



The Catholic Church in the United States will celebrate the 45th annual National Vocation Awareness Week from November 7-13, 2021. During this week, dioceses across the United States will hold events to foster an appreciation for vocations and pray specifically for those discerning a call to ordained ministry and consecrated life.

In his message for the 58th annual World Day of Prayer for Vocations, Pope Francis offered St. Joseph, the foster father of Jesus, as a model for vocational discernment. “Amid all these upheavals, [St. Joseph] found the courage to follow God’s will. So too in a vocation: God’s call always urges us to take a first step, to give ourselves, to press forward. There can be no faith without risk. Only by abandoning ourselves confidently to grace, setting aside our own programmes and comforts, can we truly say “yes” to God,” he said, and exhorted the Church to look to St. Joseph as an “outstanding example of acceptance of God’s plans.”

Please ask Our Lord for more dedicated, holy priests, deacons, and consecrated men and women. May they be inspired by Jesus Christ, supported by our faith community, and respond generously to God's gift of vocation. *USCCB 2021*

St. Mary of the Mills has launched a new Vocations Committee!

If you would like to join us to pray, raise awareness for vocations, and help with events, we would love to have you on our team. Please email vocations@stmaryofthemills.org.

Check out our new webpage with resources, prayers, and events at stmaryslaurel.org/vocations.

Those discerning a call to the priesthood or religious life or those wishing to learn more should visit: adw.org/vocations; dcpriest.org; diocesanpriest.com; <https://www.usccb.org/committees/clergy-consecrated-life-vocations/vocations>, or email us at vocations@stmaryofthemills.org.

The posters in the church vestibule share more about our seminarians and discernment events.

Prayer for Vocations

GOD OUR FATHER, we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son’s Kingdom as priests, deacons, and consecrated persons. Send your Holy Spirit to help others to respond generously and courageously to your call. May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth and young adults. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.



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CLERGY, CONSECRATED LIFE AND VOCATIONS
www.usccb.org/vocations • www.usccb.org

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**Tuesday, November 9
Adoration for Vocations
9:30am—6:30pm
St. Mary of the Mills**

In honor of National Vocations Awareness Week, we invite parishioners to spend time in Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament to pray intentionally for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life!