

RUN for VOCATIONS

*Quotes from Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI
For Reflection*

Whoever opens his heart to Christ will not only understand the mystery of his own existence, but also that of his own vocation; he will bear the abundant fruit of grace. The first fruit will be his growth in holiness, in the course of a spiritual journey which begins with the gift of Baptism and continues even to the fullness of perfect love. Living the Gospel without adding to it, the Christian becomes always increasingly capable of loving in the way that Christ loved, and welcomes the exhortation of Christ: "You, therefore, must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Mt 5,48). He will commit himself to persevering in unity with his brothers and sisters within the communion of the Church, and he will place himself at the service of the new evangelization, to proclaim and bear witness to the wonderful truth of the saving love of God.

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE JOHN PAUL II FOR THE 42nd WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

While they are necessary in every age, these vocations are even more necessary today, in a world marked by great contradictions and the temptation to relegate God to the margins in the fundamental choices of life. The words of the Gospel come to mind: "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest!" (Mt 9,37-38, cf. Lk 10,2). The Church welcomes every day this command of the Lord and, with faithful hope, raises up her invocations to the "Lord of the harvest", recognizing that only God can call and send laborers.

MESSAGE OF THE HOLY FATHER JOHN PAUL II FOR THE XXXV WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

At the center of every Christian community is the Eucharist, the source and summit of the life of the Church. Whoever places himself at the service of the Gospel, if he lives the Eucharist, makes progress in love of God and neighbor and thus contributes to building the Church as communion.

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE BENEDICT XVI FOR THE 44th WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

