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**Vocation Testimony Example**

Our hope is that you will use this homily, given by Fr. Christopher Meyer, as a template for sharing your own story. He has given you permission to use any part that you think would be beneficial for your parishioners to hear.

The call happened in 5th grade when I wrote an essay titled what I want to be when I grow up. I wanted to be a priest. The reasons I gave were:

1. It will be fun.
2. It will bring me closer to God.
3. It will be fun to give homilies.
4. The world needs more priests. Many people look for a job but being a priest would be a great way to serve God and that is what counts!

I looked for a route without the cross, for marriage to become less attractive, for women to become less attractive, for the cross of sacrifice of celibacy to go away.

I looked to distract myself from the simple voice of God in my heart. Confusion was fun!

Clarity came as I was inspired by reading about the Saints, attending a discernment retreat, going to confession, walking through the doors of the seminary, and during ordination.

The entire point of our lives is to follow the Lord's will!

If you believe the Lord is calling you to priesthood to religious life, calling your child to either of these, follow Him! And do it before the world succeeds in confusing you and your child!

In 5th grade, I had the truth, and then proceeded to make things complicated.

We will be closer to God if we do what he tells us today, tomorrow, and for the rest of our lives. There is a place for those who do God's will every day. It is called heaven and simply that is our goal!

Fr. Christopher Meyer

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston