

TO VOCATION PARISHES

# CHICAGO VOCATION NEWS

FROM THE VOCATION OFFICE

SEPTEMBER 2009



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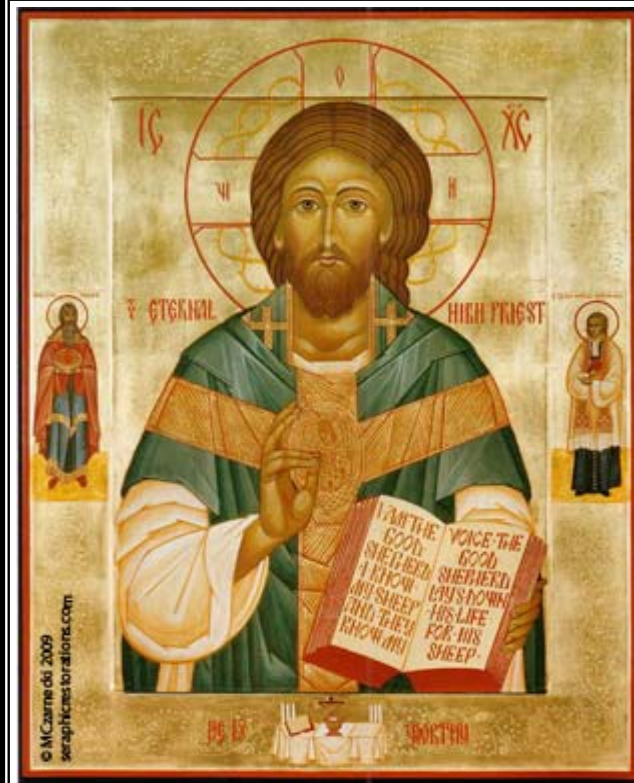
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*Add ChicagoPriest.com link to your parish website.*

Vocation Office volunteers are contacting all parishes to ask to have a link to [www.ChicagoPriest.com](http://www.ChicagoPriest.com) on their website. 271 parishes have their own website. Also consider adding a link to the CAVA (Chicago Archdiocese Vocation Association) website [www.VocationsCAVA.org](http://www.VocationsCAVA.org) for those who are interested in Religious Life. Contact Susanne Smith at 312-534-5234 or at [susmith@archchicago.org](mailto:susmith@archchicago.org) for more information if you want to add a graphic with the links. The Archdiocese of Chicago could greatly increase vocation awareness by having each parish add links to these Vocation websites.

*Exploring Priesthood Weekend and INSEARCH*

In September all parish will receive a mailing about Exploring Priesthood Weekend retreat (on October 9-11) and INSEARCH Discernment group (starting Tuesday, October 13). Contact Fr. Joe Noonan, if you wish to recommend a candidate for these programs.



## Year of the Priests

June 19, 2009—June 19, 2010

Holy Name Cathedral is including an article each week about the priests that are on the staff or in residence.

What is your parish is doing for the Year of the Priests?

We would like to include your ideas in the Vocation Parish Newsletter.

Please pray for priests and vocations.



## VOCATIONS HOLY HOUR

Consider having a regular parish  
Holy Hour For Priests & Vocations.

*Vocations will follow.*



[www.ChicagoPriest.com](http://www.ChicagoPriest.com)

# Pray for our Seminarians



## September Seminarian



### Birthdays & Home Parishes

September 5:  
Francisco Castillo Zarate (Holy Family—Waukegan)

September 7:  
Grzegorz Lorens (SW. Zygmunta)

September 11:  
Robert Regan (St. Leonard)

September 12:  
Rodrigo Paredes (St. Raymond De Penafort)

September 27:  
Francis Bitterman (St. Luke, River Forest)

September 29:  
Michael Moczko (St. Ferdinand, Chicago)

## Seminarian Prayer Calendar 2009-2010

The new Seminarian Prayer Calendar will be sent out to Pastors, Principals and Directors of Religious Education later in September. It will have a seminary for each weekday from October through May. Please use the calendar as a reminder to pray for our seminarians in your Parishes, Schools and Religious Education classes.

## Consider Having A Vocation Parish Contact and Creating A Parish Vocation Plan

Consider identifying a parishioner, who has a heart for vocations, to be a liaison between your parish and the Vocation office. Just having the contact can help increase the vocation awareness in the parish. Last March 20 parishes were represented at a Vocation Parish Training at Holy Name Cathedral to hear how they might help promote vocations. Among those attending were priests, sisters, deacons, staff and parishioners. Each parish was asked to work on a Parish Vocation Plan, so they could identify, with their pastor, what might be done in the next year. Some parishes started with only one contact and have created a team. Here is a list of some of the activities a parish decided to do:

### Activity - Ongoing

Archdiocese and Religious men and women posters <b>Locate more prominent locations for posting.</b>
Prayers for Vocations Include prayers for increase in vocations at all Masses. <b>Increase the frequency of prayers for vocations</b>
Church Bulletin Vocation Message <b>Vocation Mass announcement running in the Bulletin at least once a month.</b>
Rosary Group Encourage the rosary group to pray for vocations every day. <b>Promote in bulletin that rosary is recited before and after weekday masses.</b>
Eucharistic Adoration Scheduled on the 1st Thursday of each month following morning Mass until 7:00 p.m. <b>Expand in the future</b>
Traveling Cross materials from the Vocation Office <b>Begin with the School and Religious Education</b>

More Vocation Parish Contact Training will be available in the near future. Meanwhile, if you have questions or would like help creating a vocation plan for your parish, please contact Susanne Smith at 312-534-5234 or by email at [susmith@archchicago.org](mailto:susmith@archchicago.org).

### Prayer for Vocations

Gracious and loving God,

Help the men and women of our parish to hear the call to serve in the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Our needs are great, and our people thirst for your presence.

Open the hearts of many, raise up faithful servants of the Gospel, dedicated, holy priests who will spend themselves for your people and their needs.

Bless those who are serving now with courage and perseverance.

Grant that many will be inspired by their example and faith.

We ask this all through Christ our Lord...Amen.