



Infobox



Mass for Vocations to the Priesthood

As you know, the Diocese of Timmins, at the moment, has no one preparing for ordination to the diaconate or to the priesthood. This is of great concern for the future of our Church ... in fact, as our faith teaches, the ordained ministry is vital to the life of the Church. The Church needs priests to proclaim the Word of God, to celebrate the sacraments ... to baptize catechumens, forgive sins in the name of the Lord, celebrate the Eucharist, administer the anointing of the sick, preside at funerals and bless weddings. For their part, deacons proclaim the Word of God, administer the Baptism and Holy Communion and preside at funerals and weddings.

Jesus tells us: *“Ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.”* (Mt 9: 38). I know that the faithful in the parishes regularly recite the diocesan prayer for vocations and I am pleased about that. Last year this was the theme of our adoration hours when the two Diocesan Vocation Directors, Father Simon Drapeau and Father John Lemire provided witness to their vocations. We still have to intensify our prayer and become ever more aware of the necessity of vocations to the priesthood for the life of the Church.

For this purpose I am asking every parish to celebrate each month **the Mass for Various Circumstances N. 9 for ‘vocations to the priesthood’**. Instead of taking the orations from the Mass for Ordinary Time as proposed by booklets like the ‘Living with Christ’, we will use the orations of this specific mass on **the first Thursday of the month** (or the closest free day). We will be able to make the text of this mass available to the faithful in such a way that they will be able to pray specifically for this intention, as well as for the deceased person mentioned for that day.

Let us pray to the Lord together so that those whom he calls to serve as priests or deacons respond to his call.

✠ Serge Poitras
Bishop of Timmins

MASS FOR VOCATIONS TO HOLY ORDERS (N. 9)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Matthew 9.38

*Ask the Lord of the harvest
to send out labourers for his harvest,
says Jesus to his disciples.*

COLLECT

O God, who willed to provide shepherds for your people,
pour out in your Church a spirit of piety and fortitude,
to raise up worthy ministers for your altars
and make them ardent yet gentle heralds of your Gospel.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Look kindly, we pray, O Lord,
on the prayers and offerings of your people,
that the stewards of your mysteries may grow in number
and persevere always in your love.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

1 John 3.16

*By this we came to know the love of God:
that Christ laid down his life for us;
so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Renewed with the Bread of the heavenly table,
we entreat you, O Lord,
that through this Sacrament of charity
the seeds you sow with great abundance
in the field of your Church
may come to maturity,
so that many may make it their choice in life
to serve you in their brothers and sisters.
Through Christ our Lord.