



## **Lenten Homily Resource for Promoting Vocations (Cycle C)**

This resource is designed to help priests incorporate the theme of vocations into their homilies throughout Lent.

### **First Sunday of Lent**

**Gospel:** Luke 4:1-13 (The Temptation of Jesus)

**Vocation Theme:** Resisting Temptation in Our Calling

**Homily Outline:**

- Jesus overcomes temptation through obedience to the Father.
- Discerning a vocation requires placing trust in God above the distractions of the world.
- Encourage reliance on prayer and scripture when facing challenges.

**Reflection Questions:**

- What distractions or temptations pull me away from my vocation?
- How can I strengthen my trust in God's call?

### **Second Sunday of Lent**

**Gospel:** Luke 9:28-36 (The Transfiguration)

**Vocation Theme:** Hearing God's Call

**Homily Outline:**

- The disciples witness Christ's glory and are strengthened in their mission.
- Moments of clarity in discernment confirm God's calling.
- Encourage listening for God's voice in prayer.

**Reflection Questions:**

- How has God revealed His plan in my life?
- Am I open to recognizing His presence in my discernment?

### **March 19, Solemnity of St. Joseph**

**Gospel:** Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Luke 2:41-51a

**Vocation Theme:** Fatherhood and the Call to Protect and Guide

**Homily Outline:**

- St. Joseph is a model of fatherhood and obedience to God's call.
- Every vocation, especially marriage and priesthood, calls for protection, guidance, and self-sacrifice.
- Encourage the faithful to reflect on how they can imitate St. Joseph's trust and leadership.

**Reflection Questions:**

- How is God calling me to protect and guide those entrusted to me?
- In what ways can I imitate St. Joseph's faith and obedience?

### **Third Sunday of Lent**

**Gospel:** Luke 13:1-9 (The Parable of the Barren Fig Tree)

**Vocation Theme:** Bearing Fruit in Our Calling

**Homily Outline:**

- Jesus calls for repentance and fruitfulness.
- Vocations require growth, patience, and care.
- Encourage nurturing one's call through spiritual development.

**Reflection Questions:**

- What fruits am I producing through my vocation?
- How can I cultivate my relationship with God?

### **March 25, Solemnity of the Annunciation**

**Gospel:** Luke 1:26-38

**Vocation Theme:** Saying Yes to God's Call

**Homily Outline:**

- Mary's fiat is the perfect example of responding to God's call with trust.
- Every vocation—priesthood, religious life, and marriage—requires a courageous "yes" to God.
- Encourage the faithful to listen for God's call and respond with openness.

**Reflection Questions:**

- How can I better trust in God's plan for my life?
- What fears hold me back from saying "yes" to God's call?

## **Fourth Sunday of Lent**

**Gospel:** Luke 15:1-3, 11-32 (The Prodigal Son)

**Vocation Theme:** Returning to God's Call

### **Homily Outline:**

- God is always ready to receive us back when we stray.
- Answering God's call and living out a vocation comes with challenges, but His mercy is abundant.
- Encourage trust in God's plan even after obstacle or failure.

### **Reflection Questions:**

- Have I ever put my wants and desires (plan) before God's?
- How can I support others struggling with their calling?

## **Holy Thursday- Institution of the Eucharist and the Priesthood**

**Gospel:** John 13:1-15 (The Washing of the Disciples' Feet)

**Vocation Theme:** Servant Leadership in Vocation

### **Homily Outline:**

- On this night, Jesus not only washes feet but also institutes the Eucharist and the priesthood—two gifts that sustain the Church.
- The words "Do this in memory of me" are not just about the Eucharist; they are a command for the priesthood itself.
- Without the priesthood, there is no Eucharist, and without the Eucharist, there is no Church.
- Just as Jesus humbly washed the disciples' feet, a priest serves Christ and His people through the Eucharist, the sacraments, and spiritual leadership.
- Every priest is called to be a living sign of Christ's humility and self-giving love.

### **Reflection Questions:**

- Do I pray for more priests, who make the Eucharist possible, and encourage vocations?
- In what ways can I better imitate Christ's humility?