

Welcome!

Parish Vocations

Gathering



Archdiocese of Indianapolis
Office of Priestly and Religious Vocations



Best Practices for Ongoing Vocation Ministry



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Best Practice 1



Celebrate Worldwide,
National, and Local
Vocation Observances

Worldwide Observances



- ☞ World Day of Prayer for Vocations
– April 26, 2015
- ☞ World Day for Consecrated Life –
February 2, 2016
- ☞ Year of Consecrated Life – Local
Observance: September 13, 2015

National Observances



- ☞ National Vocations Awareness Week – November 2-8, 2015
- ☞ National Catholic Sisters Week – March 8-14, 2015
- ☞ Priesthood Sunday – October 25, 2015

Local Observances



- ✧ Priesthood Ordinations – June 6, 2015
- ✧ Religious Professions
- ✧ Chrism Mass – March 31, 2015
- ✧ Feast of St. Theodora Guerin –
October 3
- ✧ Feast of St. Francis Xavier – Dec. 3



Best Practice 2



Build Bridges

Bridges within a Parish



☞ Pastor

☞ Priests, deacons, and religious

☞ Youth Ministry

☞ Religious Education

☞ School

☞ Knights of Columbus

Bridges among Parishes



☞ Connected in the Spirit Cohorts

☞ Deaneries

Connected in the Spirit Goal 5: To ensure that all parishioners have opportunities for quality lifelong Christian Formation, including supporting new initiatives for youth and young adults and promoting vocations to ordained and lay ministry.

Bridges in the Archdiocese



- ☞ Vocations Office
- ☞ Archdiocesan Ministries
- ☞ Religious Communities
- ☞ Serra Club
- ☞ Seminaries



Best Practice 3



Encouraging others to
promote vocations

Most influential factors ...



- ☞ Attending a Catholic School
- ☞ Personally knowing priests, religious, and seminarians
- ☞ Personal Invitations
- ☞ Involvement in youth and young adult groups

Encouragement to consider priesthood



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- ☞ Parish priest – 71%
 - ☞ Friend – 45%
 - ☞ Parishioner – 43%
 - ☞ Mother – 38%
 - ☞ Father – 28%
 - ☞ Teacher/Catechist – 23%



Best Practice 4



Reaching out to those
on the margins

Who is on the margins?



- ❧ Intercultural communities
- ❧ Home School families
- ❧ Public School families
- ❧ Military
- ❧ Youth, College, Young Adult

Cultural Considerations



Language

Programming

Materials

Formation



Review – 4 Best Practices



- Celebrate Worldwide, National, and Local Vocations Observances
- Build Bridges
- Encourage others to promote vocations
- Reach out to those on the margins



Questions and Conversation