

Parish  
Vocations Cross  
Program

Designed by the Diocese of Sacramento

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Galveston-Houston Archdiocese  
With permission of National Religious Conference

## PARISH VOCATIONS CROSS

Announcement for

### Introducing the Parish Vocations Cross

Today we as a parish are being invited to become a part of a new program being initiated in many parishes throughout the country. It is called the Parish Vocations Cross

Provides an excellent opportunity for families to pray for Vocations at home and teaches young children to appreciate the value of the Priesthood and Consecrated Life.

The program is very easy to implement. On every Sunday , or / the first Sunday of the month, a family, couple, or individual will be called at the \_\_\_ Mass to receive the vocations cross and a prayer folder and a “journal” to write their experience if they wish. In taking the cross they commit themselves to pray during the week / month in the name of our parish for vocations and to thank all of those generously sharing in Church ministry and in particular for the gift of sisters, brothers, priests and deacons.

A Sign up Sheet is provided to families and / or individuals to sign up and volunteer their participation. This list is placed at the vestibule of the church or any other easily accessible place for parishioners to Sign up.

They agree to receive the Vocations Cross from the Pastor during the Liturgy at a designated Mass on Sunday / Saturday and take it home and pray for Vocations for one week / month.

At the end of the week / month they bring the Vocations Cross back which is then transferred to a new parishioner at the designated Mass.

It is our hope that this experience will encourage each of us to take seriously our vocation as a member of the Body of Christ and encourage ALL of us to pray for the gift of vocations to priesthood and religious life, not just the family with the cross for the month.

We believe the Spirit is calling forth men and women from our faith community to these roles of service. May our prayer help inspire young women and men to be attentive to the movement of the Spirit within them and to step forward in faith and with generous hearts to wherever the Spirit leads them.

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### Explanation for Parishioners

On behalf of the parish community we thank you for your participation in the Parish Vocation Cross Program. Here are some details regarding your participation.

### Receiving the Cross:

Be sure to attend the Mass at which the cross will be distributed to you. After the Gospel you will be invited to come to the altar to receive the cross, prayer folder, and the journal. You may return to your place after you receive it.

### Prayers during the week / month:

You are encouraged to pray with your family at a convenient time each day during the week / month. A “reflection” on basic and important facts is included with the daily prayers to help to discern one’s vocation.

### Returning the Cross:

It is very important that you return the cross at the designated Mass at the end of your assigned week / month so the next participant will be able to receive it on schedule.

Questions? Please call the parish office.

Thank you again for this ministry of prayer in the name of our parish.

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### Sending Forth of Those Praying for Vocations At the Sunday Liturgy

The family / parishioner volunteering to pray for vocations this week / month is asked to come forward.

(The “protocol” given here is only a suggestion for the presider who usually is the parish priest and who might choose to modify it)

We ask you to represent our parish this week / month in praying for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

Receive the Vocation Cross. “Master of the harvest, hear our prayer”, recalling the instruction Jesus gave when he said, “Pray to the Master of the harvest to send laborers for the harvest.”

Thank you for your prayers this month; we hope that many of our fellow parishioners will also join in this prayer.

May our efforts be pleasing to the Lord and may God answer our prayer.

