



Una Fides

An Apostolate
for Today's Catholic

- ◆ PRAYER
- ◆ FELLOWSHIP
- ◆ STUDY

Newsletter

Since 2003

Pope Benedict XVI's Prayer Intention for January:
That the Christian communities of the Middle East, often
discriminated against, may receive from the Holy Spirit the
strength of fidelity and perseverance.

PRAY FOR OUR VOCATIONS!



God is Calling

Each one of us has the same primary vocation: to become a saint. Our secondary vocation is the way we are called to live out our primary vocation.

As Catholics, it is encouraging to note that vocations to the priesthood are now on the rise in the United States. Others, too, are recognizing and commenting on this increase. An article which recently appeared in the Wall Street Journal, entitled Traditional Catholicism is Winning, states that young men and women are drawn to the teachings of the Catholic Church because they are timeless and unchanging.

"They are attracted to the philosophy, the art, the literature and the theology that makes Catholicism countercultural. They are drawn to the beauty of the liturgy and the Church's commitment to the dignity of the individual. They want to be contributors to that commitment, alongside faithful and courageous bishops who ask them to make sacrifices. It is time for Catholics to celebrate their arrival."

Along with celebrating, we as lay Catholics also have a responsibility to promote religious vocations. Cardinal Dolan is on record as saying that the first thing the laity must do to encourage vocations is to emphasize and safeguard the vocation of marriage and family. He laments recent data that shows only about 50% of Catholic young people are approaching the sacrament of marriage. "Taking care of the first crisis will take care of the second. Vocations to the

priesthood and religious life come from lifelong, life-giving faithful marriages."

Pope Benedict XVI stresses this same point:

"Let us not forget that Christian marriage is a vocation to holiness in the full sense of the word, and that the example of holy parents is the first condition for the flowering of priestly and religious vocations."

What else can we do to foster vocations? There is a growing body of anecdotal evidence in dioceses throughout our country that shows where Eucharistic Adoration grows, so do vocations. Take, for example, Incarnate Word Catholic Church in Chesterfield, Missouri. In its first 30 years of existence, there was not one vocation.

In 2001 Father Robert Hermann (now Bishop Hermann) brought perpetual Eucharistic Adoration into his parish. Less than 2 years later, four young men had entered the seminary. Similar stories abound in various parishes and dioceses where Eucharistic Adoration is encouraged. The same is also true throughout the world as this headline at a Catholic news site makes it clear: "Eucharistic Adoration leading to booming vocations in Uganda."

Here are two helpful resources for praying for vocations in the Year of Faith:

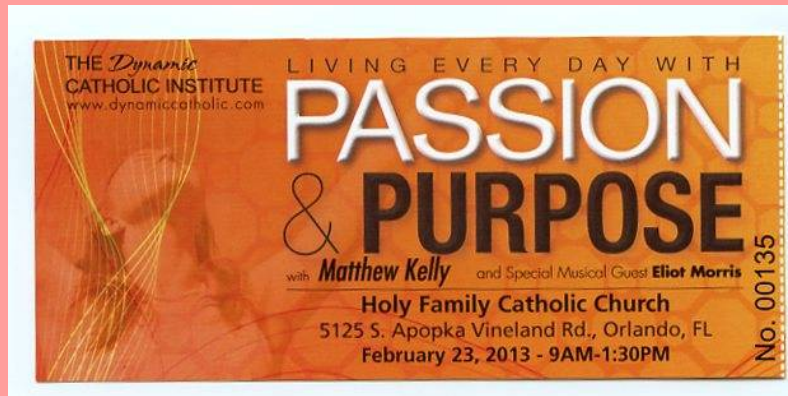
- "Chalice of Strength:Prayers for Priests" (small booklet)
- www.prayformypriest.org

Matthew Kelly will be in Orlando Saturday, February 23, 2013 from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Holy Family Catholic Church in Windermere. The workshop is appropriate for adults and teens as young as 12.

Matthew Kelly's books have been published in 25 languages and have sold over three million copies. Raised Catholic, Matthew has been saddened by the lack of engagement among Catholics and founded the Dynamic Catholic Institute to explore building vibrant Catholic communities in the 21st Century.

The ticket price for the event includes one of Matthew Kelly's book, a Mass journal etc. Tickets (\$39) can be purchased for the event through any of the six participating parishes: St. James Cathedral,

Holy Family, Annunciation, St. Mary Magdalen, Sts. Peter and Paul or Corpus Christi, or online at www.DynamicCatholic.com
For information or to purchase tickets, contact Kitty Martinez at (407)340-5145.



This Saturday, January 19: March for Life St. Augustine

www.marchforlifestaugustine.com

If you are unable to attend this March of Life, please consider fasting, praying a rosary or offering a holy hour of adoration for life this weekend.



The Mission of Una Fides is to build the Body of Christ by encouraging Catholic men and women to enrich, fortify, and embrace their faith through prayer, study, and fellowship

www.UnaFides.com