

 CALLED BY NAME 

*Thank you so much for nominating a person whom you think Jesus might be calling to be a priest or religious sister or brother. Those you nominate will receive a letter from our bishop, congratulating them on living the Christian life in an exemplary way and gently inviting them to begin formally discerning their calling, as well as much helpful information and resources.*

*There are no requirements or commitments on their part – only a loving invitation from the Lord.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name  Male  Female

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Name (if under 18) Age

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Home Parish

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your Name Relationship to this person

Tell us about this person

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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## CALLED BY NAME

St. Francis Xavier is joining the Diocese in implementing the “Called by Name” initiative in our parish. The readings of the fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (February 9th) are focused on being called and responding. Bishop McKnight has designated this to be “Called by Name” Sunday. Parishioners are invited to share the names of young men in the parish who show lives of prayer and service. The names will then be submitted to the Vocations Office so that the individuals can then be invited to upcoming vocational events.

The words of the prophet Isaiah are still powerful today: “I have called you by name; you are mine” (Isaiah 43:1). We know God is calling thousands of men to serve him as priests *and brothers*. *It is our privilege and responsibility as adult Catholics to help identify, encourage, and support those who are being called to serve the Lord.*

Called By Name, developed and promoted by Serra, is recommended by the U.S. Bishops’ Committee for Vocations. This successful program invites men to consider a vocation as a priest, or brother.

Many seminarians say that the final nudge to contact the vocation director was simply being asked, by their pastor, parent, grandparent, or any Catholic adult, if they had considered the priesthood. It is crucial that parishes actively support and promote future generations of priests and religious sisters and brothers to serve a growing Church, hungering for Christ in the Eucharist.

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