Pray for those in the Diocese of Prince George who have said "Yes"

Ken Anderson, Fraser Lake, BC

"My journey has not been a vocation story thriller; there has been no light moment like St. Paul when he was struck off the horse or deafening voice from heaven to give me certain direction. Yet God has called me forward in ordinary ways.

I am one of eight siblings, raised on a ranch. Through the years, my parents have tried to put faith and family first in their lifestyle decisions.

We also used to have a daily "quiet time" for personal prayer; this began a habit which has been essential in my vocational journey.

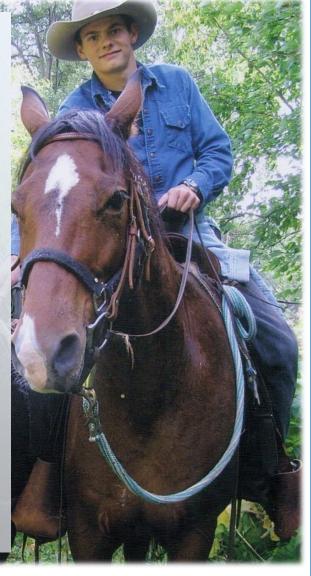
In 2002 we made a family pilgrimage to World Youth Day in Toronto. This trip exposed us to the Catholic world (including many priests and religious) and gave me a close view of Pope John Paul II!

Ever since childhood I have felt drawn to the priesthood, not because anyone told me I should become a priest—the idea just seemed natural. Given my upbringing, the priesthood has always been on my vocational "radar."

The "ordinary way" in which God has called me is perhaps so uncommon today that it could be called "extraordinary," but it shouldn't be.

Is it not a beautiful and natural response to give our life back to God by embracing the call to the priesthood or consecrated life?"

Deacon Ken will be ordained to the priesthood on June 8, 2018 at 7:00 PM at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Prince George.





Matthew Bellerive Prince George, BC Seminarian

Christ the King Seminary

Mission, BC



Joseph LeFebvre Prince George, BC Seminarian

Christ the King Seminary

Mission, BC



Alyssa Dugdale Prince George, BC **Entering Postulancy** 08/2018

Dominican Sisters of Mary-Mother of the Eucharist Ann Arbor, MI



Michael Horianopoulos Kitimat, BC Seminarian

Companions of the Cross Christ the King Seminary

Ottawa, ON



Nathan Giede Prince George, BC **Entering Discernment** 08/2018

Mission, BC

World Day of Prayer for Vocations

April 22, 2018

"Therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."

Matthew 9:38

Diocesan Prayer for Vocations

Heavenly Father, bless Your Church
with an abundance of holy and zealous
Priests, Brothers and Sisters.
Open the hearts of the young,
that they may discern Your will for them.
Give them the desire to offer themselves
to serve You in others and
establish Your reign in all hearts.
Through Christ, Our Lord.
Amen





The joy of the Gospel, which makes us open to encountering God and our brothers and sisters, does not abide our slowness and our sloth. It will not fill our hearts if we keep standing by the window with the excuse of waiting for the right time, without accepting this very day the risk of making a decision. Vocation is today!

The Christian mission is now! Each one of us is called – whether to the lay life in marriage, to the priestly life in the ordained ministry, or to a life of special consecration – in order to become a witness of the Lord, here and now.

This "today" that Jesus proclaimed assures us that God continues to "come down" to save our human family and to make us sharers in his mission.

The Lord continues to call others to live with him and to follow him in a relationship of particular closeness. He continues to call others to serve him directly. If he lets us realize that he is calling us to consecrate ourselves totally to his kingdom, then we should have no fear! It is beautiful – and a great grace – to be completely and forever consecrated to God and the service of our brothers and sisters.

Today the Lord continues to call others to follow him. We should not wait to be perfect in order to respond with our generous "yes", nor be fearful of our limitations and sins, but instead open our hearts to the voice of the Lord. To listen to that voice, to discern our personal mission in the Church and the world, and at last to live it in the today that God gives us.

May Mary Most Holy, who as a young woman living in obscurity heard, accepted and experienced the Word of God made flesh, protect us and accompany us always on our journey.