



## Vocation Days & Resources

### **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 seminarians/priest/sister to address students at a school assembly; implement lesson plans from one of the free curricula for vocations

### **World Day for Consecrated Life** (First Weekend of February)

**Purpose:** Recognize those who are from your parish/diocese who are in a religious order, bring awareness to consecrated life

**Parish Ideas:** Post picture and info in bulletin or poster at entrance of the school/church. Ask a religious sister, brother, or priest to give a reflection at Masses/assembly on consecrated life

### **World Marriage Day-** (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in February)/

### **National Marriage Week-** February 7-14 each year

**Purpose:** To affirm those who have said yes to the vocation of marriage, so that they recognize the joys of this vocation as they did on their wedding day.

**Ideas:** Write a blurb for bulletin; make announcement at Masses; give out marriage prayer cards, recognize couple married longest at Masses; hold a renewal of vows; pray for those in marriage prep as a parish; have some of the married adults who work with the teens give their testimony; hold a reception for married couples after Masses

**Youth Ideas:** Promote via bulletin board/announcements; write blurb for newsletter; ask students to interview engaged/married couples; make a card for a married couple they admire

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

**Purpose:** To bring awareness to religious brothers in the parish/diocese

**Ideas:** Make announcement at school/Masses; post picture and info in bulletin or poster at entrance of the church/school of brothers from your parish/diocese; send a care package of practical items to a monastery in your diocese or nearby diocese

### **Uplift Your Priest-** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> weeks of Easter

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

**Ideas:** Send priest(s) spiritual bouquets, a meal, drawings, letters, gift cards; hold a Car Parade of Love for him. See all ideas at <https://vocationministry.com/uplift-your-priest-2/>

### **World Day of Prayer for Vocations** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter (Good Shepherd Sunday)

**Purpose:** To pray for vocations from your school/parish/diocese/world in any possible way.

**Ideas:** Write a blurb for bulletin; make announcement at school/Masses, prayer cards handed out to students/parishioners; hold a family Holy Hour; lead Rosary for vocations before Mass/school; launch Adoration for Vocations/ Traveling Chalice Program <http://www.worlddayofprayerforvocations.com/>

**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 priests

**Ideas:** Invite students/parishioners to pray for their priests; including Prayer Drive, Rosaries and Eucharistic Adoration for priests

**International Buy Your Priest a Beer Day** September 9 each year

**Purpose:** To affirm priests

**Ideas:** Invite him for a meal; bring him his favorite beer, meal, or cookies

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

**Purpose:** Lead parishioners/students to show their gratitude and love for their priest

**Ideas:** Write a blurb for newsletter/bulletin; make announcement; give cards to main organizations to have their members, youth, students to fill out and give him; Spiritual Bouquets can be filled out and given

**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** (1<sup>st</sup> full week of November)

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

**Ideas:** Write a blurb for newsletter/bulletin; make announcement; ask priest to speak about vocations and visit parish school classrooms and religious education classes; invite sisters to speak to youth group; show vocation videos to kids; bring some aspect of prayer to this week; implement lesson plans from one of the free curricula for vocations

**World Day of Cloistered Life-** November 21 (The Presentation-BVM)

**Purpose:** To bring awareness to this hidden life of prayer for all of us

**Ideas:** Make announcement at Masses/school; post picture and info in bulletin or poster at entrance of the church/school; send a care package of practical items to a cloistered order in your diocese or nearby diocese

**Websites/Resources:**

[www.vocationministry.com](http://www.vocationministry.com) –*Hundredfold* and other books, plush vocation bears, books for Children,

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

[www.marriageuniqueforareason.org](http://www.marriageuniqueforareason.org) - Made for Love podcast/blog/other marriage resources

[www.serraspark.org](http://www.serraspark.org) - Serra Club resources for vocations

[www.youngadultministryinbox.com](http://www.youngadultministryinbox.com) - Young Adult Ministry resources

[www.wisnesstolove.org](http://www.wisnesstolove.org) - Marriage Prep

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

[www.catholicprayercards.org](http://www.catholicprayercards.org) - Holy cards of female saints - Louis and Zellie Martin prayer Marriage card