



Planning Resources: Priesthood Sunday, World Day of Prayer for Vocations, National Vocation Awareness Week & World Day for Consecrated Life



Tools for Vocations

Planning for Priesthood Sunday and other major vocations-related events during the liturgical year is easier than you might think. Try these resources for ideas and inspiration!

SPARK
Serra Promotion and Resource Kit

Summary



Several times a year, the Church provides opportunities for the faithful to celebrate vocations. Four such events are World Day of Prayer for Vocations, National Vocation Awareness Week, World Day for Consecrated Life, and Priesthood Sunday.

Thanks to the efforts of lay groups—such as Serra—and the USCCB, there are numerous 'planning kits' available online which can streamline the process of planning for these events.

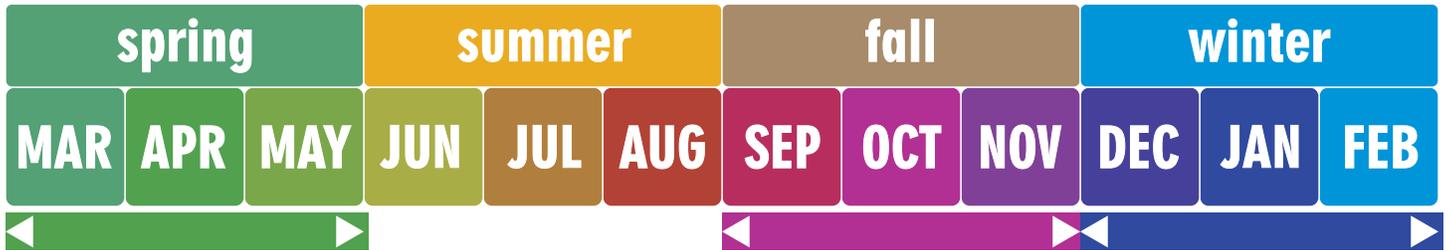
Typically, these kits include such items as prayers, liturgy planning guides, bulletin announcements, and cards. They're often available in downloadable format as ready-to-print PDFs.

Program Outline

- Several times each year, the faithful are afforded by the Church the chance to celebrate vocations
 - World Day of Prayer for Vocations (held in the spring)
 - National Vocation Awareness Week (held in the fall)
 - World Day for Consecrated Life (held in late winter)
- Priesthood Sunday (held in the fall)
- Planning for your parish's participation in these events can be made easier through the use of various 'planning kits'
 - Available online
 - Typically include items such as...
 - Prayers
 - Liturgy planning guides
 - Bulletin announcements
 - Cards
 - Often available in PDF form

Implementation

Time of Year (See Notes Below)



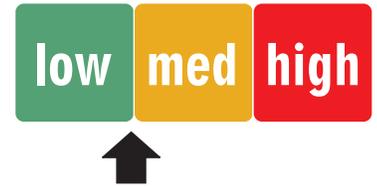
Lead Time



Effort



Cost



Time:

- Spring (World Day of Prayer for Vocations)
- Fall (National Vocation Awareness Week and Priesthood Sunday)
- Winter (World Day for Consecrated Life)

Serrans / Volunteers

- Planning, organizing, and carrying out events
- Working with parish officials regarding events
- Underwriting events

Program History, Development, and Additional Resources

Celebrating vocations is an important part of community life in the Church.

World Day of Prayer for Vocations, National Vocation Awareness Week, World Day for Consecrated Life, and Priesthood Sunday are all events through which the Church provides opportunities for the faithful to celebrate vocations. Some of these events are rather new, while others go back decades—for example, observance of National Vocation Awareness Week started in 1976.

Thanks to the efforts of lay groups and the USCCB, there are several 'planning kits' available online. Using these kits can streamline the planning process.

These kits are often available in downloadable format as ready-to-print PDFs. They typically include such items as prayers, liturgy planning guides, bulletin announcements, and cards.

Several such kits are available via the links in the next section of this summary, 'additional resources.' Additionally, since, as the Office of Vocations of the Archdiocese of New York has noted, "Our first priority in promoting vocations is to pray," that section includes links to vocations prayers to be used during the Prayers of the Faithful within the Mass—as well as the previously mentioned prayers.

Additional Resources

Additional Resources

Website devoted specifically to Priesthood Sunday—as supported by USA Council of Serra International (with resources including Priesthood Sunday cards—scroll down about two-thirds of the way down the main page; they're in the right-hand column):

<https://serraus.org/priesthood-sunday/>

PDF of list of **Prayers of the Faithful for Priesthood Sunday**—from the Diocese of Dallas (TX):

https://www.cathdal.org/Prayers_of_the_Faithful_for_Priesthood_SundayENG.pdf

Materials for Priesthood Sunday—from the Catholic Community of St. Luke the Evangelist (Houston, TX); includes items such as thank-you cards, prayers, and lesson plans (English and Spanish):

<https://stlukescatholic.com/materials-for-priesthood-sunday>

Official **website of World Day of Prayer for Vocations** (with resources to be used at Mass and prayer):

<http://www.worlddayofprayerforvocations.com/>

PDF of **planning kit for World Day of Prayer for Vocations** from US Council of Serra International; includes such items as prayers, bulletin announcements, liturgy planning guide:

<https://www.ssndcentralpacific.org/document.doc?id=685>

Page from **USCCB website dedicated to World Day of Prayer for Vocations**; includes numerous resources:

<http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/vocations/world-day-of-prayer-for-vocations.cfm>

Page from website of National Religious Vocation Conference on World Day of Prayer for Vocations 2017:

<https://nrvc.net/publication/5311/article/10038>

Additional Resources

Additional Resources

PDF of **planning kit for National Vocation Awareness Week** (2016)—from the Diocese of St. Petersburg (FL):

http://www.dosp.org/vocations/wp-content/uploads/sites/42/nvaw_english2016c.pdf

PDF of **planning kit for World Day for Consecrated Life**—from the Diocese of Brooklyn (NY):

http://dioceseofbrooklyn.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/WDCL16-Kit_ENGLISH.pdf

Page from the **USCCB website** dedicated to **World Day for Consecrated Life (with promotional resources)**:

<http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/vocations/consecrated-life/world-day-for-consecrated-life.cfm>

Page from the website of the National Catholic Educational Association regarding **'Inspiration and Ideas' for celebrating vocations**:

https://www.ncea.org/csw/Daily_Themes/THURSDAY__Celebrating_Vocations/CSW/Daily_Themes/Thursday__Celebrating_Vocations.aspx?hkey=d6045b6b-189c-4f5d-be38-137cd43c97fa

Page from the vocations website of the Augustinians (religious order) detailing parts of the **vocations story** of St. Thomas of Villanova:

<https://augustinianvocations.org/blog-archive/2016/10/10/celebrating-the-feast-of-st-thomas-of-villanova>

Page of the **Office of Consecrated Life for the Diocese** of Phoenix (AZ) with a photo essay depicting how local faithful celebrated vocations in their diocese during a special event in 2016:

<https://phxconsecratedlife.com/2016/11/11/celebrating-vocations-in-phoenix/>

Page from the website of the **Alliance for Catholic Education** from the University of Notre Dame; this page contains a reflection on celebrating vocations with the context of Catholic Schools Week:

<https://ace.nd.edu/catholic-schools-week/2017/catholic-schools-week-2017-for-vocations>



SPARK
Tools for Vocations

For more information about
Serra Vocations Tools, visit us at
SerraSpark.org
Or write us at
Spark@serraus.org
Phone 312-201-6549