



# CORE RE VOCATIONS

## STUDENT WORKBOOK

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_



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## Important Information

Welcome to your Vocations Module Workbook. Inside you will find everything you need to complete the module; each lesson has a task and an extended piece of writing. You will find the final assessment in Lesson 7, and this will draw together everything you have learnt throughout the module. There is also a separate section for notes at the back to write down any thoughts that might come up.

The module is there to also help you **discern** your life and think about the major decisions that you may encounter moving forward. Everybody makes decisions daily, no matter how big or small, and some decisions take more time. This module will help you think about those decisions, giving you time to think, pray and talk to others around you that you can trust, to help guide you.

Key terms will be outlined in each lesson to develop your understanding.

Within the module you will come across some abbreviations that are linked to Church Documents. To help you we have put together a guide for you here:

Abbreviations	
<b>AL</b>	Amoris Lateitia
<b>CCC</b>	Catechism of the Catholic Church
<b>CV</b>	Christus Vivit
<b>EG</b>	Evangelii Gaudium
<b>FC</b>	Familiaris Consortio
<b>GE</b>	Gaudete et Exultate
<b>LE</b>	Laborem Exercens
<b>PV</b>	Pastores Dabo Vobis
<b>RCIA</b>	Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
<b>ESV</b>	English Standard Revised Version (Bible Translation)

There are links to helpful websites at the end of the module which you can go for further reading.

In each lesson there is a section for you to '**write some notes**' which allows you to write down anything you feel relevant from the lesson that is delivered or from your class discussions.

# Lesson 1: Vocation & Discernment & Single Life

## Opening Prayer:

God our Father,  
Thank you for calling us all to take part in your plan for our world.  
Send us your Holy Spirit to open our hearts to you,  
and to our brothers and sisters whom you have created.  
Enlighten our minds, that we may discern the path we should follow.  
Give us courage to live a life that gives glory to you and brings joy to our lives.  
We ask this through Jesus your Son,  
Amen.

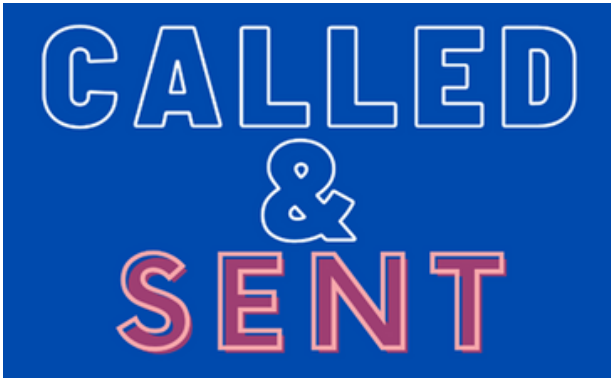
## Learning Objectives:

- To understand that we are ALL called by God to contribute in a positive and life-giving way to his divine plan for the world.
- To understand what DISCERNMENT is and how to DISCERN our own lives.
- To understand the many ways God can call us to live our life, and that we can choose how to serve him and our world.
- To understand that through Baptism we are anointed Priest, Prophet and King.

*The word "vocation" can be understood in a broad sense as a calling from God, including the call to life, the call to friendship with him, the call to holiness, and so forth.*  
*CV 248*

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**Discernment:**

*Discernment is necessary not only at extraordinary times, when we need to resolve grave problems and make crucial decisions. It is a means of spiritual combat for helping us to follow the Lord more faithfully. We need it at all times, to help us recognize God's timetable, lest we fail to heed the promptings of his grace and disregard his invitation to grow. GE 169*

*"Love is therefore the fundamental and innate vocation of every human being"*

*FC 11*

*Let the grace of your baptism bear fruit in a path of holiness.  
GE 15*

*'Those who are single, even if not  
by their own choice, can offer a  
particular witness to that vocation  
through their own path of personal  
growth'. CV 267*

*'He predestined us for adoption as sons  
through Jesus Christ, according to the  
purpose of his will'  
Ephesians 5:1 ESV*

*'He predestined us for adoption as  
sons through Jesus Christ, according  
to the purpose of his will'  
Ephesians 5:1 ESV*







# Lesson 2 – The Call to Serve

The greatest among you shall be your servant. (Matt 23:11)

## Opening Prayer:

Almighty God,  
We come to you today with hearts wide open  
so that we can listen to your call.  
We pray that you will lead and guide us  
in the plans you have for us.  
Help us to respond to your call in our daily lives,  
and better our communities through our actions,  
which we pray leads us to holiness.  
We make this prayer through Christ, our Lord.  
Amen

## Learning Objectives:

- To understand where God is calling us to in the immediate future.
- To understand that this third stage of our vocation may change.
- To identify different places God can put us in so that we fulfil our daily mission.

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*“Business is a vocation, and a noble vocation, provided that those engaged in it see themselves challenged by a greater meaning in life; this will enable them truly to serve the common good by striving to increase the goods of this world and to make them more accessible to all”. EG 203*

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*'The Lord God took the man and put him in  
the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.'  
(Genesis 2:15)*

*The Church finds in the very first pages of  
the Book of Genesis the source of her  
conviction that work is a fundamental  
dimension of human existence on earth.  
LE 4*

## Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy

*The corporal and spiritual works of mercy continue in our own day to be proof of mercy's immense positive influence as a social value. Mercy impels us to roll up our sleeves and set about restoring dignity to millions of people; they are our brothers and sisters who, with us, are called to build a "city which is reliable." Misericordia et misera 18*

### Corporal Works of Mercy

- To feed the hungry
- To give drink to the thirsty
- To clothe the naked
- To visit the imprisoned
- To shelter the homeless
- To visit the sick
- To bury the dead

### Spiritual Works of Mercy

- Admonish the sinner
- Instruct the ignorant
- Counsel the doubtful
- Comfort the sorrowful
- Bear wrongs patiently
- Forgive all injuries
- Pray for the living and the dead

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*"A bit of mercy makes the world less cold and more just"*  
*Pope Francis, Angelus Prayer 17th March 2013*

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**Debate:**

This house believes that the laity (a person not ordained or a consecrated religious) are called to carry out the Corporal Works of Mercy more frequently than the Spiritual Works of Mercy.

Split the group into two and have one argue for the case and one argue against.

Write your notes below.

# Lesson 3 – Marriage

## Opening Prayer:

God our Father,  
we pray in thanksgiving for the vocation to marriage  
and for each couple that you join together in order to make a family.  
We ask that every marriage brings each couple closer to you and closer to holiness.  
We pray for those who are struggling in their relationships at present,  
that they can make it through this tough time and support each other.  
We make this prayer through Christ, your Son, our Lord.  
Amen.

## Learning Objectives:

- To understand that marriage is a vocation.
- To understand why people get married.
- To explore the call to love as the central part of marriage, which is at the heart of the vocation.

*'God who created man out of love also calls  
him to love the fundamental and innate  
vocation of every human being'.  
CCC 1604*

*'Therefore, a man shall leave his father  
and his mother and hold fast to his wife,  
and they shall become one flesh'.  
Gen 2:24*

*Married life is a process of growth, in which each spouse is God's means of helping the other to mature... Fostering growth means helping a person to shape his or her own identity. Love is thus a kind of craftsmanship...At every new stage, they can keep "forming" one another. Love makes each wait for the other with the patience of a craftsman, a patience which comes from God. AL 221*

*'Christian marriage in its turn becomes an efficacious sign, the sacrament of the covenant of Christ and the Church. Since it signifies and communicates grace, marriage between baptized persons is a true sacrament of the New Covenant'. CCC 1617*

*"Marriage to be sure is not instituted solely for procreation" but also that mutual love "might be properly expressed, that it should grow and mature"*  
*AL 125*











**Bishop:**

*Just as "by the Lord's institution,  
St. Peter and the rest of the apostles  
constitute a single apostolic college, so in  
like fashion the Roman Pontiff, Peter's  
successor, and the bishops, the successors  
of the apostles, are related with and united  
to one another. CCC 880*





# Lesson 5 – Consecrated Religious Life

## Opening Prayer:

Heavenly Father,  
we thank you for your providence in calling many men and women  
to consecrate their lives to you,  
and to undivided service of their brothers and sisters.  
Bless them for their self-offering.  
Help them be steadfast in witnessing to your kingdom.  
May the face of your Son, Jesus our Lord, shine through them,  
and may your Holy Spirit animate them,  
that your name may be glorified and the Good News  
may be proclaimed, making disciples of all nations.  
We ask this through Christ Our Lord,  
Amen.

## Learning Objectives:

- Understand what it means to be a consecrated religious.
- Identify the different kinds of religious life and their congregations.
- Explore how to become a consecrated religious.

*'The state of consecrated life is thus one  
way of experiencing a "more intimate"  
consecration, rooted in Baptism and  
dedicated totally to God'. CCC 916*



*The life consecrated to God is characterized  
by the public profession of the evangelical  
counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience,  
in a stable state of life recognized by the  
Church'. CCC 944*













# Glossary

**Baptism:** First Sacrament of Initiation, giving a share in the divine life of God and cleanses us from Original Sin.

**Catholic:** meaning “universal”.

**Church:** all the people who, through Baptism have become part of the Body of Christ.

**Discernment:** to work out what to do in the light of prayer and reflection. The root of the word means ‘sifting’ which means to sort out, and in this context, it is to sort out what God’s plan is for you.

**Discipleship:** imitating the example of Christ and living a life pleasing to God.

**Eucharist:** representing Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross. Truly the body and blood, soul and divinity of Jesus Christ.

**Grace:** supernatural help from god that leads to conversion and assists in the avoidance of sin and the pursuit to holiness.

**Holiness:** state of Christian perfection and one which all are called to, relying on God’s grace and mercy.

**Holy Spirit:** the proper name of the one whom we adore and glorify with the Father and the Son. The Church has received this name from the Lord and professes it in the Baptism of her new children (CCC 691).

**In persona Christi Capitis:** Latin for “in the person of Christ the head”, a role which is given by way of virtue at Ordination of bishops and priests, to celebrate the Sacraments.

**Jesus Christ:** the second person of the Holy Trinity, God’s only begotten Son.

**Original Sin:** the first sin committed by Adam and Eve, which passed down, overcome by the graces of Baptism.

**Sacrament:** the sacraments are perceptible signs (words and actions) accessible to our human nature. By the action of Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit they make present efficaciously the grace that they signify (CCC 1084).

**Trinity:** central mystery of Christian faith and life. The belief that the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are three distinct persons, one God sharing a single divine nature.

**Vocation:** from the Latin word ‘Vocare’ which means to ‘call’ and we are ALL called by God in different ways.



## Further reading and useful websites

National Office for Vocation: [www.ukvocation.org](http://www.ukvocation.org)

UK Priest: [www.ukpriest.org](http://www.ukpriest.org)

Papal Encyclicals: [www.papalencyclicals.net/](http://www.papalencyclicals.net/)

Catechism of the Catholic Church: [www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/INDEX.HTM](http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/INDEX.HTM)

## Further Notes

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National Office  
for Vocation

*Helping people hear God's call*