

# CALLED BY NAME



A process of invitation  
to Church vocations

Diocese of  
Great Falls-Billings  
October 10-18, 2009

# CALLED BY NAME

This fall, the Diocese of Great Falls-Billings will implement a vocation promotion initiative. “CALLED BY NAME” is a program that invites men and women, 16 years of age or older, to consider priesthood or consecrated life. This program has been recommended by the U.S. Bishops’ Committee on Vocations in their document *A Future Full of Hope: a National Strategy for Vocations to Priesthood and Religious Life for the Archdioceses and Dioceses of the United States*.

At the heart of this program is the belief that all of us share a common calling through Baptism, to which we are invited to respond in a variety of ways – marriage, single life, consecrated life and priesthood. The CALLED BY NAME process focuses on priesthood and consecrated life, and stresses the role of the Christian community in calling forth men and women to consider these vocations.

Parishioners throughout the diocese are encouraged to consider who in our midst might serve well as a priest or religious, and submit their names at the weekend liturgies October 10-11 and October 17-18. There are many good prospective priests, brothers, and sisters who are simply waiting to be asked.

What should one look for in a candidate to priesthood and consecrated life? The following qualities are desirable in persons identified as potential candidates:

- A person of prayer who loves the Lord;
- A person who is actively involved in the life of the Church;
- A person who is successful in life, including school, work, and relationships;
- A person who is approachable, friendly;
- A person with personal integrity, honesty, generosity.

Often potential young candidates will say that they think they would be a good husband and father, or a wife and mother. Many of the same qualities that make one well suited to be a spouse and parent are the qualities that make one a good priest or religious.

How does the CALLED BY NAME process work? Parishioners will be invited to submit names of potential candidates in their respective parishes in mid-October. Persons nominated will be invited to an information program to be held in mid-Winter. At this meeting, participants will learn about the call and life of ministry as a priest or religious. They will have an opportunity to seek answers to their questions and then be invited to explore discernment processes further.

The CALLED BY NAME program is an ambitious undertaking which holds great promise for the Diocese of Great Falls-Billings. As priests, religious and laity, we can make a real difference in our diocese.

God continues to call people to service as priests and religious. The faithful have a responsibility to identify and invite those called. Please pray for the success of this initiative and consider whom in our midst God might be calling to service.

After the Heart of Jesus!

Father Leo McDowell  
Director of Vocations

## Implementing CALLED BY NAME in the Parish

The pastor and appropriate parish staff, as well as the entire parish all need to be involved for CALLED BY NAME to be successful. Implementation of the program in the parish is not difficult, and requires one person as a coordinator. Collaboration with the liturgist-musician, D.R.E., and school principal is very important as well.

### **The Preparation:**

- Discuss the program with the parish staff.
  - o Decide whether there will be one or two Sundays of speaking about vocations.
  - o Review homily/talking points to be used during the week.
- Appoint a program coordinator (Parish Vocation Contact or staff person).
- Prepare the CALLED BY NAME liturgies for October 10/11 and/or October 17/18.
- Coordinate the program with the parish/school/religious education program (materials will be provided).
- Provide bulletin editor with materials for parish bulletin.

### **Week I: 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time, October 10/11, 2009**

- Celebration of the Sunday liturgy inaugurating CALLED BY NAME.
- The Homily, Prayers of the Faithful, and Music are coordinated to specifically address vocations.
- Bulletin announcements or inserts are given.
- Vocation materials can be made available in the entrances / exits of Church.
- Lesson plans in parish / religious education program can reflect Vocations Awareness and CALLED BY NAME.
- Parishioners are asked to prayerfully consider names of good, potential candidates to the priesthood and religious life. They write the down the names on a card/papers provided for them and return them the following Sunday or mail them to the parish office.

### **Week II: 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time, October 17/18, 2009**

**This Sunday provides for two options depending on the decision of the pastor and staff.**

#### **Option I**

This Sunday can provide another opportunity to provide a witness to vocation and invitation to consider the call.

- Prayers of the Faithful, music, etc., are again specifically coordinated to address vocations.
- Another witness to vocation is given by a religious sister, brother, or priest.
- Bulletin announcements or inserts are given.
- The CALLED BY NAME cards are collected.

## **Option II**

The second option is simply to draw the program to a close, without preaching, by inviting parishioners to return the cards/papers in the collection basket.

- The CALLED BY NAME cards are collected.
- Bulletin announcements or inserts are given.

### **The Follow-up:**

- The names of individuals submitted by parishioners are examined by the parish priests and any designated staff members. Those names of individuals considered to have qualities needed as future religious and priests are set aside for follow-up.
- A letter, provided by the Vocation Office, is sent by the pastor informing the persons recommended that his/her name has surfaced as a result of the CALLED BY NAME program.
- The Parish coordinator of CALLED BY NAME follows-up the pastor's letter with a phone call expressing their encouragement that the person might consider the priesthood or religious life. Permission is obtained from all those chosen to allow the Diocesan Vocation Office to contact them.
- The Recommendation Form (provided) is sent to the Diocesan Vocation Office. Father Leo McDowell will contact those who are recommended by the parish staff.
- A thank-you from the parish priest and staff is published in the bulletin. Feedback could be given regarding the number of names that were surfaced.

Thanks for all you do to pray for and encourage vocations to the priesthood and religious life! Your efforts will make a difference!

Jesus said to them: "The Harvest is rich but the laborers are few; therefore ask the harvest-master to send workers to his harvest" (*Luke 10:2*).

CALLED BY NAME  
Homily / Talking-Points  
28<sup>th</sup> Week of Ordinary Time, October 10/11, 2009

To help prepare for the homily and witness, here are some talking-points to consider for the homilist:

As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up, knelt down before him, and asked him, "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus answered him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'You shall not kill; you shall not commit adultery; you shall not steal; you shall not bear false witness; you shall not defraud; honor your father and your mother.'" He replied and said to him, "Teacher, all of these I have observed from my youth." Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said to him, "You are lacking in one thing. Go, sell what you have, and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." At that statement his face fell, and he went away sad, for he had many possessions.

Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" The disciples were amazed at his words. So Jesus again said to them in reply, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for one who is rich to enter the kingdom of God."

They were exceedingly astonished and said among themselves, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "For human beings it is impossible, but not for God. All things are possible for God." Peter began to say to him, "We have given up everything and followed you." Jesus said, "Amen, I say to you, there is no one who has given up house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands for my sake and for the sake of the gospel who will not receive a hundred times more now in this present age: houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and eternal life in the age to come."

Talking-points based on Gospel.

- Many of us are like the young man. We are happy with what the world has to offer.
- We often see a call to priesthood or religious life as giving something up. It has many rewards
  - Part of many families – story about a family who invited you in.
  - Priests and religious are there when people are most vulnerable providing great rewards through our service – story from your experience meeting a need at a vulnerable time.
- In Baptism we are graced and blessed by God, and throughout life each of us has a responsibility to reflect upon those graces and blessings so that we can make a generous return to the Lord.
- Through our vocations we say “Yes” to God. Our vocation does not answer the question, “What do I want to do with my life?” But, rather it answers the question, “Who does God want me to be?”
- There is a multitude of ways we can respond to the Lord, and some respond through consecrated and priestly lives. There is no one path to priesthood or religious life, people enter that process at different stages in their lives.
- Highlight the great need in our Church for priestly and religious vocations.
- Define and distinguish what it means to be called to the religious (or consecrated) life as a man and as a woman.
- Define a call to diocesan priesthood.

**CALLED BY NAME**  
**Homily / Reflection Talking-Points**  
**29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, October 17/18, 2009**

To help prepare for the homily and witness, here are some talking-points to consider for the homilist:

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has similarly been tested in every way, yet without sin. So let us confidently approach the throne of grace to receive mercy and to find grace for timely help” (*Hebrews 4: 14-16*).

Based on Second Reading;

In addition to some of the pertinent talking-points included in the Gospel homily helps, include:

- Jesus is the high priest.
- He is the source of all grace.
- Priests today continue in the dispensing God’s grace and mercy through the sacraments.
- People still in need of God’s mercy and grace.
- Priests are needed in the world today.
- Those called to consecrated life extend that work of mercy.
- Perhaps you know someone from the parish that God may be calling. Please give us those names this week in our support of CALLED BY NAME.

These are offered as talking-points that can be made, and not as an outline that must be followed.

## CALLED BY NAME

### Prayers of the Faithful Suggestions

28<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time – October 10/11, 2009

29<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time – October 17/18, 2009

#### 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time:

That the Church will continually celebrate each person's baptismal call to serve, we pray to the Lord.

That all priests, brothers, sisters, and deacons serving in our diocese remain faithful to the ideals of Christ in their ministry, we pray to the Lord.

That the CALLED BY NAME Program will be a source of blessing for our parish and for the Church, we pray to the Lord.

#### 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time:

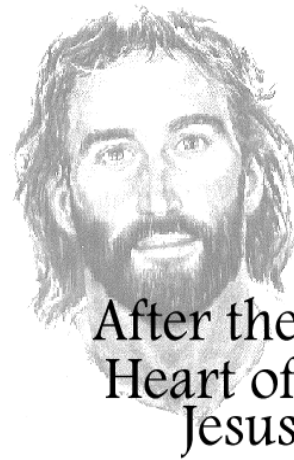
That our Holy Father, our bishop, and all the Church's ministers may pattern themselves after the example of Christ, the Good Shepherd, we pray to the Lord.

That members of our parish community will respond positively to the invitation given through the CALLED BY NAME process to consider priestly and religious life, we pray to the Lord.

For religious and priests who have gone before us in faith and who were witnesses to God's kingdom and the values of God's reign, that they may experience the newness of life in Christ in heaven, we pray to the Lord.

## ***PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS***

Compassionate Heart of Jesus,  
graciously listen to our prayers.  
Give us generous hearts  
to respond to your call in our lives.  
Lift up courageous men and women  
willing to follow after your heart  
as priests, sisters, brothers, and  
deacons.  
Help parents and teachers to share the  
faith and to encourage young people  
to explore religious vocations.  
Guide all people, Lord, in your ways  
of compassion, truth, and peace,  
that we may find happiness  
in fulfilling our vocation.  
Amen.



**Great Falls-Billings Diocese**  
**Vocation Office**  
**121 N 23<sup>rd</sup> St.**  
**Great Falls, MT 59401**  
**800-332-9998**  
**vocations@frleo.org**

### ***Qualities Desired in a Candidate For Priesthood and Religious Life***

He or She is:

1. One who considers a personal relationship with God as an important part of life.
2. One who has an ability and willingness to talk about his/her faith life.
3. One who has a desire to serve others and make a difference in people's lives.
4. One who is willing to sacrifice personal or material gain for the service of the Gospel and the Church.
5. One who is recognized as being approachable.
6. One who enjoys life, people, and has a sense of humor.
7. One who has the ability to lead and work with people of all ages.
8. One who recognizes the importance of the Church.
9. One who forms and maintains healthy relationships with both men and women.
10. One who feels good about himself/herself, has average to above average intelligence, and has good physical, mental and emotional health.

#### **CALLED BY NAME**

After prayerful consideration, I believe the person named below has qualities needed in a future priest, sister, or brother. Perhaps the Lord Jesus is calling him or her to this particular path of discipleship.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Person You Recommend

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address or P.O. Box

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
His / Her approx. age

\_\_\_\_\_  
How well do you know this person?

I recommend for  priest  
 sister  brother

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your signature & Phone No. (optional)

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
His / Her approx. age

\_\_\_\_\_  
How well do you know this person?

I recommend for  priest  sister  
 brother  deacon

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your signature & Phone No. (optional)

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Name of Person You Recommend

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City

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
His / Her approx. age

\_\_\_\_\_  
How well do you know this person?

I recommend for  priest  sister  
 brother  deacon

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your signature & Phone No. (optional)

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His / Her approx. age

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How well do you know this person?

I recommend for  priest  sister  
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City

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Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
His / Her approx. age

\_\_\_\_\_  
How well do you know this person?

I recommend for  priest  sister  
 brother  deacon

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your signature & Phone No. (optional)

## Parish Bulletin Announcements

For October 3/4, 2009:

# — CALLED BY NAME —

-- a program to promote vocations to the priesthood and religious life will begin in our parish next weekend. Let us pray for vocations. Details next Sunday.

### *PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS*

Compassionate Heart of Jesus,  
graciously listen to our prayers.

Give us generous hearts  
to respond to your call in our lives.

Lift up courageous men and women  
willing to follow after your heart  
as priests, sisters, brothers, and  
deacons.

Help parents and teachers to share the  
faith and to encourage young people  
to explore religious vocations.

Guide all people, Lord, in your ways  
of compassion, truth, and peace,  
that we may find happiness  
in fulfilling our vocation.

Amen.



For October 17/18, 2009:

# CALLED BY NAME

**Jesus said to them: “The Harvest is rich but the laborers are few; therefore ask the harvest-master to send workers to his harvest”  
(Luke 10:2).**

## CALLED BY NAME

After prayerful consideration, I believe the person named below has qualities needed in a future priest, sister, or brother. Perhaps our Lord Jesus is calling him or her to this particular path of discipleship. Please return to parish office or place in collection basket.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Person You Recommend

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address or P.O. Box

\_\_\_\_\_  
City                      Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone                      His/Her approx. age

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail address if known

\_\_\_\_\_  
How well do you know this person?

I recommend for  priest  sister  
 brother

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your signature & Phone No. (optional)

## WANTED:

### Doctor of Souls

- \* Spiritual Leadership
- \* Compassionate Presence
- \* Sacramental Ministry



**Consider the Priesthood ...  
Answer the Call**

**To find out more join the  
Priesthood Discernment Group**

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Contact:

*Father Leo McDowell  
Diocese of Great Falls-Billings  
Vocation Director  
121 N 23<sup>rd</sup> St.  
P O Box 1399  
Great Falls, MT 59403-1399  
1-800-332-9998  
vocations@frleo.org*

**Diocese of Great Falls-Billings CALLED BY NAME  
October 10-18, 2009  
Parish Planning and Response Form**

This form is intended to assist the local planning and decision-making needed for a successful CALLED BY NAME process in your parish.

\_\_\_\_ **Yes, I want my parish to participate in the CALLED BY NAME Program in 2009**

\_\_\_\_ No, we will not be participating the CALLED BY NAME Program in 2009

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Parish

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Pastor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of CBN Contact Person

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor Phone or E-mail (best way to contact)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Phone or E-mail (best way to contact)

**Weekend(s) we will preach / speak on vocations and Called By Name:**

Oct 10/11 Only     Oct 17/18 Only     Both Oct 10/11 and 17/18

**Do you want to receive a packet of posters and brochures from religious communities to display during CALLED BY NAME?**     Yes     No

**Do you want to receive Sacred Heart medals to remind people to pray for vocations after the Heart of Jesus?**     Yes     No    How many? \_\_\_\_\_ (\$10.00 per hundred)

**Do you want to receive CALLED BY NAME prayer folders to place in pews?**     Yes     No  
How many? \_\_\_\_\_ (\$3.00 per hundred)

**Who is responsible for including articles in your parish bulletin?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
May we contact him or her?  Yes     No

If "Yes": E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Do you want extra copies of the seminarian poster?**     Yes     No    How many? \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to the Diocese Vocation Office, P O Box 1399 Great Falls, MT 59403-1399  
preferably by September 25.

# **CALLED BY NAME 2009**

## ***A Process of Invitation to Priesthood and Consecrated Life***

### **TIMELINE**

#### **I. Advance Preparation & Promotion Summer 2009**

- A. Introduce program to priests
- B. Send materials to parishes and post on diocesan website
- C. Publicize in *Harvest*
- D. Identify parish coordinators

#### **II. Week 1 – All Weekend Masses October 10-11, 2009**

- A. Vocation Homily, Intercessions, Music
- B. Brochures distributed in pews
- C. Bulletin article

#### **III. Week 2 – All Weekend Masses October 17-18, 2009**

- A. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vocation Witness (optional)
- B. “CALLED BY NAME” cards collected

#### **IV. Screening and Follow-up Next 3-4 Weeks**

- A. Pastor and staff screen names
- B. Pastor mails letter to candidates (sample provided by Vocation Office)
- C. Parish coordinator phones candidates to offer encouragement and solicit permission to forward their names to the Vocation Office

#### **V. Diocesan Gathering / Other Retreats**

- A. Christmas Gathering of those who are called – TBA During Christmas Break

**Diocese of Great Falls-Billings  
Vocation Office**

**CALLED BY NAME Parish Nomination / Recommendation Form**

The people listed below have been recommended to be invited to consider a vocation to the priesthood or religious life. We understand that the Vocation Office will contact them to encourage them to consider church vocations.

Name / Address	Phone / E-mail	Approx Age	Recommended For	Has person been contacted by parish staff?	Would person have support of the staff?	Comments:
1. _____ _____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> priest <input type="checkbox"/> brother <input type="checkbox"/> sister	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unsure	
2. _____ _____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> priest <input type="checkbox"/> brother <input type="checkbox"/> sister	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unsure	
3. _____ _____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> priest <input type="checkbox"/> brother <input type="checkbox"/> sister	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unsure	
4. _____ _____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> priest <input type="checkbox"/> brother <input type="checkbox"/> sister	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unsure	
5. _____ _____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> priest <input type="checkbox"/> brother <input type="checkbox"/> sister	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unsure	

Parish: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Parish Staff Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this form to the Great Falls-Billings Diocese Vocation Office; P O Box 1399, Great Falls, MT 59403-1399. Fax: 406-454-3480