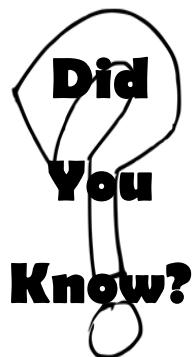


BULLETIN INSERT FROM THE  
VOCATION OFFICE OF THE  
ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD  
SUNDAY, MAY 7, 2017



As we strive to be good “stewards for tomorrow” and work through the pastoral planning process together, one factor that we know calls for immediate attention is our great need for more priestly vocations in the Archdiocese of Hartford. Our Lord told us: “The harvest is great but the laborers are few, so PRAY to the Master of the Harvest to send laborers into His harvest” (Mt 9:37). Every Fourth Sunday of Easter is designated as the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Please consider this an invitation to pray and reflect on your role in fostering priestly vocations in your family and your parish.



\*The Archdiocese of Hartford currently has 19 seminarians. Three men are scheduled to be ordained to the priesthood on May 20, 2017 and two men to the transitional diaconate on May 13, 2017. Please pray for them!

\*Pope Francis has announced that the next Synod of Bishops, to be held in 2018, will address the theme: “Youth, Faith, and Vocational Discernment.”

\*There are monthly Holy Hours for Vocations all over the Archdiocese everyone is invited to attend. For dates and locations, please visit our website,

[www.hartfordpriest.com](http://www.hartfordpriest.com)

**Prayer to Know One's Vocation**

Lord God, You have made me to know You, to love You, to serve You, and thereby to identify and fulfill the deepest longings of my heart—given as a gift to me from You. I know that You have a special plan for my life. Since I want to do what You want of me, I pray, please send the Holy Spirit to me: to show me the next steps You want me to take and to give me the determination and perseverance I need to take them. Help me to serve You with faith, hope, and love, all the days of my life. Amen.



**Excerpt From the Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for the 54th World Day of Prayer for Vocations**



“All Christians are called to be missionaries of the Gospel! We are men and women touched and transformed by the joy of God’s love, who cannot keep this experience just to ourselves. ..Even if at times we are conscious of our weaknesses and tempted to discouragement, we need to turn to God with confidence. ..There is no room for fear!...God surpasses all our expectations and constantly surprises us by his generosity. He makes our efforts bear fruit beyond all human calculation...I ask parish

communities, associations, and the many prayer groups present in the Church, not to yield to discouragement but to continue praying that the Lord will send workers into his harvest. May he give us priests enamored of the Gospel, close to all their brothers and sisters, living signs of God’s merciful love.”



## Seminarian Spotlight... Rev. Mr. Glen Dmytryszyn

Deacon Glen is preparing to be ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Hartford on May 20, 2017, after eight years of formation and studies. Glen has said: "I am most grateful to all the people who have supported me on this great adventure of formation. My family, friends, and so many kind parishioners throughout the Archdiocese gave me the encouragement and prayerful support which enabled me to focus on my formation."



When asked what he looks most forward to, he responded that he is "extremely excited to celebrate the sacraments, especially the Holy Mass. As a priest, I will offer to God all the sufferings, joys, trials, and blessings of the people I am called to serve. It's a great responsibility but an awesome task—to make Christ known and loved by all!" Deacon Glen encourages all Catholic young men to consider their vocation carefully, saying: "Life offers us so many things, but it can never offer us true freedom and peace. Christ wants and needs courageous men to follow him as priests. Consider taking a step in a direction you've never taken before."



We know that no priest comes to the altar on his own, but has grown in faith and love in his family and circle of friends. Families and friends remain important to a priest as he serves God and his parish. Glen's mother, Camille, shares with us: "I knew from the first meeting eight years ago with the Vocation Director that this is where Glen belonged. Being with him every step of the way and watching him become the man he is today is truly God's work. I am blessed beyond words to have a son who will soon be ordained a Priest of Jesus Christ and could not be more proud!"

### 2017 Report: You are Vital to God's Call

In February 2017, the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate at Georgetown University released a 110-page study involving the 2016 cohort of men and women entering religious life. Results confirm the highly significant role that others play to encourage youths on their journey of discernment. It is so important that we lend our voice to Christ and actively invite the young people in our lives to discipleship, reminding them of the importance of discerning their vocation. The vocation God gives to us is a gift—it's the way to experiencing the greatest happiness and doing the most good we can in this life.



There is a young man in your life now experiencing God's call to the priesthood and he needs your encouragement. Pray for God's guidance and reach out in support of his journey. Often, a simple, positive statement works best, as in: "Joe, I see qualities in you that I admire in a good priest. Have you ever thought about becoming a priest?" The young man may not know how to respond right away, but he will remember that sacred moment and you will be allowing our Lord Jesus to use you as His instrument, giving voice to the Call!



The St. John Vianney Vocation Prayer Society was founded in 2016 as a special prayer apostolate of the Archdiocese of Hartford. There are no mandatory meetings to attend nor dues to pay. Instead, members of the society commit to pray daily for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life in whatever way is most comfortable for them. Members also promise to strive to encourage young people to seek their vocation and live it courageously by personal invitation as moved by the Holy Spirit. Prayer is vital to fostering vocations in the Church. Please consider joining the Prayer Society by registering at [www.hartfordpriest.com](http://www.hartfordpriest.com). You will be a critical partner in bringing men to ordination, making a key contribution to ensuring that there are priests in the Archdiocese of Hartford to serve future generations.