



## Pope Francis



*It takes courage to make that first step!* [www.dublindiocese.ie/vocations](http://www.dublindiocese.ie/vocations) or [vocations@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:vocations@dublindiocese.ie), 01 8087561



## Called to be **YOU**

Vocation Sunday set aside in the Church's calendar to encourage all of us think about our own vocation. So what is your vocation? You may think that you don't have a vocation or that vocations are the sort of thing clergy have. But if you think that, you're wrong. Each of us does have a vocation. God calls each one of us. The question, though, is to what? First and foremost, God calls us to change: to become more

Christ-like. We are called to live out our lives in response to the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. That process began in our baptism, but it continues through prayer, through the reading of the scriptures and through the receiving of Holy Communion.

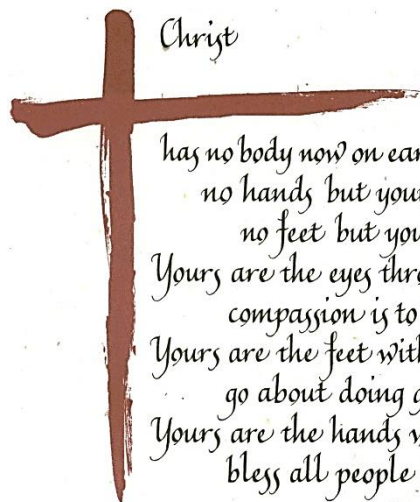
One of the constant themes in the New Testament is that lives touched by Christ were changed. What is true for the characters of the New Testament is true for us. As we encounter and respond to Christ we cannot help but be changed. But while we are called to change, we are also called to be more deeply ourselves. God never calls us to be something or someone we're not. God always calls us to what we are capable of becoming. It may be that there are parts of us which are underdeveloped or which rarely see the light of day which need to be allowed to flourish so we can be our true selves. It may be that we have hidden gifts which need to be discovered or it may be that there is something that we have secretly always wanted to do but have not had the courage or the time to try. Whatever it may be we need to find an outlet which will allow us to feel more excited about life or indeed to feel more alive.



St Irenaeus wrote that 'the glory of God is a human being fully alive'. Through the dual process of becoming more fully ourselves and of becoming more fully Christ-like, the will of God is fulfilled and the glory of God seen. That is what Vocations Sunday is about.

**You have one life. For God's sake and for your own, live it.**

## Take a moment to **Reflect**



Christ  
has no body now on earth but yours,  
no hands but yours,  
no feet but yours.  
Yours are the eyes through which Christ's  
compassion is to look out to the world.  
Yours are the feet with which Christ is to  
go about doing good.  
Yours are the hands with which Christ is to  
bless all people now.

*Teresa of Avila*

### **Read the Prayer**

Think about one time when you've experienced God reaching out to someone through another person

### **Read the prayer again**

Think about a time that you've experienced God reaching out to another through you.

### **Read the one more time –**

#### **Change the word 'Yours' to 'Mine'**

Recognise the gifts you have, the difference you make to those around you, the opportunities you have been given to share the Love, Joy, Peace, Hope & Compassion of God each day and say 'Thanks'!

### **Keep the Prayer with you...**

as an ongoing reminder of how God desires to work through you!

## **A Prayer for Vocations**

O God, our Father, you have called us in Baptism to follow your Son Jesus through lives of loving service to you and to one another. Grant us your assistance guided by the Holy Spirit to live out our vocation in life. We pray especially for those who have answered your call as priests, brothers, sisters, deacons and lay ministers. Keep them faithful in following your Son and dedicated in serving their brothers and sisters. Grant that many more men and women will be open to the challenge of dedicating their lives in the ministry of building your Kingdom.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. **Amen**

*If you have any questions about priesthood, religious life or the diaconate please do not hesitate to make contact. It takes courage to make that first step!* [www.dublindiocese.ie/vocations](http://www.dublindiocese.ie/vocations) or [vocations@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:vocations@dublindiocese.ie), 01 8087561