

A special note:

- For more information on any of the other activities of the Vocations office, give us a call or return the reply card form below (both sides).
- If you know of someone that would like to receive this newsletter, please inform us.
- May these events and messages help you to hear God's call to follow Him.

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**Prayer for Vocations**

Lord, God, we praise and bless your holy name. We ask that you give the Church of New Ulm holy priests, dedicated women and men religious, selfless deacons and zealous missionaries. Inspire in the hearts of our youth a spirit of generosity to commit their lives to the message and ministry of Jesus, your son. We ask all this through Him who lives and reigns as Our Lord, forever and ever. Amen. Mary, mother of the Church, pray for us.

*Speak, Lord, ...*

## A Message from Fr. Todd

The end of the school year is quickly approaching. Congratulations to all our graduating seniors. May the successes of your education bring you to even greater successes, and may your failures and struggles give you the faith to learn and to carry on!

This time of the year presents an interesting time to reflect on vocations. As farmers and gardeners begin or continue planting, it can prove to be a fruitful time for us to ask what seeds have been planted in us that the Lord is asking us to nurture and allow to produce fruit. Even the fact of the school year's end allows us to ask where we are heading. Especially graduates, but in reality most students, are asking "What am I called to do with my life?" Some might be asking the question for the first time, while others seem to be asking it over and over. It is a hard question – it has everything to do with happiness and satisfaction, and eternity. No, not that the 'job' we chose if we chose poorly will feel like an eternity, but our vocation and occupation are our preparation for eternity. We respond to God's will in our lives to cooperate here on earth in allowing His will to be done in the world. He lovingly uses us to bring the

world into submission to Him. Our lives in Christ are to give praise and glory to God. As St. Irenaeus (c. 202) said, "The glory of God is man fully alive." We give glory to Him by living the life He has given us, - to which He has called us. We need to ask the question, then, of what is God's will for me, how am I being called to be fully alive in Christ. How am I called to by part of God's will being done? Without asking these questions, we could find ourselves wandering without a purpose or plan.

Unrelated, we pass on the news of transition. Fr. Craig Timmerman, Associate Vocations Director, has been named Pastor of the Parishes of St. Peter, Canby, and St. Leo, St. Leo as of July 1. He will be reducing his time commitments to the Vocations Office, with me continuing as I have been these last seven years. Congratulations to Fr. Timmerman, and may the Lord bless him in his transition and continued Vocations Ministry.

Finally, with great humility, I thank God for my 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ordination on June 5, 2009. Honestly, it does not seem possible!

## Discernment Retreat with Bishop LeVoir

We are pleased to announce a day retreat with Bishop LeVoir and some of the seminarians of the Diocese. It will be on Friday, August 7, from 10 am to 8 pm. The day will include Mass, prayer, fun and food. Held at the beautiful Schoenstatt on the Lake in Sleepy Eye, the day promises to be relaxing. The theme is discernment, and while details are being worked out, know that it will help you make a good and holy decision about God's will for your life. Please use the enclosed response form or email Fr. Todd to save your space – and feel free to bring a friend.

**Note Well: If you wish to not receive this news letter, let us know through the following form, or through email (to [frtodd@mac.com](mailto:frtodd@mac.com)):**

### Prayer and Fasting:

Please continue to offer prayers, abstinence from meat on Fridays, and fasting for vocations.

For more information on prayer, please fill out this form!>>>

Clip and Return to the Vocations Office:

I would like more information about:

- Trip to SJV/Seminary Visits
- Discernment Retreat (August 7, 2009)
- Vocations Events/Prayer/discernment materials
- A call to priesthood/religious life
- Upcoming Operation Andrew Dinners
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Remove from mailing list**

Please send this newsletter to the following people (Sheet enclosed)

## Vocations View

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### The Vocations Office...

The purpose of the Vocations Office of the Diocese of New Ulm is to provide vocations resources and raise vocations' awareness within the Diocese. If you want to talk to someone about how God is calling you to give your life to the Church, please contact us. Fill out the Reply card below (both sides) to receive more information on these opportunities or resources, or to no longer receive this newsletter.

**Website:** Watch our website (www.ourmib.org) for revisions. If you have questions that you think the site should cover, email Fr. Todd. We apologize for our continuing delays. We hope to have the new/improved site up soon.

**Blogs:** Check out Fr. Todd's blog at frtodd.blogspot.com or the blog set up for our seminarians at www.ourmib.blogspot.com. On Fr. Todd's blog, he provides a reflection based on the Sunday readings, as well as commentary on vocations-themed news events or Catholic culture. You can also subscribe to have the articles emailed to you through Feedburner.

**Prayer Cards:** We have various vocations-themed prayer cards available in our office. Contact us for supplies!

**Vocations Posters:** We will soon be releasing a new Vocations Poster. Keep an eye out!

**Seminary/Mother House Visits:** As we did these last years, the Catholic High Schools of the Diocese and the Vocations Office are arranging visits to St. John Vianney and various religious houses (for the young women) in the Cities. Please keep the students in prayer. If you would be interested in visiting, contact us!

**Operation Andrew Dinners:** This Fall, the Office of Vocations will host 3 Operation Andrew Dinners. The locations are yet to be determined, but the dates are October 28, November 11, and November 30. For more information watch the Prairie Catholic, for the Fall Vocations Views (due in September???) , or your parish bulletin, or contact Fr. Todd.

**Vianney Visits:** As we have in the past, we will be arrange transportation to the Vianney Visits at St. John Vianney College Seminary, the University of St. Thomas, in St. Paul. They are held in November and February. For more information or to reserve your spot, contact Fr. Todd.

## Rosary for Vocations - The Luminous Mysteries

**Jesus' Baptism by John the Baptist** - In accepting the Baptism of John, Jesus identifies himself with doing the will of his heavenly Father. In our baptism, we are called into the Family of God to be the Body of Christ and the temple of the Holy Spirit.

**Wedding Feast at Cana** - In his first miracle, Jesus blesses a marriage faced with a crisis by providing miraculous wine for their wedding feast. By accepting Christ into their marriage, married couples are able to live the abundant life of God's grace.

**Proclamation of the Kingdom** - In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus proclaims the coming Kingdom to all. In living out their vows, consecrated women and men proclaim that same kingdom to the world.

**The Transfiguration** - In the Transfiguration, Jesus gives the apostles a glimpse of His divinity. In Holy Orders, a man is transformed in his being to act *in persona Christi capitis* - that is to represent Jesus to others by acting in the person of Christ.

**The Institution of the Eucharist** - At the Last Supper, Jesus gave us the memorial of His death and Resurrection by transforming bread and wine into His body and blood. In our reception of the Eucharist, we are reminded that in Christ's name and with the strength of this spiritual food, we are called to be agents of transformation in the world through the action of the Holy Spirit by living out our individual and unique vocation, so that "all may be one."

**El Bautismo de Jesús por Juan Bautista** - Al aceptar el bautismo de Juan el Bautista, Jesús se identifica asimismo haciendo la voluntad de su Padre celestial. En nuestro bautismo somos llamados a la familia de Dios para ser el Cuerpo de Cristo y el templo del Espíritu Santo.

**Las Bodas de Caná** - En su primer milagro, Jesús bendice un matrimonio que tuvo que afrontar una crisis, proporcionando un vino milagroso para su fiesta de bodas. Al aceptar a Jesús en su matrimonio, las parejas casadas son capaces de vivir la vida abundante de la gracia de Dios.

**La Proclamación del Reino** - En el Sermón del Monte, Jesús proclama la venida del Reino de los cielos a todos. Al vivir sus votos, los hombres y las mujeres consagradas a Dios proclaman ese mismo Reino al mundo.

**La Transfiguración** - En la transfiguración, Jesús le da a sus apóstoles un vislumbre de su divinidad. En las ordenes Sagradas, un hombre es transformado en su ser para actuar *in persona Christi capitis* - eso significa que representa a Jesús ante otros actuando en la persona de Jesús.

**La Institución de la Eucaristía** - En la Ultima Cena, Jesús nos dio el memorial de su Muerte y Resurrección al transformar el pan y el vino en su cuerpo y sangre. En nuestra recepción de la Eucaristía nos hacen recordar que en nombre de Cristo y con la fuerza de su comida espiritual, somos llamados a ser agentes de la transformación en el mundo a través de la acción del Espíritu Santo al vivir nuestra vocación única e individual, así que "todos podemos ser uno."

The Office of Vocations, Diocese of New Ulm  
Imprimatur: Bishop John C. Nienstedt, April 2005

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish you attend: \_\_\_\_\_

Please remove my Name from your Mailing list: \_\_\_\_\_