

## Why young men decide to join the priestly life?

Whether you are ready or not, God has its own time to call individuals to partake in his ministry. He doesn't call man by profession or any sort of qualifications. He chose those who are being once great sinners and being neglected in the societies. We can come up with many questions in our minds, why did Jesus chose these people? Not because he had pity on them but the most important thing is that the kingdom of heaven is not for those who are already become pure and holy but also for those who are recognized as sinners. In addition, Jesus chose those who are pure in heart and who can easily follow the will of God without giving excuses and turn back to the worldly attachment. With that, we can't fully comprehend the ways of God because our comprehension level is very limited compared to God.

We must be thankful and appreciate the life that he has given to us. The life itself is full of fantasy. Every human being has their own capabilities and potentials given by God to shape and develop the world to become a better place to live through invention and technology. When referring back to the primitive way of life, there are also many specialists who tirelessly specialized in different ways to make their societies become balanced. For instance, not all men are good at hunting and fishing, some are specialized in farming, crafts and design, building and construction, warriors and etc. All these people contributed by putting their efforts, time, gifts and talents for the common good of all.

Likewise in the modern world we need an engineer, teacher, lawyer, physician, security, farmer, etc. We cannot deny and make judgment from the hierarchical point of view to rank people from the top to the least. Whether an engineer or the security person, they both performed their roles and responsibilities to make the day run smoothly without inconvenience and frustration. Therefore, each and every one as a purpose to contribute and build a better and more secure environment.

On the other end, all these material things will fade away. Therefore, we believe that there is life after death. In order to achieve this eternal life we have to follow the moral values that were imposed by others who had experienced life before us. Again, we need people who are capable to live a virtuous life full of wisdom and holiness. Above all, he must be free from outside influences. He has to be a man of self-discipline and have a good character. He must avoid such behaviors that will ruin his life such as scandal, sexual misconduct, and addiction.

Therefore, to become priest is a very highly noble profession that deals with the physical and spiritual life of every human person. He is the mediator between God and man. Through his offerings and prayers during Eucharistic celebration he unites heaven and earth to become one. He fulfills his mission by saving souls from the bondage of sin and bringing them to the green pasture. As a shepherd, he lays down his life to make sure everyone enters the kingdom of God. He should become a servant rather than a master.

Finally, as a seminarian studying to become priest, I want to continue the salvation plan of God and become a fisher of men. While discerning my call it is not an overnight issue, it takes a long process with commitment and prayerful life. With that, I assumed that priestly life is a very sanctifying profession because angels cannot do this part, it is only for the priest to save a soul into God's glory.

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