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World Day of Prayer for Vocations – Good Shepherd Sunday  
May 11, 2014

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

In his message for the 51<sup>st</sup> World Day of Prayer for Vocations, Pope Francis mentions three things that should mark us as people of faith: “wonder first arises in our hearts over the plentiful harvest which God alone can bestow; then gratitude for a love that always goes before us; and lastly, adoration for the work that He has accomplished, which requires our free consent in acting with Him and for Him.”

Our free consent is a key to living to the full the life the Risen Lord gives. We can cooperate with His grace in a special way by fostering vocations, helping young men and women to recognize if they are being called to give themselves “acting with Him and for Him” in the Priesthood or Consecrated Life.

Today we distribute a new Vocation Prayer card and another card you can use to propose the name of someone you feel may have a priestly vocation. Please pass on the card through your parish to the Vocations Director. This small step may make a world of difference and help a young man realize more clearly that God is calling Him to the Priesthood of His Son.

With Pope Francis in wonder and gratitude, let us adore the Risen Lord and ask Him to send labourers into His harvest.

With prayerful best wishes for the Easter season, I am

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Stephen Jensen