

# Implementing “CALLED BY NAME” in Your Parish

The pastor, parochial vicars and appropriate parish staff, Parish Vocation Committee (PVC) members, as well as the entire parish all need to be involved for CALLED BY NAME to be successful. Implementation of the program in the parish is not difficult, and requires one person to serve as coordinator. Collaboration with the liturgy director, D.R.E., and school principal is very important as well.

## The Preparation:

- Discuss the program with the parish staff
- Appoint a program coordinator (PVC Coordinator or staff person)
- Make sufficient copies of the CALLED BY NAME brochure and response cards (please use card stock for the response cards, if possible).
- Coordinate the program with all parish groups who minister to young people 18 years of age or older.
- CALLED BY NAME Vocation poster should be displayed.
- Provide bulletin editor with materials for parish bulletins for Weeks I, II, III, and IV.
- Place the CALLED BY NAME brochures in church/pews a few weeks prior to Week I.

## Week II:

- Celebration of the Sunday liturgy inaugurating CALLED BY NAME
- The homily should introduce the program and stress the importance of priestly and religious vocations in the church (see suggested “talking points”)
- The Prayers of the Faithful and music are coordinated to specifically address vocations
- Bulletin announcements or inserts are included.
- CALLED BY NAME response cards are placed in the pews and/or pamphlet rack of the church
- Parishioners are asked to prayerfully consider the names of good, potential candidates to the priesthood, diaconate, and religious life. They then write the names on the response cards provided in the pews, and return them to church the following Sunday, or mail them to the parish office.

## Week III:

- Every priest will speak about their vocation story and how happy they are in the vocation (the pastor may wish to invite a religious to give a reflection).
- Explain why they are happy and what a priest (deacon/religious) does in his (their) ministry.
- Prayers of the Faithful, music, etc. are again specifically coordinated to address vocations
- Bulletin announcements or inserts are included
- CALLED BY NAME response cards are placed in the collection basket or returned to the parish office sometime during the coming week. (Replenish supply in pews/pamphlet rack, as needed)

## The Follow-up:

- Remaining bulletin announcement is included (in Week IV bulletin)
- The submitted names are examined by the parish priests and designated staff members. Those individuals considered to possess the qualities needed for future religious and clergy are set aside for follow-up.
- A letter, (sample provided by the Vocation Office), is sent by the pastor informing the persons recommended that his/her name has surfaced as a result of the CALLED BY NAME program.
- The parish coordinator follows up the pastor’s letter with a phone call expressing their encouragement and hope that the person might remain open to the vocation to priesthood, diaconate or religious life. NOTE: The Parish Coordinator should not be given the actual response card and does not need to know who submitted the card.
- The “Parish Nomination/Recommendation Form” (included in this packet) is sent to the Diocesan Vocation Office. Father Kevin Abels will contact those who are recommended by the parish staff.
- A thank you from the parish priests and staff can be published in the bulletin.

*Thanks for all you do to pray for and encourage vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and religious life! Your efforts will make a difference!*

Jesus said to them: “*The Harvest is rich but the laborers are few; therefore ask the harvest-master to send workers to his harvest.*” **Luke 10:2**