



National Vocation Awareness Week

January 10 –16, 2010

The feast of the Baptism of the Lord marks Jesus' initiation into public ministry. At his baptism Jesus is named the Beloved Son of God. With this celebration we recommit ourselves to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Initiated through our baptism we too are the Beloved of God, commissioned to proclaim Good News with our lives.

As I changed my calendar to welcome the New Year, I could not help but notice the invitation that the St. Ambrose calendar provided each month for me to pray for vocation to the priesthood. I wish I could tell you that I did that faithfully the entire year, but I have to admit that I need to improve my petitions for prayer to increase vocations to the ordained ministry and the consecrated life. This year I have committed to pray for vocations regularly, and in doing so I have accepted the invitation to be the vocations coordinator for St. Ambrose. I hope to make our entire parish more aware of the need to pray for vocations and to become proactive in bringing forth this awareness in the lives that we interact with and encounter, not only in our parish community but in the midst of our daily lives.

On a recent Sunday in December I witnessed a Confirmation in our parish. I could not help but think about the Holy Spirit continuing to work, calling us to deeper conversion and awakening us to greater possibilities than we could ever imagine. We are the people that the Holy Spirit will continue to work through, if we invite him into our lives. We can also become proactive in recognizing the presence of the Holy Spirit in others.

Please join me in the effort to increase vocations in our parish and pray the following prayer. You may contact me by phone or email. Vocations Coordinator is now listed on the front of the newsletter. I am interested in your ideas and will be waiting to hear from you.

Michael Morgan
(310) 659-3075
mam249@sbcglobal.net

Lord Jesus, as You once called the first disciples
to make them fishers of men,
let your sweet invitation continue to resound:
Come, follow Me!
Give young men and women the grace
of responding quickly to Your voice.
Support your bishops, priests and consecrated people
in their apostolic labor.
Grant perseverance to our seminarians
and to all those who are carrying out the ideal of a life
totally consecrated to Your service.
Awaken in our community a missionary eagerness.
Lord, SEND WORKERS TO YOUR HARVEST
and do not allow humanity to be lost for the lack of pastors,
missionaries and people dedicated to the cause of the Gospel.
Mary, Mother of the Church, the model of every vocation,
help us to say "Yes" to the Lord Who calls us to cooperate
in the divine plan of salvation.
We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Pope John Paul II