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**Vocation Days & Resources**

**Education**

**National Catholic Schools Week** (Last Weekend of January)

**Purpose**: Strengthens the Catholic identity of a school through vocation promotion.

**Ideas**: Distribute Family Discussion Table Tents; Hold a faith-based quiz bowl; Invite a sister to address students at a school assembly; Implement lesson plans from one of the free curricula for vocations.

**World Day for Consecrated Life** (February 2 – Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord)

**Purpose**: Recognize those from your school who are in a religious order; To bring awareness to consecrated life.

**Ideas**: Put a picture and info of religious from your school on bulletin board or poster at entrance of school; Ask a religious sister/brother/priest to give a reflection on Consecrated Life at school Mass.

**World Marriage Day** (Second Sunday in February)

**National Marriage Week** (February 7-14 Each Year)

**Purpose**: Affirm those who have said “Yes” to the vocation of marriage. Remember, marriages striving for holiness equals a growing, thriving Church.

**Ideas**: Update bulletin board, write blurb for newsletter; ask students to interview engaged/married couples, make a card for their parents or grandparents.

**Religious Brothers Day** (May 1 – Feast of Saint Joseph the Worker)

**Purpose**: Bring awareness to religious brothers from the school and in the diocese.

**Ideas**: Update bulletin board, write blurb for newsletter; put picture and info of brothers from your school in newsletter or poster at entrance of the school; Send a care package of practical items to a house of formation or to the brothers living in your diocese or nearby diocese.

**Uplift Your Priest** (Second Monday & Third Week of Easter)

**Purpose:** To inspire students to support and encourage their priests.

**Ideas**: Send priest(s) spiritual bouquets, drawings, letters, gift cards. Hold a Car Parade of Love for him. Send the parish extra financial support.

**World Day of Prayer for Vocations** (Fourth Sunday of Easter – Good Shepherd Sunday)

**Purpose**: Pray for vocations from your school, diocese, and the world in any possible way.

**Ideas**: Sometime the week before, write a blurb for newsletter; update bulletin board; hold a Holy Hour; say Rosary for vocations; launch Adoration for vocations or Traveling Chalice.

**World Priest Day** (Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Each Year)

(*AKA World Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests*)

**Purpose**: To pray for their priest/all priests as they reflect upon the importance and dignity of their vocation.

**Ideas**: Rosary for priests, adoration for priests, put a prayer in the newsletter

**Priesthood Sunday** (Last Sunday in September)

**Purpose**: Honor Christ as Priest and the men called to be His priests on earth.

**Ideas**: Sometime around that date write a blurb for newsletter; update bulletin board; ask students to make card or write note for him; fill out Spiritual Bouquets for him.

**Deacon Sunday** (Second Sunday in October)

**Purpose:** To affirm the men who have said YES to serving the Church as deacons.

**Ideas:** Write a blurb for newsletter; update bulletin board; ask students to make card or write note for him; fill out Spiritual Bouquets for him.

**National Vocation Awareness Week** (First Full Week of November)

**Purpose**: Bring Awareness to priesthood, consecrated religious life, and sacramental marriage.

**Ideas**: Write a blurb for newsletter; ask priest to speak about vocations at school mass, assembly or in classes; Invite sisters to speak to classes; Show vocation videos to kids (all at vocationministry.com with age-appropriate ratings given); bring some aspect of prayer to this week.

**World Day of Cloistered Life** (November 21 – The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

**Purpose**: Bring awareness to this hidden life of prayer for all of us.

**Ideas**: Put picture/info of women living in cloistered life from the school/diocese on bulletin board or poster at entrance of school; Send care package of practical items to a cloistered order in your/nearby diocese.

**Websites/Resources:**

[www.vocationministry.com](http://www.vocationministry.com) - Resources for all above days and activities under Education tab. Buy copies of *The Harvest*, plush bears, books for children, and vocation backpacks under Shop tab.

[www.vianneyvocations.com](http://www.vianneyvocations.com) - Prayer cards/pamphlets/posters

[www.vocationbibleschool.com](http://www.vocationbibleschool.com) - Catholic Vocation Bible School

[www.catholicprayercards.org](http://www.catholicprayercards.org) - Holy cards of female saints

[www.worlddayofprayerforvocations.com/](http://www.worlddayofprayerforvocations.com/) - Resources specific to World Day of Prayer for Vocations

[www.vocationawarenessweek.com](http://www.vocationawarenessweek.com) - Resources specific to National Vocation Awareness Week

vocationministry.com/uplift-your-priest-2/ - Resources specific to Uplift Your Priest