never ceases to lay traps for those Christ has called, tempting them to cowardice and to be more selfish and less sacrificial. Moreover, each one of those You have called has to overcome the atmosphere of the world, and his passions. We ask You to strengthen their souls and grant them the generosity and courage to reject firmly anything that could endanger their fidelity.

Response: Lord, help those You call to be generous.

Leader: Send us, Lord,

Response: Priests after Your own heart.

Leader: The harvest is great. The laborers are few.

Response: Lord, send laborers to Your harvest.

Leader: You took pity on the crowds without a shepherd.

Response: Lord, send laborers to Your harvest.

Leader: For young people who feel Your call,

Response: Lord, grant them generosity.

Leader: For souls consecrated to You,

Response: Lord, increase their charity.

Leader: For young people who doubt Your call,

Response: Lord, grant them certainty.

Leader: For those who feel Your call while they are still young,

Response: Lord, be with them.

Leader: For seminarians,

Response: Lord, grant them perseverance.

Leader: For priests who are tempted,

Response: Lord, give them Your strength.

Leader: For zealous priests,

Response: Lord, inflame them even more with Your love.

Leader: For tepid priests,

Response: Lord, grant them Your holiness.

Leader: For priests who feel sadness,

Response: Lord, console them.

Leader: For priests who feel lonely,

Response: Lord, be their company.

Leader: For missionary priests,

Response: Lord, fill them with Your zeal.

Leader: For young priests,

Response: Lord, move them strongly to seek Your glory.

Leader: For elderly priests,

Response: Lord, sustain them in Your service.

Leader: For deceased priests,

Response: Lord, grant them Your glory.

Leader: The harvest is great. The laborers are few.

Response: Lord, send laborers into Your harvest.

Leader: For our Holy Father, Pope *N.*,

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For the shepherds of Your church,

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For our Bishop, Bishop *N.*,

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For those who most need Your grace,

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For those who are far from You,

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: O Jesus, eternal priest, never cease to send to Your Church new priests and consecrated men and women, shepherds after Your own heart. We need Your ministers. We need Your envoys. They are the instruments of Your grace and love. They console us in Your name, they nourish our hope, strengthen our faith, and intensify our love. We need them, Lord, because we need You, we need Your love. Do not leave us on our own, Lord. Send laborers to the harvest of the world. Send fishers of men who will gather us up in the nets of Your mercy. With humility and trust we implore You to send us shepherds after Your own heart. The harvest is great. The laborers are few. Lord, send laborers to Your harvest. We ask this through Christ Our Lord.

Response: Amen

Vocation Prayer

O dearest Jesus, Son of the eternal Father and Mary Immaculate, grant to our young men and women 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 cause them to rejoice exceedingly whenever one of their children is called to the religious life. Let Your example, and that of Your Blessed Mother and Saint Joseph, encourage both children and parents, and let Your grace sustain them. Amen

Prayer for the Spread of Perpetual Adoration

Heavenly Father, increase our faith in the Real Presence of Your Son Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist. We are obliged to adore Him, to give Him thanks and to make reparation for sins. We need Your peace in our hearts and among nations. We need conversion from our sins and the mercy of Your forgiveness. May we obtain this through prayer and our union with the Eucharistic Lord.

Please send down the Holy Spirit upon all peoples to give them love, courage, strength and willingness to respond to the invitation to Eucharistic Adoration. We beseech You to spread Perpetual Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament in parishes around the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen

Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament, help us to spread the glory of Your Son through Perpetual Adoration.

Thank You

Thank you for praying for vocations today. Thank you for all your prayers.

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2566 and 2567.....

Man is in search of God. In the act of creation, God calls every being from nothingness into existence. "Crowned with glory and honor," man is, after the angels, capable of acknowledging "how majestic is the name of the Lord in all the earth." Even after losing through his sin his likeness to God, man remains an image of his Creator, and retains the desire for the one who calls him into existence. All religions bear witness to man's essential search for God.

God calls man first. Man may forget his Creator or hide far from his face; he may run after idols or accuse the deity of having abandoned him; yet the living and true God tirelessly calls each person to that mysterious encounter known as prayer. In prayer, the faithful God's initiative of love always comes first; our own first step is always a response. As God gradually reveals Himself and reveals man to himself, prayer appears as a reciprocal call, a covenant drama. Through words and actions, this drama engages the heart. It unfolds throughout the whole history of salvation.

The Bismarck-Mandan Serra Club is part of Serra International, an organization that exists to foster and promote vocations, to encourage and affirm priests and those already living a consecrated religious life, and to assist members to recognize and respond in their own lives to God's call to holiness in Jesus Christ and through the Holy Spirit. If you are interested in learning more about Serra, or joining our group that meets the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month at the Bismarck Municipal Country Club at 11:45 am for lunch and fellowship, you can visit their website at www.bismanserra.com

