

# St. Joseph's Chalice for Vocations Program Guide and Prayer Book



"I want to invite all the People of God to reflect on the theme: *Faith in the divine initiative – the human response*. The exhortation of Jesus to his disciples: 'Pray therefore to the Lord of the harvest, to send out laborers into his harvest' (Matthew 9:38) has a constant resonance in the Church. Pray! The urgent call of the Lord stresses that prayer for vocations should be continuous and trusting..."

- Pope Benedict XVI

Thank you for accepting the responsibility to lead St. Joseph's Prayers for Vocations this week. Your support and prayers are deeply appreciated and will bear fruit for future generations. Do not hesitate to invite others to join you in prayer this week, even if it is only for one day.

Please work directly with a member of The Chalice for Vocations Ministry to return The Chalice next weekend. Thank you.

"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, I am there among them."  
Matthew 18:20

"Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours."  
Mark 11:24

"So I tell you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."  
Luke 11:9

"You did not choose Me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—so that whatever you ask the Father, in My name, He will give you."  
John 15:16

"I love the LORD, because He has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy."  
Psalm 116:1

"If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask in prayer." Matthew 21:22

# Guide for The Chalice for Vocations Program

“Support your priests with your love and prayers, that they may always be shepherds after Christ’s heart.”

“Vocations are born in prayer and from prayer, and only in prayer can they persevere and bear fruit.”

“God calls you to make definitive choices, and He has a plan for each of you: to discover that plan and to respond to your vocation is to move toward personal fulfillment.”  
- Pope Francis



**The purpose of The Chalice for Vocations Program:** increase the number of people praying for vocations via fervent and devotional prayer.

The Eucharist is central to our Catholic faith and parish life; The Chalice for Vocations encourages families, individuals, and groups to pray for vocations. It is from within His family that our Lord grew in wisdom and grace; it is in the family and St. Joseph’s community that we sow the seeds of vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

**How it works:** Families, individuals, and groups make a commitment to receive The Chalice for Vocations and pray for vocations for a designated week; they receive The Chalice at a mass of their choosing. Following Holy Communion, the presider calls the designated party/parties to the foot of the altar. The Chalice is presented, and the recipients are commissioned (in front of the congregation) to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. The family/individual/group takes The Chalice home and publicly displays The Chalice where they will gather and pray for vocations daily. Prayers are provided in The Chalice for Vocations Program Guide and Prayer Book. The Chalice also serves as a visual reminder to say a personal prayer for vocations throughout each day, even when not praying from The Program Guide and Prayer Book. The following weekend, 30 minutes prior to mass, The Chalice is returned to a designated location. The presentation of The Chalice is rotated throughout all masses. *It is crucial that the entire parish is aware of The Chalice for Vocations Ministry and the need to support the program in perpetuity.*



Please incorporate a Daily Prayer for Vocations, even if St. Joseph's Chalice for Vocations is not present. Be confident that your prayers are heard.

### **Daily Prayer for Vocations**

Father, You call each of us by name to follow You.

Bless Your church by raising up dedicated and generous leaders from our families and friends who will serve your people as sisters, priests, brothers, deacons, and lay ministers.

Inspire us as we grow to know You, and open our hearts to hear Your call.

We ask this in the name of Jesus.  
Amen.

## Sunday

+ *In the name of the Father, The Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

**ALL (or as reading ability dictates):** Today's Prayer for Vocations includes special intentions for all families. Heavenly Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, we thank You for calling our family to become a sanctuary of life and love. Fill us with Your Holy Spirit, so that we grow in faith and holiness as a domestic church. Give us grace to forgive one another as You have forgiven us, be with us as we carry our crosses together. Help our family be a school of virtue; help us exemplify and teach love, respect, patience, obedience and gratitude in all circumstances. Father we ask that Jesus, Mary, and Joseph protect us and remain our constant guiding-example to ever-greater union with You. Amen.

**Leader:** O God, we recognize the responsibility all Your children have to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. As part of our commitment to this responsibility, together we pray...



**ALL:** Lord Jesus, remove all distractions and noise from the hearts and ears of the men and women You are calling to a life of service. Make each person keenly aware of Your presence as they pray for guidance, particularly in the quiet moments of each day. Lord, if you choose a member of our family guide each of us to respond with a grateful heart. Amen.

**ALL:** *Our Father,* Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Amen.

*Hail Mary,* full of grace, The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God pray for us sinners – now – and at the hour of our death. Amen.

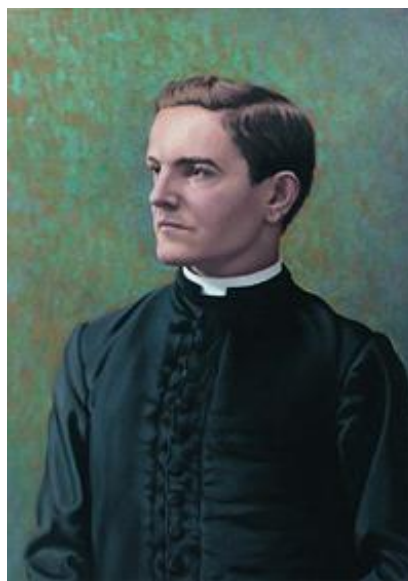
+ *Glory Be* to The Father, and to The Son, and to The Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## Monday

+ *In the name of the Father, The Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

### **ALL (or as reading ability dictates):**

Today's Prayer for Vocations includes special intentions for all those called to the priesthood and religious life, singles, and married couples. Heavenly Father, bless Your Church with an abundance of holy and zealous priests, deacons, brothers, and sisters. Give those You have called to the married state and those You have chosen to live as single persons in the world, the special graces that their lives require. Form us all in the likeness of Your Son so that in Him, with Him, and through Him we may love You more deeply and serve You more faithfully -- always and everywhere. With Mary we ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen. - *Knights of Columbus Prayer for Vocations I*



Venerable Fr. Michael McGivney

**Leader:** O God, we all recognize the responsibility each of us have to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. As part of our commitment to this responsibility, together we pray...

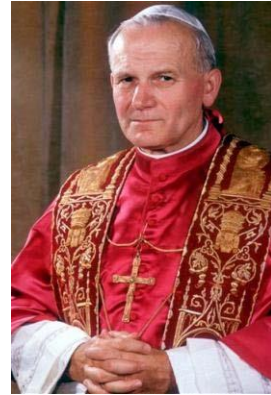
**ALL:** Heavenly Father, You entrust adults and children with talents and opportunities so that they may be Your agents in helping the poor and suffering. May everyone use Your entrusted gifts to become co-workers with Your Son. We pray that the self-sacrifice, sympathy, and love that was manifested in the life of Christ reappear in the lives of those who have left all to follow Your Son. Amen.

**ALL:** Our Father...  
Hail Mary...  
Glory Be to the Father... Amen.

## Tuesday

+ *In the name of the Father, The Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

**ALL (or as reading ability dictates):** Today's Prayer for Vocations includes special intentions for all young people. "Jesus, Son of God, in whom the fullness of the Divinity dwells, You call all of the baptized to 'put out into the deep' taking the path that leads to holiness. Waken in the hearts of young people the desire to be witnesses in the world of today to the power of Your love. Fill them with Your Spirit of fortitude and prudence, so that they may be able to discover the full truth about themselves and their own vocation.



Our Savior, sent by the Father to reveal His merciful love, give to Your Church the gift of young people who are ready to put out into the deep, to be the sign among their brothers of Your presence which renews and saves.

Holy Virgin, Mother of the Redeemer, sure guide on the way towards God and towards neighbor, you who pondered His word in the depth of your heart, sustain with your motherly intercession our families and our ecclesial communities so that they may help adolescents and young people to answer the call of the Lord. Amen. "

*- Pope John Paul II  
11 August 2004*

**Leader:** O God, we recognize the responsibility of all to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. As part of our commitment to this responsibility, together we pray...

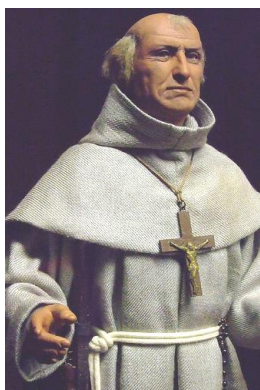
**ALL:** Lord Jesus, You said, "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who receives anyone whom I send receives Me; and he who receives Me receives Him Who sent Me" (*John 13:20*). Call to yourself those men and women whom You want to reveal Your word. Give them strength to live as prophets in the world, capable of revealing to all what they have seen and heard from You. Amen.

**ALL:** Our Father...  
Hail Mary...  
Glory Be to the Father... Amen.



## Wednesday

+ *In the name of the Father, The Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.*



**ALL (or as reading ability dictates):** Today's Prayer for vocations is for all of God's children from St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Pueblo. "O God who wills not the death of a sinner, but rather that he be converted and live, grant we beseech you through the intercession of the Blessed Mary ever virgin; Saint Joseph her spouse; Blessed Junipero Serra and all the saints; an increase of laborers for your Church. Heavenly Father, bless Your Church and fellow laborers with Christ to spend and consume themselves for souls, through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen."  
*- Serra Prayer for Vocations (see below)*

**Leader:** O God, we recognize the responsibility of all to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. As part of our commitment to this responsibility, together we pray...

**ALL:** Lord our God, You call us to new life through The Sacrament of Baptism, which challenges us to be faithful witnesses to the Gospel. Strengthen the young men and women of our parish who are discerning a consecrated life of service to others. May they not fear oppositions and uncertainties but persevere in their discernment. Amen.



**ALL:** Our Father...  
Hail Mary...  
Glory Be to the Father... Amen.

### Serra Clubs

An organization of Catholic men and women of all ages. Lay members from all walks of life who have taken their name from Blessed Father Junipero Serra (pictured above), a Franciscan Missionary Priest who established many Missions in California (in the late 1700's) through his evangelization. There are over 670 Serra clubs with more than 21,000 Serra members in 35 countries. The objectives of the organization are to foster and promote priesthood and religious vocations, in the Catholic Church, by working together and praying together. Our Church needs strong leadership. Laypersons must help call forth priests, sisters, brothers, permanent deacons, and lay ministers. It is equally important to affirm those who already serve the Church so that they will continue to find their vocation a fulfilling way of life. We do so by recognizing our Priests and Religious on their birthdays and the anniversaries of their ordination or profession.



## Thursday

+ *In the name of the Father, The Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

**ALL (or as reading ability dictates):** Today's Prayers for Vocations focuses on God's personal vocational call for each of His children, and the fortitude necessary to continue to say "Yes, Lord." Heavenly Father, call many holy young people to consecrated life for the sake of your kingdom. Call an abundance of virtuous men to serve in ordained ministry, as laborers for your harvest. Call numerous others to faithful, chaste and fruitful love in the sacrament of marriage, as signs and witnesses of Christ's love for His Church. Through baptism you have called Your children, in whatever state of life, to love and serve You. Fill us with Your Holy Spirit and grant us the grace to follow You in perfect obedience and charity. With Mary and Joseph as our models and intercessors, we ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*- Knights of Columbus Prayer for Vocations II*

**Leader:** O God, we recognize the responsibility everyone has to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. As part of our commitment to this responsibility, together we pray...

**ALL:** Lord Jesus Christ Shepherd of souls, who called the apostles to be fishers of men, raise up new apostles in Your Church. Move now the ardent and generous hearts of our youth and give them the courage to embrace the consecrated life, which is a sign of total self-giving to others and a sign of the kingdom to come. May they welcome Your call and bring joy to Your Church with their faithful response. Amen.



**ALL:** Our Father...  
Hail Mary...  
Glory Be to the Father... Amen.

## Friday

+ *In the name of the Father, The Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

**ALL (or as reading ability dictates):** Today's Prayer for Vocations recognizes the joy and personal sacrifice when anyone says "Yes" to God's vocations call.



"Jesus will use you to accomplish great things on the condition that you believe much more in His love than in your weakness. Only then, His hand will be free with you."

"We will be the happiest people in the world if we belong to God, if we place ourselves at His disposal, if we let Him use us as He pleases."

"Give yourselves unswervingly to God. Conform yourselves in all things to His glory, to His holy will."

"Our work is not a profession but a vocation, chosen to satiate the thirst of Jesus by total surrender, complete, without counting the cost."

*- Saint Teresa of Calcutta*

**Leader:** O God, we recognize the responsibility of all to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. As part of our commitment to this responsibility, together we pray...

**ALL:** Lord God, You so loved the world that you sent your only Son, Jesus, to forgive our sins and bring eternal life to those who believe in Him. Help those who fear the commitment of serving others. May they encounter the liberating and passionate Christ who suffered and died for us; make them more aware of His presence with the quiet voice that urges, "Come, follow Me." Amen.

**ALL:** Our Father...  
Hail Mary...  
Glory Be to the Father... Amen.

## Saturday

+ *In the name of the Father, The Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

**ALL (or as reading ability dictates):** Today's Prayer for Vocations focuses specifically on prayers for all priests. We thank you, God our Father, for those who have responded to Your vocational call of a priestly ministry. Father, please accept this prayerful offering on their behalf: Fill Your priests with a lifelong and confident knowledge of Your love. Open their hearts to the power and consolation of the Holy Spirit. Lead them, Father, to new depths of union with Your Son. Increase in all priests a profound faith in the Sacraments they celebrate as they nourish, strengthen, and heal us.

Lord Jesus Christ, grant that all priests inspire each of us to strive for holiness by the power of their example. Bless every priest with an unwavering desire to prayerfully ponder Your word and follow Your will.

O Mary, Mother of Christ and our mother, guard with your maternal care these chosen ones, so dear to the Heart of your Son. Intercede for our priests that, offering the sacrifice of your Son, they may be conformed each day to the image of your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

*- Inspired by the Knights of Columbus Prayer for Our Priests/The Year for Priests*

**Leader:** O God, we recognize the personal responsibility we have to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. As part of our commitment to this responsibility, together we pray...



**ALL:** Most Blessed Virgin Mary, mother and model of all vocations, bless our family with nurturing hearts as we grow in faith together. Guide us to reach beyond our home in the service of others. Help our children, and all children of St. Joseph's Parish, to know their true vocation. Grant all children the courage to follow Your Son, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life, who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

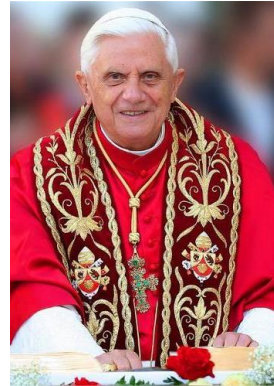
**ALL:** Our Father...  
Hail Mary...  
Glory Be to the Father... Amen.

### ***Memorare***

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly unto you, O Virgin of Virgins, my Mother. To you I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the World Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in your mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

## Parents Make a Difference

"Our first duty, therefore, is to keep alive in families and in parishes, in movements and in apostolic associations, in religious communities and in all the sectors of diocesan life this appeal to the divine initiative with unceasing prayer. What is asked of those who are called is careful listening and prudent discernment, a generous and willing adherence to the divine plan, and a serious study of the reality that is proper to the priestly and religious vocations, so as to be able to respond responsibly and with conviction..."



"The world offers you comfort, but you were not made for comfort. You were made for greatness."

- Pope Benedict XVI

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." Philipians 4:6

"I prayed for this child, and the Lord has granted me what I asked of Him."  
1 Samuel 1:27

*Parents and loved ones make a difference. Pray with an open heart for all of God's children to say "Yes, Lord" when He calls -- particularly those in St. Joseph's Parish and the Diocese of Pueblo.*

*Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, please bless St. Joseph's Parish and the Diocese of Pueblo with an abundance of vocations to the priesthood and religious life. In Jesus Sweet and Holy Name I pray. Amen.*

Please contact the Parish office @ 719-544-1886 or the webmaster for the parish website if you would like to become involved in The Chalice for Vocations Ministry, sign up for a week with The Chalice for Vocations Program, or if you or someone you know would like additional information about The Chalice for Vocations. Thank you for your prayers; they are heard. God bless you and your loved ones.