



**VOCATIONS GROW  
ON FAMILY TREES**

### Parents: Joy Mixed with Reluctance

"Many Catholics parents have some reluctance about their children becoming priests or religious - at least at first. Typically, parents' concerns fade as they witness their child's vocation mature, and his or her happiness grow." *Vianney Vocations*

### Parents Speak Their Minds

"It almost broke my hear when Julie joined the convent. But when I visited her a year later, I could see the happiness and joy just radiating from her. My sadness melted away in an instant. I knew she had found her way in life. In retrospect, I'm glad my plans didn't work out. as hard as it is for me to admit, God had a better plan for her." - *Carl R. Vianney Vocations*

"I wanted grandchildren so badly. I hid my disappointment when Colin went to seminary, thinking his interest probably wouldn't last. By the time his ordination came along a few years later, God had really worked on me. I couldn't have been prouder. His priesthood has been the greatest gift God has ever given our family." - *Jenni P. Vianney Vocations*

### An Open Attitude

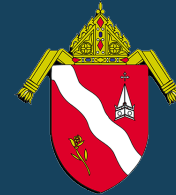
"If your child expresses interest in the priesthood or religious life, be supportive. If you're excited, don't push too hard. If you're apprehensive, trust in God's plan. The best thing you can say is, 'Whatever God wants for you, I want for you, too.'" *Vianney Vocations*

**Office of Vocations**

**(956)-727-2140**

**[frfquiroz@dioceseoflaredo.org](mailto:frfquiroz@dioceseoflaredo.org)**

# Diocese of Laredo



## FIVE WAYS FAMILIES CAN FOSTER VOCATIONS



"The Christian family, which is truly a 'domestic Church', has always offered favorable conditions for the birth of vocations."- St. John Paul II

*Vianney Vocations*



## SNUGGLE UP AND READ A STORY

"Sometimes the simplest ideas are best! Add some books about famous saints to your bedtime reading. There are dozens of fascinating, age-appropriate stories of saints who were priests and religious. There's even a comic book about St. John Paul II as a child!" *Vianney Vocations*

## WATCH A BETTER MOVIE

"When it's time for family movie night, take a pass on Spy Kids 4 and check out A Mission to Love (the life of St. John Bosco). There are tons of Catholic films that depict heroic and interesting priest and religious. The conversation afterward is far more meaningful than which explosion was the biggest!" *Vianney Vocations*

## PRAY FROM THE HEART

"In your family prayers, pray for more priests and religious. Let your kids hear you praying for their future. 'Lord, watch over Simon today and give him the grace to grow up to be a strong man of God. Keep him close to You, always in Your perfect will.'" *Vianney Vocations*

## TALK ABOUT VOCATIONS

"Speak openly about vocations to marriage, priesthood, and religious life. From the earliest age, make it clear that happiness in life is following God's plan. Tell kids that priest have an awesome job because they bring us the sacraments. Teach them that religious brothers and sisters make special vows to live like Jesus."

*Vianney Vocations*

## 5 IDEAS TO HELP A CHILD'S VOCATION

### BEFRIEND PRIESTS & RELIGIOUS

"Invite a priest, sister, or brother to dinner at your home. Personal relationships are key. When kids are comfortable around the Priest or Sister from the Catechism, they're far more likely to be comfortable with the idea of a priestly or religious vocation when they grow older."

*Vianney Vocations*

