

# NATIONAL VOCATION AWARENESS WEEK

Tanya D'Souza, Vocations Ministry

During this week, we renew our prayers and support for those discerning God's call. A vocation is a definitive call from God to a particular way of life through which a person grows in holiness and contributes to the sanctification of others. It is not only about personal fulfillment but about serving your neighbour, the Church - the Body of Christ, and transforming the world through prayer, love, and His grace.

Today, we place a special focus on seminarians. A seminarian is a young man who has heard and responded to the gentle call of God to serve Him and His Church as a Catholic priest. He is not yet a priest, but a man in training and formation.



These same seminarians will be the ones to baptize our children, anoint our sick, celebrate the Eucharist, and guide our souls toward heaven.

*Jesus, eternal High Priest,*

*I pray for all seminarians, Your future priests. Give them humility, meekness, prudence, and a burning zeal for souls. Fill their hearts with the gifts of the Holy Spirit.*

*Teach them to know and love the Church, that they may always and everywhere speak, act, and think with her. Teach them generosity and detachment from the things of this world.*

*But above all, teach them to know You and love You, the one and only eternal priest.*

*Good Shepherd of souls, hear this, my prayer for saintly priests.*

*Amen.*

A seminarian's formation is holistic, touching every part of his life — human, spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral.

**1. Human Formation:** Developing maturity, responsibility, and Christ-like love.

**2. Spiritual Formation:** Deepening prayer life through Mass, the Liturgy of the Hours, adoration, and meditation. He learns to deepen his friendship with Jesus and to live a life of holiness and virtue.

**3. Intellectual Formation:** Studying philosophy, theology, Scripture, Church history, and moral teaching.

**4. Pastoral Formation:** Engaging in apostolic work — visiting parishes, hospitals, orphanages, schools, and prisons. These experiences help them to develop a compassionate heart for people and to understand the real struggles of those they will serve.





Fr. Yojaneider Garcia, Pastor of Resurrection Parish in Randolph, shares that his own vocation blossomed from his grandmother's daily prayer for a priest among her grandsons; he is the fruit of her prayers!

Will you pray for vocations? Will you teach and lead your children and grandchildren to God? Will you lovingly consecrate them to God and ask Him to call one of them to serve? Let us give thanks for our priests, deacons, seminarians, and religious sisters, and pray that young people in our community may respond generously with open hearts and willing spirits to the Lord's call.

As featured in the Parish Update November 4, 2025

<https://files.ecatholic.com/10966/documents/2025/11/Parish%20Update%20November%204%202025-1.pdf?t=1762315068000>