



Diocese of Austin

The Catholic Church of Central Texas
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Vocation Office

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Priests of the Diocese of Austin

Dear Brother Priest:

Advent is a season of hope, and I have great hope for the future of vocations in this diocese. The realization of that hope ultimately depends upon God's grace, but it also requires our active invitation.

I hope that you will invite some of your parishioners to participate in the vocation promotion and discernment events coming up soon. Here is a list of some of these events:

Seminary Sprint, January 2-10, 2007:

This is a combination road-trip and vocation discernment retreat for college-aged Catholic men open to discerning God's call in their lives. This year's 9-day trip includes visits to Holy Trinity Seminary, Irving; Our Lady of Dallas Cistercian Monastery, Dallas; St. Mary's Seminary, Houston; St. Joseph Seminary College and Monastery, St. Benedict, Louisiana; the Catholic chaplains at Fort Hood, and much more.

National Vocation Awareness Week, January 8-12, 2007:

We mailed you packets of materials back in October, which will facilitate advance planning for your local celebration, as well as in the promotion of vocations throughout the year.

Altar Server Recognition Day, January 20, 2007:

This celebration from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at St. Louis Parish in Austin will include Mass with Bishop Aymond and certificates for all altar servers who attend. In this mailing I have included an informational letter for parish coordinators of altar servers.

Project Andrew, Saturday, February 3, 2007:

Bring young men from your parish who are open to the possibility of the priesthood to this Mass and lunch with Bishop Aymond from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at St. Mary's Cathedral in Austin.

Vocation Discernment Weekend in English, March 16-18, 2007:

This weekend at Cedarbrake is for single Catholic men and women (age 18 to 40) who are open to discerning the priesthood or religious life.

Vocation Discernment Weekend in Spanish, April 20-22, 2007:

This weekend at Cedarbrake is for single, Catholic men and women (age 18 to 40) who are open to discerning the priesthood or religious life. The entire event will be in Spanish.

Our new vocation posters are at the printers, and we will distribute them as soon as we get them back.

I wish you a blessed season of Advent, as we wait in joyful hope for the good things that God can do.

Yours in the joy of Christ's service,

Rev. Michael J. Sis
Vocation Director