



VOCATION VISTAS



June 2008

VOCATION FAIR: A GREAT SUCCESS

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST :

- > Vocation Fair news
- > News of our Seminarians
- > News of our Sisters and Brothers
- > Vocations from Mount Carmel
- > Future plans

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The Vocation Fair was a great success. *The Catholic Sun* gave it extensive coverage in its May 1st Edition.

We have already received an inquiry from another parish as to how it might do something similar. Imitation is the best form of flattery! It is nice to see that the idea is catching on!

All were unanimous that we should do it again next year. It is a good way to show off the great varieties of work in the Church and the many wonderful things that are being done.

This year there were 16 participants and approx. 225 visitors. There would have been more if the timing of the Fair had been better. Next year we hope to have it at a time that does not clash with other events.

Several young people from Seton High School participated in a round table discussion. The participants welcomed and enjoyed the interaction.

Next year there will be more young people to ask the search-

ing questions and our participants will be just as capable of fielding them.

The participants also reported that they enjoyed meeting and talking with one another. This was in fact a major benefit of the day for them.

The weather was good and, thanks to the *Knights of Columbus*, the food was great. Nobody went home hungry or thirsty, physically or spiritually.

To prepare for the event, there was an evening's *Eucharistic adoration*. We are grateful to those who attended. *A Holy Hour* was held after the event to thank God for what was achieved. The *Knights of Columbus*, present in their full regalia, gave it a very revered and dignified air.

These events will become a regular part of the Fair in future years. They will bring a parish prayer dimension to the effort that

will greatly contribute to its fruitfulness.

This Fair would not have been successful without the help of many groups in the Parish. In particular, we wish to thank.....

The Rosary Guild that made beautiful rosaries to hand out to each visitor. We thank them for their humble service.

The Knights of Columbus who supplied the food and helped wherever necessary. What would we do without them!

Members of the R.C.I.A who were willing to hand these rosaries out to our visitors. We thank them too for being part of the effort.

And the *Maintenance and Audio-visual Dept.* that set up the hall and made the showing of videos and DVDs possible. The participants were very appreciative .

NEWS OF OUR SEMINARIANS

We currently have two seminarians from the parish. Both are studying for the Diocese of Phoenix. Scott Sperry is at the Josephinum in Ohio and Tyler Rosensteel is going to St. John Vianney Seminary in Denver in September.

Scott reports that he is settling down to his studies again after

his heroic battle with leukemia. We pray for his continued return to normal health.

Tyler, as recent convert, is in the throes of preparing for his first year and is looking forward to it with great anticipation.

We appreciate the willingness of both to answer the call to discern their vocation. Keep them both in your prayers. May God be with them.



EDITORIAL

This is the first edition of **Vocation Vistas**. We hope to publish it twice a year to keep you up to date with what is going on with vocations in the parish and in the Diocese. Some of the sections will be regular, others occasional.

If you have anything that you would like to have put in this newsletter please contact Fr. Bernie through the Parish Office.

The term vocation has, since Vatican II, taken on a wider meaning than it once had. Every Christian is now seen to have a vocation from

God to witness to Christ and live his priestly and prophetic life.

This vocation is made concrete in a variety of ministries. From time to time we will be bringing information and news about these ministries.

One of these new forms of witness in the Church is what is called **the Secular Institute**.

A Secular Institute is a group of lay people bound together by a rule of life and officially recognized by the Church.

However, they remain in the world at their normal occupations. They usually, but not always, live independently of one another, meeting as a group at regular intervals for prayer, faith-

sharing and discussion..

The emergence of this new form of religious life is one example of the exciting times we live in with regards to vocations.

There are now many different possibilities open to the faithful for work within and for the Church. We hope to keep you up to date on what these are. This is what **Vocation Vistas** is all about.

God bless,

Fr. Bernie

WHAT IS A PRIEST?

A **priest** is the representative of the universal Church to the local community. He shares permanently in the sacramental priesthood of the bishop.



He calls the People of God together for worship and to a deepening of their faith by celebrating the sacraments, preaching the Gospel and guiding the people in the people in the Christian way of life.

He bears the suffering and concerns of the people in daily prayer and

through his pastoral presence.

The priest is crucial to the life of the Church. He enables local communities to carry out their own priesthood by offering the sacrifice of the Eucharist and entering into the redemption won by Christ on our behalf. In this way, he enables the community to live the Eucharist, which is the source and summit of Catholic faith and life.

Since Vatican II, the order of priesthood has been developed by the re-establishment of the ancient order of the Deaconate. A **Deacon** is formally trained to assist the priest in his pastoral and liturgical ministry.

A Deacon can do some of the duties formerly carried out by priests. He does not normally take the vow of celibacy but does promise obedience to the bishop. He is usually a married man, often carrying on a normal career in the world.

A **transitional deacon** is one who has been ordained to the deaconate as a step towards the priesthood. He takes the vow of celibacy and the promise of obedience.

WHAT IS 'A RELIGIOUS'?

A religious is a priest, sister or brother living a community life based on the three vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. Taking and living of these vows in community with others is what defines someone as a religious.

There are two forms of religious: those who take solemn vows and those who take simple vows. The differences between these are more technical than actual. Those who take solemn vows belong usually to the older religious communities of monks, nuns or friars.

Monks and nuns date their origins back to the sixth century and earlier to the Desert hermits of St. Anthony and



the Rule of St. Benedict.

The friars emerged in the eleventh and twelfth centuries with the Franciscans and the Dominicans.

Those who take simple vows, whether priests brothers or sisters, belong to more modern, active religious communities.

These first developed with St. Ignatius and the Jesuits in the seventeenth century. Most religious communities today are of this type

— active and yet to one degree or another sharing a common life of prayer and apostolate.

Since Vatican II more than 250 new religious communities have emerged in the Church.

Visit the **Vocation Corners** for details on some of them.

NEWS OF OUR SISTER CANDIDATES/NOVICES

Currently we have one sister candidate: Marissa Butler. She is a candidate with the Carmelite Sisters in Carmel, California close to the beautiful Great Sur coastline. In September she will enter the novitiate, God willing.

We also have one novice: Sister Joan Marie Hamont, whose parents Eva and James Hamont are long-time parishioners here, has been discerning her vocation with the **Sisters of Life** in New

York since 2006. She is now in her second year of novitiate, having been exposed to a variety of activities associated with the Sister's main work, which is the promotion of life from conception to natural death.

These generous women remind us that discerning a vocation takes time and effort. To *feel* a call is not the same as actually *having* one. Discerning a call takes prayer and investigation on

both sides.

We rejoice in anyone willing to undertake the difficult process of discernment. We offer them our prayerful assistance but respect their decision and that of the community they join as to whether the call is real or not.

It is not a failure to determine that they are not called to a particular way of life. We respect their decision and welcome them home if it is

A priest also, who possesses within the Church the power of the Holy Orders to offer the sacrifice in the person of Christ stands for this reason at the head of the faithful people gathered together here and now, presides over their prayer, proclaims the message of salvation to them, associates the people with himself in the offering of the sacrifice through Christ in the Holy Spirit to God the Father, gives his brothers and sisters the Bread of eternal life, and partakes of it with them. (*The Priest in the Third Millennium Par 93*)

VOCATIONS FROM OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

Our Lady of Mount Carmel has been blessed with several vocations. Not only has it forwarded two very fine bishops to the Church but currently we have one member with the Carmoldese in California and several priests for the diocese of Phoenix

Fr. Cyprian Consiglio is the son of Sandy and Sal Consiglio. He has been with the Carmoldese Commu-

nity on the Big Sur in California since 1995. Occasionally he celebrates Mass with us here. Fr.

Cyprian has specialized in music ministry and in Eastern spirituality. He has several CDs to his credit.

Fr. John Ehrich is now the pastor at St. Thomas the



Apostle here in Phoenix. Fr. John Greb is the associate pastor at Holy Cross parish in Mesa and Fr. Charlie Goraieb is the Pastor at Queen of Peace in Mesa. Not too bad a record for one parish!

From time to time we hope to bring you more news of the alumni of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. If you have any information that you can share with us please send it to the Vocation Committee..

religious life immediately rather than waiting many years and possibly getting ensnared by the tide of our culture.

Thirty-five of these individuals remain in formation with religious orders across the country. These men and women are learning to become monks and brothers, nuns and sisters."

During the Fair \$240 was generously donated to this fund. If anyone would like to contribute you can send the checks to the Vocation Committee, marked for Mater Ecclesiae fund.

MATER ECCLESIA: FUND FOR VOCATIONS

This fund was set up to enable *bona fide* candidates for the priesthood and religious life to pay off debts that might be preventing them from pursuing their vocation. On their website — www.fundforvocations.org — the organizers say:

"We operate the St. Joseph Student Debt Relief Grant Pro-

gram which eliminates the delay many young people encounter as they struggle to pay off their student debts before they can enter religious life. A St. Joseph grant pays candidates' student loan payments while they are in formation for religious life.

To date, we have given people the opportunity to discern their vocation to

Vocations to the ministerial priesthood and to the consecrated life can only flourish in a spiritual soil that is well cultivated. Christian communities that live the missionary dimension of the mystery of the Church in a profound way will never be inward looking. Mission, as a witness of divine love, becomes particularly effective when it is shared in a community. (Benedict XVI World Day Prayer for Vocations 2008)

VOCATION VISTAS

This newsletter is published by the Vocation Committee of our Lady of Mount Carmel. The Committee members are:

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The Committee is dedicated to spreading
the gospel through promoting vocations
to the priesthood and religious life.