

## **FOR THOSE WHO HAVE CONSECRATED THEIR LIVES TO GOD**

**I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from My Father I have made known to you. You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in My Name the Father will give you. This is my command: Love each other.**

**John 15:15-17**

**Consecrated men and women are called to spread the light and love of Jesus Christ through their unique witness of selfless service, such as caring for the poor, the contemplative work of prayer, or through their professional careers.**

**“Consecrated men and women are a special treasure in the Church who allow the love of Jesus to become tangible. By dedicating their entire lives to following Christ, consecrated persons are particularly able to reach out to those on the peripheries of our society and bring the message of the Gospel to all those in need.” Bishop James F. Checchio**

### **GOD’S WORD TO US: Luke 4:18**

**The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,**

### **INTERCESSIONS**

**Response: MAY WE TOO, BE YOUR FAITHFUL FOLLOWERS**

- ❖ For those consecrated to God by the vows of chastity, poverty and obedience that they may seek to live their baptismal promises more intensely and have the grace to persevere in their commitment to the Lord and serve with open hearts and willing spirits. We pray to the Lord...**
- ❖ For those who have responded to the prompting of the Holy Spirit to be a consecrated person that they may experience the support of the Church as they continue their growth in**

**holiness. We pray to the Lord...**

- ❖ **For those who are consecrated to God by the vows of chastity, poverty and obedience. May they always reveal the love of Christ to those they encounter and continue to enrich our world by their dedicated lives of prayer. We pray to the Lord...**
- ❖ **For all those who are discerning their vocation in life, particularly those whom the Lord is calling to consecrated life. May they be given the wisdom to hear God's call and the courage to respond generously. We pray to the Lord ...**
- ❖ **For those who are called to the consecrated life, may they be faithful witnesses of God's love. May others be inspired to live their baptismal commitment by professing the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. We pray to the Lord...**
- ❖ **For all who actively support the promotion of vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life, that they may see the fruit of their efforts in a rich harvest of vocations. We pray to the Lord...**

## **OUR PRAYER**

**Loving and Generous God,  
it is You who call us by name  
and ask us to follow You.**

**Help us to grow in the Love  
and Service of our Church  
as we experience it today.**

**Give us the energy and courage  
of Your Spirit**

**to shape its future**

**Grant us faith-filled leaders  
who will embrace Christ's Mission  
of love and justice.**

**Bless the Church of \_(name of Diocese)  
by raising up dedicated and generous leaders  
from our families and friends  
who will serve Your people as Sisters,**

**Priests, Brothers, Deacons and Lay Ministers.  
Inspire us to know You better  
and open our hearts to hear Your call.  
We ask this through our Lord, Jesus the Christ,  
Who is our Light and Salvation. Amen.**

### **OUR THANKSGIVING**

**My soul proclaims Your greatness, O God,  
my spirit rejoices in You, my Savior,  
for You have looked with favor on Your lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed:  
You, the Almighty, have done great things for me,  
and holy is Your Name.  
You have mercy on those who fear You  
from generation to generation.  
You, O God have shown strength with Your arm  
and scattered the proud in their conceit,  
Casting down the mighty from their thrones  
and lifting up the lowly.  
You have filled the hungry with good things  
and sent the rich away empty.  
You have come to the help of Your servant Israel,  
for You have remembered Your promise of mercy,  
The promise made to our forebears,  
to Abraham, Sarah, and their children for ever.**