

Liturgical Celebration for Vocations

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GOD *calls us*
to PROCLAIM
HIS *Word*

Guide: God has called us and today He calls us again. We should never be afraid to answer Him, for God who calls us is faithful and will do all that He has promised. In fact He promised to be with us till the end of time. He fulfills it by being with us in His word, in the Bread of life, the Eucharist, in the other sacraments. To be able to listen to the Word of God effectively, we need to open our hearts to the light of the Holy Spirit.

Song (kneeling)

Short Pause

Guide: Let us pray.

All: God, our Lord, you have chosen us before the foundation of the world and blessed us with every spiritual blessing to be your children. You have called us by virtue of our baptism to share in your divine mission of proclaiming your word to all humans. Purify our hearts and our lips, Father, as you purified the lips of the prophet Isaiah with a burning coal, so that we may come to a deeper knowledge of the Gospel, give true witness to it and share it more fully. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Guide: Let us listen to Jeremiah, the prophet who tells us how God chose him for a holy mission to the people of Israel.

Reader: From the Prophet Jeremiah 1:4-10 (seated)

Guide: Confident that it is the Father who calls us to himself and the same Father gave us Jesus and Mary as models of responsiveness to his call, we dare to call Him Father in the words that Jesus taught us.

All: Our Father... (to be sung)

Short Pause

Final Song

2. Father, you chose Mary to be a collaborator in your plan of redemption. She carried out her part by her openness to your will and by her reflective heart. Following her example and encouraged by her intercession, we ask you for reflectiveness in our task and openness to your designs in our life and in our Church. We pray.

All: Mother most faithful, pray for us.

3. Father, by your grace Mary remained faithful to her initial yes even up to the foot of the Cross. Her maternal heart was then pierced with the sharp sword of her Son's passion. We pray you, through Mary's intercession, look down upon us all, especially those among us who have consecrated themselves to you through Holy Orders or religious profession, that we too may persevere to the end in spite of the many trials and crises that we may experience. We pray.

Guide: Heavenly Father, it pleases you to hear the supplications of your children who acknowledge their utter dependence and submission to your will. Trusting in your love and goodness we present to you our petitions including those we keep hidden in our hearts. May we work together for the coming of your reign. WE ask this through Jesus Christ your Son and our Brother.

All: Amen

Short Pause

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 119 from 'Psalms Now')

Guide: God, I gladly accept your will and purpose for my life.

All: God, I gladly accept your will and purpose for my life.

1. God, I ardently want to please you,
to walk with your ways and carry out your purpose
There is nothing as important to me
as being in the Center of your will,
living within your design for my life.
2. You did not only fashion me with your hands,
Lord and created me for purpose, You have
stamped your image upon my heart.
Therefore my deepest longings are met
only in you and in the dedication of my life
to the accomplishment of your objectives.
3. How can I live a life that is pleasing to you,
Lord?
My instincts are earth-bound.
The passing delights of this life strongly tempt
me.
My burning desire and desperate attempts to
please you are frustrated by the many enemies
of my soul.
4. So often I fail to do what I really want to do,
to attain what I strive for,

to grasp what I reach for
and I fall back in shame and I am flattened in
despair.

5. You do forgive me when I fail o Lord,
and put me upon my feet again.
You have promised to strengthen me
and to sustain me in my daily conflicts.
6. Now I pray for wisdom to discern your will
and for the grace to carry it out
in the difficult days ahead of me.
7. You have shown me how much you love me
Lord;
now show me how to love you.
Your standards for me are clear.
8. I can only truly love you when
I love your children in the world.
I can only serve you when I commit my life
in service to my brothers and sisters.
I can only offer sacrifices to you
through my needy neighbor's altar.
9. I love you, God, and gladly accept
your will and purpose for my life.
Bless me now and guide me, grant me the grace
to walk within that will and purpose
and have the joy of knowing that I am pleasing
to you

Song (standing)

Guide: Let us listen to different passages of the Gospel.

Reader 1: From the Gospel of Luke 1:26-31

Reader 2: Lk. 2:4-11

Reader 3: Lk. 2:46-50

Reader 4: From the Gospel of John 19:25-27

Pause for Reflection

Guide: Let us kneel

Father, you are faithful to your promise of salvation
for humankind. When the awaited time came you
sent an angel to announce the coming of your
Son to Mary of Nazareth. She understood that the
message is from you and she surrendered herself
giving her "Yes".

Grand us Father, through this humble virgin the
grace to surrender to our will and so we pray:

All: Mother most faithful, pray for us.

1. Father, in many ways you made known to
Mary that her mission of motherhood was
not to be free from pain and suffering, yet she
did not waver in her surrender. Through the
example and intercession of Mary, the Mother
of Jesus, give us the grace to accept the pains
and sufferings in life with Christina patience
and a firm hope in your deliverance. We pray.

All: Mother most faithful, pray for us.