

## VOCATION AWARENESS WEEK

January 10-16, 2010



### BAPTIZED IN THE

Our response is one of obedience to Christ,  
through the Holy Spirit's enabling work.

We are celebrating **National Vocation Awareness Week**.

How fitting that the Church highlights this event to begin on the special feast of the Baptism of the Lord. On that day, we identify with Jesus as He begins His public ministry. As His followers, we are invited to recommit ourselves to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

Consider the gifts of the Spirit that have been given to you. How are those gifts being used to serve and to build God's kingdom? Is God calling you to serve as a husband or wife? Will you be a parent? Perhaps your happiness will be found as a single person. Might God be calling you to a Church vocation - lay, consecrated, or ordained? Initiated through our baptism we too are commissioned to proclaim the Good News with our lives.

### PRAYER

Merciful God, You sent Jesus, Your Son, to proclaim the Good News of Salvation to all people. By His Cross and Resurrection, we receive new life in the Holy Spirit. Send Your Spirit upon our Church, and inspire many young people to serve Your people as priests, deacons, religious, and ministers of Your Word. Help all who are baptized to hear Your call, and give us the grace to bear witness to Christ to the ends of the earth. We make this prayer in the name of Jesus Our Lord. Amen!

### ISAIAH 42:1-4,6-7

Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one with whom I am pleased, upon whom I have put my spirit; he shall bring forth justice to the nations,

Not crying out, not shouting, not making his voice heard in the street.

A bruised reed he shall not break, and a smoldering wick he shall not quench,

Until he establishes justice on the earth; the coastlands will wait for his teaching.

I, the LORD, have called you for the victory of justice, I have grasped you by the hand; I formed you, and set you as a covenant of the people, a light for the nations, to open the eyes of the blind, to bring out prisoners from confinement, and from the dungeon, those who live in darkness.

**WHAT IS THE LORD ASKING US TO DO?**

## **LUKE 3:15, 21-22**

Now the people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Messiah. After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are My beloved Son; with You I am well pleased."

### **A LITANY**

- Leader:** Come, SPIRIT of WISDOM, dwell in us. Reveal to us the inner journey of love.
- All:** SPIRIT of WISDOM, come guide us.
- Leader:** Come, SPIRIT of UNDERSTANDING, be with us as we seek to live in peace with patience.
- All:** SPIRIT OF UNDERSTANDING, come open us.
- Leader:** Come, SPIRIT of COUNSEL, help all who are making important decisions. Guide them in their discernment.
- All:** SPIRIT of COUNSEL, come teach us Your ways.
- Leader:** Come, SPIRIT of COURAGE, be our Strength as we face the challenges of life where injustice prevails.
- All:** SPIRIT of COURAGE, come strengthen us.
- Leader:** Come, SPIRIT of KNOWLEDGE, be Light for us. Open our minds that we might see Your vision.
- All:** SPIRIT of KNOWLEDGE, come shine in us.
- Leader:** Come, SPIRIT of WONDER, be the Joy of our soul. Encircle us with Your beauty and give us thankful hearts.
- All:** SPIRIT of WONDER, come delight us with joy.
- Leader:** Come, SPIRIT of REVERENCE, deepen our relationship with You. May we never be separated from Your love and goodness.
- All:** Come, SPIRIT of REVERENCE, come, keep us close.

### **PRAYER**

God our most loving Father,  
We come before You in gratitude for all that You have made us.  
We thank You for the gift of Your Son, Jesus and for the great love that He poured out for us by dying on the Cross and by rising from the dead.  
We ask You to send Your Holy Spirit upon us so that we may live in the ways of holiness.  
We desire to serve You and Your Church always.  
If You call one or more of us to serve as a priest, deacon, religious sister, brother or dedicated lay minister, may we have the courage and guidance to respond positively.  
Keep us open to saying YES like Mary did when You asked her to be the mother of Your Son, Jesus. We make this prayer in His name, Christ Our Lord. AMEN.

**LIVE JESUS IN OUR HEARTS. FOREVER!**