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**10**

Show support for seminarians.

Have an ongoing project with your friends to “sponsor a seminarian.” Write letters and promise to pray for a particular seminarian. Attend the ordination ceremony in June at the Cathedral. It is a beautiful liturgy and your presence will be encouraging to the entire Church!

*If you or someone you know is interested in exploring a vocation to the priesthood or religious life, speak with a priest or teacher, or contact:*

Vocation Office  
Diocese of Brooklyn  
341 Highland Boulevard  
Brooklyn, NY 11207  
718-827-2454

e-mail: [vocations@diobrook.org](mailto:vocations@diobrook.org)  
[www.dioceseofbrooklyn.org/vocations](http://www.dioceseofbrooklyn.org/vocations)  
[www.BrooklynPriests.org](http://www.BrooklynPriests.org)

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Dear God,  
at Baptism you invite every person into a relationship with you. As we grow in faith and love, help each of us to discover the ways in which you want us to use our many blessings.

Teach us to respect all people and help us to love our neighbors as ourselves, as this is the true Christian vocation.

Guide us, Jesus as we try to figure out what direction our lives should take. Grant that we use good judgement in making important decisions.

Be our companion as we journey down different pathways. We want so much to do what you want us to do.  
Lead us, Lord.

We ask this through  
Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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What can I  
do as a  
**STUDENT**  
to promote  
VOCATIONS  
to the  
priesthood  
and  
religious life?

The Diocese of Brooklyn  
Vocation Office

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**1** **Attend Mass.**  
The celebration of the Eucharist is a fundamental aspect of our faith. Gathering around the Lord's table will serve to strengthen the bond in your own family and the bond of the parish family. It is a strong parish family that produces priestly and religious vocations.

**2** **Compose a vocation prayer.**  
Write a prayer for vocations to the priesthood and religious life that you can say each day. Show your teacher and perhaps the class can pray it together. If you would like you can share it with the Vocation Office and we can post it on our website!

**3** **Send cards.**  
Find out the anniversary dates of ordination or entrance into religious life celebrated by priests and religious, and send them a card. By this simple act they will be assured of our prayers, support and friendship and will just make them feel happy!

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**4** **Say thank you.**  
We all know that it feels good to be thanked. Say thanks to a priest or religious. It is encouraging for them to feel that their generosity is being appreciated and the time they spend in service to the parish community is being recognized. Offering thanks also sheds a positive light on priests and religious.

**5** **Join a Youth Group.**  
The Church benefits greatly from the energy and enthusiasm that young people bring. Consider becoming part of the youth ministry in your parish.  
Plus, it's fun!

**6** **Identify the gifts of family members and friends.**  
Through baptism each of us has received special gifts and talents. Reflect on the gifts and talents of your friends and family members and how they can be used in service to others. There is a place for all of our unique gifts in the Church.

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**7** **Discuss modern day heroes in the church.**  
Young people need to see that the church is alive, and that serving as a priest or religious is not something people only did in the past. Learn about the wonderful people serving in the church today. Dream about what it might be like in the future.

**8** **Pray.**  
We can work toward the increase of priestly and religious vocations through our prayers. Make a commitment to pray for this intention every day. Also, consider praying for a particular priest or religious in your parish.

**9** **Perform acts of charity.**  
In the Gospels Jesus directs us to love our neighbor and he calls us to serve one another. There are varied ways that we can behave charitably and serve the Lord gladly. Look into ways that you can generously meet the needs of your neighbors. A charitable heart is a hallmark of priestly and religious vocations.

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