

October 1, 2021

Memorial St. Therese of Lisieux

Dear Pastors, Principals, and Parish Catechetical Leaders,

As a cloistered Carmelite, St. Therese of Lisieux discovered her vocation through little acts of love and charity. She said, "Jesus, my love. At last, I have found my vocation. My vocation is love. In the heart of the Church, my mother, I will be love, and then I will be all things." As pastors, principals, and catechetical leaders, we continue that mission to love especially within our school children.

Enclosed you will find a poster of our Newly Ordained Priests. We ask you to post them in a public place to encourage your parishioners and students to pray for them and vocations.

We remind you of the **National Awareness week which is celebrated November 7th to 13th**. This week is an opportunity to be aware of and pray specifically for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. We encourage your parish to 1) pray for vocations, 2) promote vocations, 3) begin establishing a culture of vocations and 4) invite your youth and young adults to participate in some of the activities that will be taking place during this time. Here are a few of those activities:

1. It is with great pleasure that the Office for Vocations invites your parish school and catechetical program to participate in our Archdiocesan wide **Vocation Poster Contest**. Each poster should be done by an individual student that coincides with a lesson on vocations. Vocation resources can be found on our webpage www.lavocations.org. Each individual parish school and catechetical program is encouraged to present awards on a local level and then submit only the **top 5 per grade level** to be judged on a regional level. Winners will be recognized on by the Archdiocese and the Office for Vocations in a special way. All submissions may be mailed to or dropped off to the Regional Vocation Directors listed on the following page by **Friday, December 10th, 2021**.
2. The Office for Vocations will be holding two virtual "Vocation Lessons" for our Catholic Schools. We encourage teachers to participate as a class. Please register on our website to receive information and class zoom link: www.lavocations.org **before Friday, November 5th**.
The lessons will be on the following days and times:
 - a. 3-5 grade: Tuesday, November 9, 2021, from 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
 - b. 6-8 grade: Wednesday, November 10, 2021, from 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
3. This week will be followed up with a bilingual vocations event called ***Youth in Search / Jóvenes en Búsqueda*** on **Saturday, November 20th** at Sacred Heart, Altadena with priests and religious of the Archdiocese. We ask that you please include an announcement in your parish bulletin the weeks leading up to the event and personally invite youth you think might have a vocation to the priesthood or religious life. This is an opportunity for high school aged and young adults to learn more about vocations and remain grounded in the Eucharist.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call us 213-637-7248 or email us. We look forward to your participation and continuing to build a **culture of vocations**.

In Christ,



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