



VOCATIONS  
MINISTRY

February 21, 2024

# Opening Prayer

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Heavenly Father,  
we ask you to bless our diocese with  
selfless hearts that are willing to serve you,  
by serving Your Church

Lord Jesus raise up from our homes  
those called by the Father:  
courageous and humble men to the Priesthood  
generous servants to the Permanent Diaconate  
faithful people to Consecrated Life and holy  
men and women to the sacrament of Marriage.

Holy Sprit, help us to live our universal vocation  
to holiness by listening to the Father's voice  
and responding with a sacrificial love.

Holy Mary, Model of Vocations,  
teach us to hear and follow your Son.

Holy Mary, Queen of Priests,  
sanctify our priests and obtain for us many more.

Holy Mary, Mother of the Church, pray  
for our families and intercede for our children.

AMEN



**God is ALWAYS calling us to something...  
we need to listen for His call.**

# Overview

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Ministry Review

Seven Sisters Apostolate

DVET Update

Accomplishments

Coming Year

Projects

# Vision & Mission

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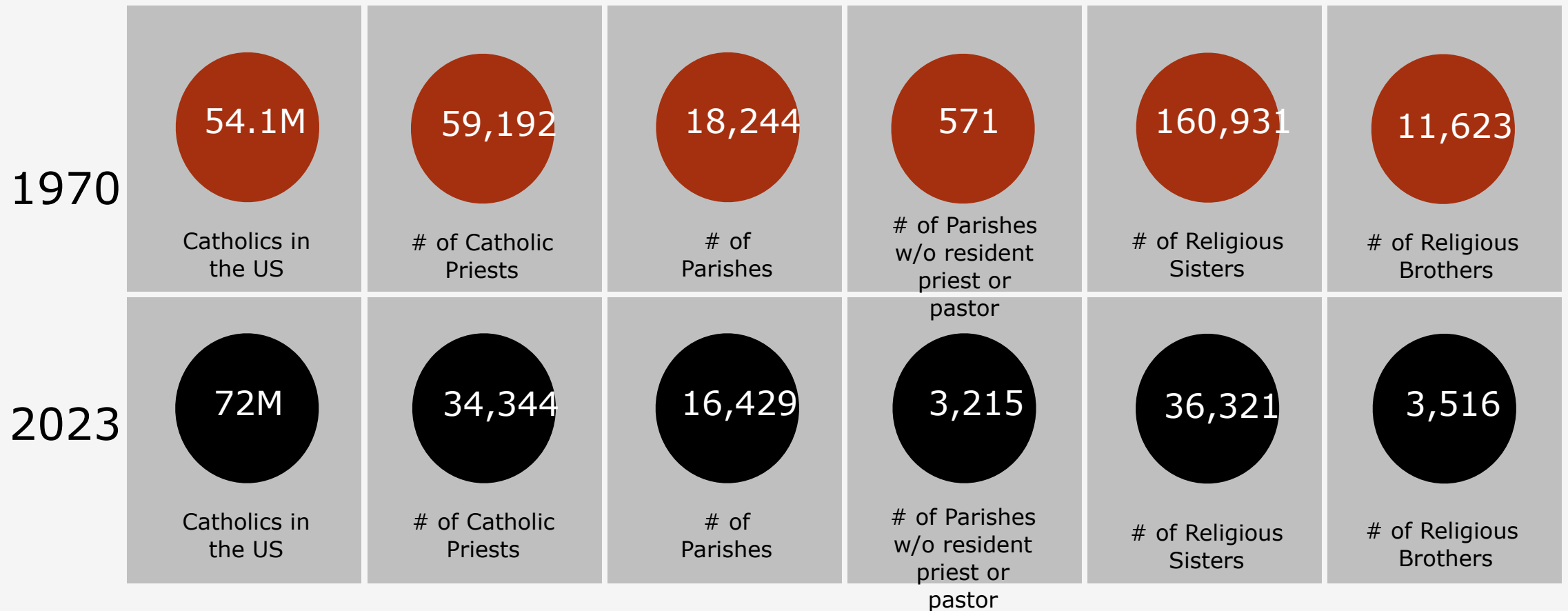
## Vision

- To grow in holiness by fostering opportunities to encounter Jesus Christ so that all can freely respond to His invitation to vocations to the priesthood, permanent diaconate, religious, and married life

## Mission

- Create awareness of vocations in the Catholic Church so that we can live out our Baptismal promises and to help discerners discover, embrace, and live out God's call for their lives.

# Why do we need a Vocations Ministry?



CARA - Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate

# What is our focus?

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Prayer

Awareness

Education

Affirmation

# Seven Sisters Apostolate

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# Seven Sisters Apostolate

## *MISSION AND STRUCTURE*

The Seven Sisters Apostolate is a call to strengthen the Church by ensuring that a Holy Hour is prayed each day of the week for the sole intention of a specific priest or bishop – a “holy wasting” (Matthew 26:10) or a lavishing of prayer for his deeper conformity to Christ.



# Seven Sisters Apostolate

## *SEVEN WOMEN*

A Seven Sisters group begins when at least seven women respond to a call to the mission of the apostolate. If more than seven women desire to pray in this manner, a core group of seven should be designated while others may substitute or provide additional hours of prayer. A second group may also be established. The coordinator of a group is known as the anchoress.



# Seven Sisters Apostolate

## *ONE PRIEST*

The initial recipient of a Seven Sisters group should be their parish pastor. After the pastor has a SSA group, subsequent groups may be formed for the parochial vicar, a retired priest, or a bishop.

The group's intention is directed towards the office of the shepherd more than the individual. In other words, the group prays for the priest until he is reassigned, at which time his successor becomes the recipient of those prayers.



# Seven Sisters Apostolate

## *ONE HOUR, ONE DAY*

Each member commits to a Holy Hour on a distinct day of the week, thus covering a complete week. The commitment is to that day; the Seven Sister may pray at any time on that day. If she is unable to offer her Holy Hour, she is to secure a substitute who need not be a woman. If unable to arrange a substitute, the member should contact the anchoress for help.



# Seven Sisters Apostolate

## *HOLY EUCHARIST*

The Holy Hour is ideally prayed in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament – either in an Adoration Chapel or in front of a Tabernacle – but not restricted to the parish of which the Seven Sister is a member. Thus, one can remain faithful to the commitment when traveling, when a parish does not offer Perpetual Adoration, or when there is limited access to a particular church.



# Seven Sisters Apostolate

## *ONE YEAR*

The commitment of one hour per week of prayer is asked for a period of one year but can remain in place as each individual discerns his/her call to continue. A group may begin at any time of year. The normal commitment extends from June to June, the month of the Sacred Heart. Ideally, the commitment prayer would be made on or as close to the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus as possible.



# Diocesan Vocation Enrichment Team Update

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-Sister Sherly Announced as Associate Director of Vocations and Vicar for Religious

-Looking forward to a visit in early Fall

-Not all parishes have a vocations ministry

-Develop a tool box to send to parishes

-Vocations Ministry Workshop—5 March—Bethany Center



# Accomplishments

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28 May was the initial call

- Take a priest for a beer—over 40 attended
- Priesthood Sunday—prayers and good will
  - Visit by Fr. Chuck
  - Posters, Banners, Pictures
  - Notes from students
- Deacon Sunday—lots of prayers
- Established the web site
  - Put out State of Priestly Vocations Report
- Published prayers for Vocations for National Vocations Week
- Weekly prayers for seminarians

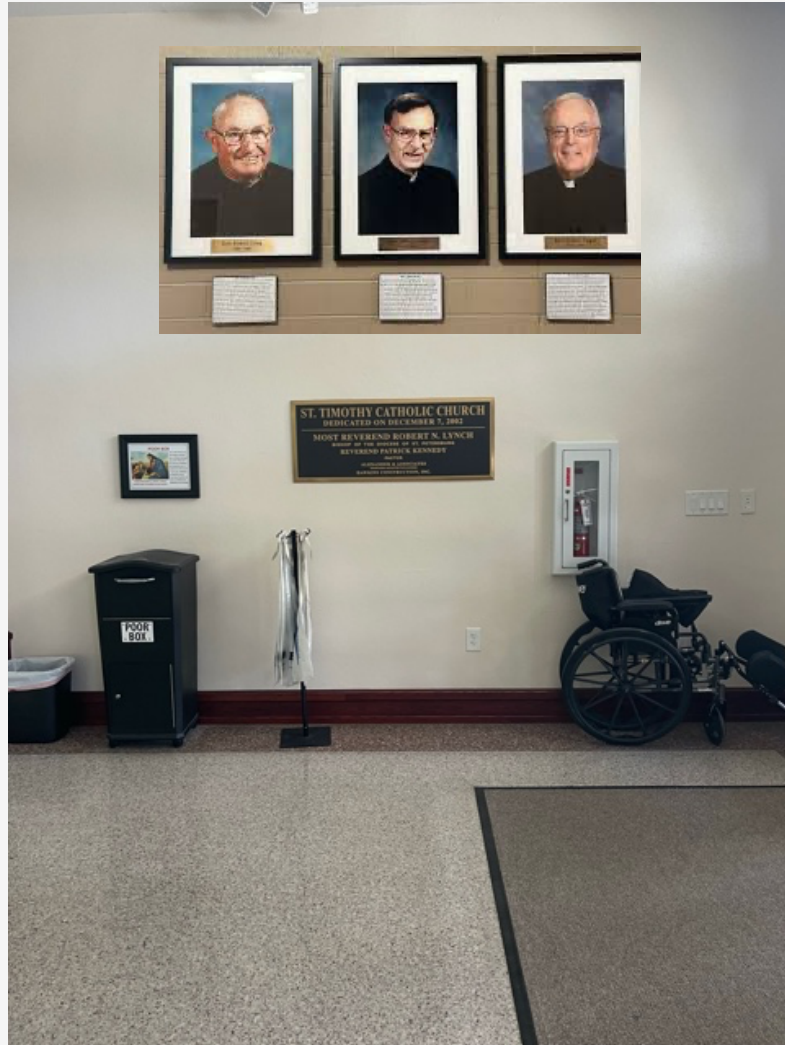


# Coming Year Calendar of Events



# Pastoral Legacy

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# Challenge Coins

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# Open Discussion/Ideas

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Upcoming events

Uplift Your Priests Day

Frequency of meetings/Times

## Cardinal Wilton Gregory

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“We are often impatient people calling for immediate answers. If it took a generation or more to come to this state of affairs, it will probably take at least that long to chart a better future.”





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# Resources

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[vocationministry.com](http://vocationministry.com)  
[spokanevocations.org](http://spokanevocations.org)  
[vianneyvocations.com](http://vianneyvocations.com)  
[nrvc.net](http://nrvc.net)  
[serrainternational.org](http://serrainternational.org)  
[dospvocations.org](http://dospvocations.org)



# What types of things should we be doing?

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- Monthly Rosary
- Clergy Appreciation Dinner
- Adopt-a-Seminarian
- Father Chuck visits & talks
- Religious Sisters visits & talks
- Permanent Diaconate information sessions
- Importance of non-clerical vocations, i.e., husband/father/wife/mother
- Frequent bulletin articles
- Vocations as part of Catholic schools week
- Seminarian/Religious Sisters care packages



# Save the Date!

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SEPT 25, 2024

Join us for coffee and donuts after every mass

