

St. Joseph Vocation Society

Over the last five years the Vocations Office has been working hard to build a culture of vocations in our Diocese, that is, an environment in parishes, schools and families where young people feel comfortable discerning a personal call from God and reflecting seriously on a vocation to the priesthood or to the religious life. Such a culture of vocations is extremely needed today since it has become rather difficult in the secular environment of our society to step out in faith and embrace a call to a religious life in the broadest sense of the word as a priest, deacon, sister, brother or missionary. In a climate which is often intolerant or dismissive of such religious “career choices” even sometimes within Catholic families, it takes tremendous courage, determination and perseverance for a young person to discern a call and make a life-long commitment to service, prayer and ministry in the Church. God knows the Church needs vocations! The world needs them! And God does not give up calling people in every age, especially young people to precisely this kind of life. There are plenty of vocations out there. There are plenty of brave and generous young people also in our diocese, as the last few years have shown, but they do need our encouragement, our protection, our support and above all our prayers. This is why the Vocations Office, based on the positive experiences in other dioceses, invites the people of our parishes and schools to join together in prayer and sacrifice on behalf of vocations. St. Joseph Society gathers together, on an informal basis, people who would like to commit themselves to offering prayers and sacrifices for this all-important purpose: vocations from and for our diocese. There is no membership fee or meetings, no commitments other than prayer; but prayer commitments we do need and lots of them. St. Joseph is the patron of our society who, given his unwavering fidelity to God’s will even in the face of difficulties, is uniquely able to watch over all our efforts and over our vocations, over our seminarians and over anyone wishing to discern God’s call in our Diocese. You can join St. Joseph Vocations Society online or by calling the Vocations Office.