

VOCATIONS FOR CATHOLICS IN THE
PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE



THE ROSARY FOR VOCATIONS

PRAYING FOR MARY'S SONS & DAUGHTERS



THE ROSARY FOR VOCATIONS



“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide; so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.” **John 15:16**

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THE ROSARY FOR VOCATIONS

PRAYING FOR MARY'S SONS & DAUGHTERS

We invite you to hold the following intentions as you pray the Rosary for Vocations:-

Pray the Rosary to intercede for Vocations. You may wish to offer this prayer for all Priests, Deacons, Consecrated men and women, married couples and those called to the single life in order to ask God to bless and sanctify them. You could include all those who have not yet discerned the will of the Father and ask for grace in their lives that they may seek guidance and accompaniment.

Pray for the Priest/s in your life

You may wish to pray for your current Priest, or perhaps a Priest who has been involved in your Sacramental journey; the Priest who Baptised you, who gave you your First Holy Communion, the Bishop who Confirmed you, the Priest who witnessed your Marriage or Religious Vows or the Priest who most recently heard your Confession or even the one in the future who you may not know who may be called to Anoint you before you die.

Pray the Rosary to know your own personal Vocation

Praying a daily Rosary may well help you to discern God's will for your life.

DIOCESAN PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Heavenly Father,

Your Divine Son taught us to pray
to the Lord of the harvest
to send labourers into His vineyard.
We ask You to bless our Diocese
with selfless hearts
that are willing to serve Your Church.

Lord Jesus,

raise up from our homes
those called by Your Father;
courageous and humble men to the Priesthood,
generous servants to the Permanent Diaconate,
faithful people to Consecrated Life,
and holy men & women
to the Sacrament of Marriage.

Holy Spirit,

help us to live our universal vocation
to holiness, by listening to the Father's voice
and responding with sacrificial love.

Grant, also, that each particular vocation
may serve to the others
as an example of Christ's love.

May our lives be always centred
on our Lord in the Eucharist,
and may we be devoted sons & daughters
of Mary, our Mother,
in making You known and loved.

Holy Mary,

Model of Vocations,
teach us to hear and follow Your Son.
Holy Mary, Queen of Priests, sanctify our
priests and obtain for us many more.
Holy Mary, Mother of the Church,
pray for our families
and intercede for our children.

Amen.



And Jesus said to them,
“Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

Matthew 4:19

HOW TO PRAY THE VOCATIONS ROSARY

+ Make the sign of the cross
and then pray the Apostles' Creed:

Profession of faith; the Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of
the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
He descended into hell; on the third day
He rose again from the dead; He ascended into
heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God
the Father almighty; from there He will come
to judge the living & the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic
Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the
body, and life everlasting. Amen.

+ Then pray the tail of the Rosary
for the virtues of Faith, Hope and Charity say:

One **Our Father** (the first bead)

Three **Hail Marys** (the three beads)

One **Glory Be** (the last bead)

+ Calling to mind the Mystery of the day (see below),
pray:

- **Joyful** (Mondays and Saturdays, page 19)
- **Luminous** (Thursdays, page 25)
- **Sorrowful** (Tuesdays and Fridays, page 31)
- **Glorious** (Sundays and Wednesdays, page 35)

+ Say a decade of the rosary, reflecting on the specific
Mystery in the life of Jesus or Mary:

One **Our Father** (the single bead)

Ten **Hail Marys** (the ten beads)

One **Glory Be**

Pray the **The Fatima Prayer**

Pray the **Vocation Intercession**

+ Repeat this step for all five Mysteries of the day.

The Prayers

Our Father

Our Father, Who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name;
thy Kingdom come,
thy Will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with thee;
Blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of death. Amen.

Glory Be

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Fatima Prayer

O my Jesus, forgive us our sins,
save us from the fires of hell,
lead all souls to heaven,
especially those who have most need
of Your mercy.

Vocation Intercession

Lord, grant us many holy Priests,
Consecrated men & women,
and faithful Married couples. Amen.

+ At the end of the five Mysteries pray:

Hail Holy Queen

Hail Holy Queen, Mother of mercy,
hail our life, our sweetness, and our hope.
To thee do we cry,
poor banished children of Eve.
To thee do we send up our sighs
mourning and weeping in this vale of tears.
Turn then, most gracious advocate,
thine eyes of mercy toward us,
and after this our exile show unto us
the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

Verse	Pray for us, O Most Holy Mother of God.
Response	That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

+ Say the Final Prayers:

O God,

whose only begotten Son, by His life, death,
and resurrection, has purchased for us
the rewards of eternal salvation.

Grant, we beseech Thee, that while meditating
on these mysteries of the most holy Rosary
of the Blessed Virgin Mary, that we may both
imitate what they contain and obtain what they
promise, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

+ Then, to close, pray the tail of the Rosary
for the intentions of the Holy Father:

One **Our Father** (the first bead)

Three **Hail Marys** (the three beads)

One **Glory Be** (the last bead)

Pray the prayer to **St. Michael the Archangel**

St. Michael the Archangel,
defend us in this day of battle.
Be our safeguard against
the wickedness and snares of the Devil.
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,
and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts,
by the power of God,
thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits,
who prowl about the world
seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Verse	May the Divine Assistance remain always with us.
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Response	And may the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.
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+ Make the sign of the cross



The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

JOYFUL MYSTERIES

MONDAYS AND SATURDAYS

1 The Annunciation

“I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be done to me as according to your word.” (Luke 1:38)

Father, just as our Blessed Mother gave her fiat, her yes, to Your Holy will, grant that we too may respond generously to Your call, without fear.

We pray for all future Priests, Deacons and Religious being formed in the wombs of their mothers, that they may be kept safe and come to life as God intends.

Let us offer this decade that we all, like Mary, have the grace to respond whole-heartedly to do His will.

2 The Visitation

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leapt in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. (Luke 1:41)

Father, just as Elizabeth heard the call of Your Word and the child she carried leapt in her womb, we pray that we too may be filled with the Holy Spirit and always be receptive to Your call in our lives.

Let us offer this decade for those who have been called, but are hesitating. May God's grace hurry them forward to answer His call.

3 The Nativity of Our Lord

And she gave birth to a son, her first born. She wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger. (Luke 2:7)

Heavenly Father, You have given us the model of life in the Holy Family of Nazareth. Help us, O Loving Father, to make our family another

Nazareth where love, peace and joy may reign.
May it be deeply contemplative, intensely
eucharistic, and revived with joy.

How crucial is the role of the family! Let us
offer this decade for all Christian families that
they may provide an atmosphere of love and
faith in the home. May parents thus help foster
their children's vocations.

4 The Presentation in the Temple

[Simeon said] "Lord, now let your servant
depart in peace, according to your word; for
my eyes have seen your salvation which you
have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for
glory to your people Israel." (Luke 2:29-32)

Father, Your prophet Simeon gave decades
of faithful service and was rewarded for this
self-sacrifice. We pray that we come to a similar
spirit of generosity towards service of You
in our own lives.

Mary & Joseph knew their Son was a gift from God to be given back to Him. Let us offer this decade for the grace that families need to recognise the gift of their children and thus offer them to the Divine plan of God. May His will determine every moment of their lives.

5 Finding Jesus in the Temple

“Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?” (Luke 2:49)

Father, may we always be found
going about Your business.

We pray that we may have the grace
to follow Your call wherever it may lead us.

Let us offer this decade for those parents
who find it difficult to understand their child’s
vocation. May they be graced with the faith
to support God’s will for their children and hold
the mysterious ways of God in their hearts.



God called me out of his great love,
he who had chosen me from my mother's womb;
and he was pleased to reveal in me his Son,
that I might make him known.

Galatians 1:15



LUMINOUS MYSTERIES

THURSDAYS

1 The Baptism of the Lord

“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.” (Luke 3:22)

Father, by our own baptism we are called to be holy and partakers in Your mission.

Through baptism You gave us all our vocation.

We pray that, filled with Your Spirit, we may be Your witness and workers in the world.

Let us offer this decade for those called to the Priesthood, Diaconate or Religious life but are afraid to answer because of what others may say or think. Grant them courage, O Lord, to accept the mission You are giving them.

2 Wedding at Cana

“Do whatever he tells you.” (John 2:5)

Father, Your grace can do incredible things! Through the intercession of Mary, Jesus transforms ordinary water into extraordinary wine. Teach us to acknowledge always the many good things that Your infinite love has given us.

Let us offer this decade for those who are being called but doubt they have much to offer. May they trust in the power of God to work miracles through their self-offering.

3 Proclamation of the Kingdom

“The kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the Good News.” (Mark 1:15)

Father, Your Son came to build a kingdom through service. He came not to be served but to serve in a spirit of humility and love. We pray for the same spirit of humility that we

may all minister in the wisdom, the power and compassion of Christ.

Let us offer this decade for more witnesses who will proclaim this truth, with their lives and especially for Deacons who partake in a special ministry of service.

4 Transfiguration

A cloud formed, covering them in a shadow, and from the cloud came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” (Mark 9:7)

Father, in Christ’s transfiguration You gave a glimpse of the glory of heaven. We pray that our lives may be a perfection of charity that serves to offer a glimpse of a heavenly reality. Your Son is at the heart of every vocation; may He transfigure each of us by His grace.

Let us offer this decade for those who are called to marriage, the goal of which is to help each other grow in holiness, toward the destiny

of heaven. Marriage is a loving response to God's call. May married couples be given the grace to model God's love through their courageous gift of self and may they strive to provide a glimpse of God's kingdom to all they encounter through their daily living.

5 Institution of the Holy Eucharist

And he took bread, and when he had given thanks he broke it and gave it to them, saying "This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." (Luke 22:19)

Father, we draw nearer to You through the Body and Blood of Your Son. We pray that we may all be sanctified by our participation in the Eucharist where we can best learn where our vocation is and receive the grace to accept it.

Let us offer this decade for us individually, that we may all continue to grow in knowledge and love of the gift of the Eucharist and respond generously with our lives.



Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life;
he who comes to me will not hunger, and
he who believes in me will never thirst.”

John 6:35



It is the LORD who goes before you;
He will be with you and will never fail you or forsake you.
So do not fear or be dismayed.

Deuteronomy 31:8

SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS

1 Agony in the Garden

And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed "Father if it is your will, remove this cup from me, however; not my will but yours be done."

(Luke 22:41)

Father, Your Son surrendered to Your will.

We pray that we may be as obedient to Your will even when it involves suffering.

In those difficult times, comfort and console us with Your love.

Let us offer this decade for Priests and Religious that they might surrender themselves to a deep and abiding prayer life. Through the strength given to them through their spiritual life may they unconditionally respond to God's call.

2. Scouring at the Pillar

Now the guards who had arrested Jesus mocked and beat him. (Luke 22:63)

Father, Your Son knew what it was to be persecuted and physically and mentally abused. We pray for those who suffer for their faith in You, that they will have the courage to respond in love.

Let us offer this decade for the grace that many young people might feel the desire in their hearts to offer themselves to God in service and not to dwell on the cost.

3. Crowning with Thorns

They clothed him in a purple cloak, and twisting a crown of thorns, they forced it onto his head. (Mark 15:17)

Father, Your Son knew what it was to be pierced by thorns and vicious words. We pray for those who are persecuted for defending the Catholic

faith. Give us the grace and courage to uphold Your truth in the face of cultural and social pressures.

Let us offer this decade for those who are called to a particular state of life but find it difficult to say 'yes' because of painful obstacles in their own lives.

4 Carrying of the Cross

They took Jesus, and led him away. Bearing his cross, Jesus went out of the city to what is called the Place of the Skull, in Hebrew Golgotha. (John 19:16-17)

Father, Your Son carried His cross while exhausted, bruised and bleeding. We pray for all who carry heavy crosses that they may still follow You faithfully on the path to holiness.

Simon of Cyrene, Veronica and Our Lady all offered Jesus comfort and assistance. Let us offer this decade for the grace to always

support, with our prayers and sacrifices,
those whom God is calling to become Priests,
Deacons and Religious.

5 Jesus dies on the Cross

"I thirst." (John 19:28)

Father, You gave Your Son to us as the true
Lamb. May we all have a thirst for the salvation
of souls.

At the foot of the cross a new family came into
existence. Jesus entrusted us to the maternal
care of Mary, represented in the person of the
beloved disciple. Through the New Covenant
the notion of family is greatly enlarged. Let us
offer this decade for those who are being called
but are hesitant because of fears of not being
able to have a family and living a lonely life.
As Priest or Religious, may they know fulfilment
in their love and service of the family entrusted
to their care.

GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

SUNDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS

1 The Resurrection

He [the apostle] saw the linen cloths lying there... he saw and believed. (John 20:8)

Father, Your Son rose victorious
and appeared to the apostles.

We pray that even in the darkest times we will
always remember that the suffering of selfless
love is followed by the Resurrection;
darkness is always followed by light.

Let us offer this decade for an increase of grace
in the hearts of those who are being called to
the Priesthood or Religious life.

May they experience the immense joy of giving
their entire life unselfishly and, in doing so,
be changed forever.

2 The Ascension

“You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth.”

(Acts 1:8)

Father, Your Son appeared to the apostles and returned to You in Heaven. We pray that we will all carry out Jesus’ instruction to evangelise and respond boldly to lay down our lives for Christ and His Church.

Let us offer this decade for a personal recognition of our mission in the plan of salvation.

3 Descent of the Holy Spirit

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. (Acts 2:4)

Father, You sent Your Spirit to fill our hearts

with the fire of Your love. We pray that we may generously respond with the whole of our lives.

Let us offer this decade for power of the Holy Spirit to come upon all those chosen to labour as Priests or Religious. May they witness boldly to this mission in their words and actions.

4 The Assumption

And a great sign appeared in heaven, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.
(Rev 12:1)

Most Blessed Virgin Mary, you were assumed into heaven completely in body and soul, intercede for us that we may be as faithful to the Lord as you were, seeking the things that are above.

Let us offer this decade asking Mary's powerful intercession. Through her prayers may the Church be granted an abundance of vocations.

5 The Crowning of Mary

At your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.
(Psalm 45:10)

Father, You have given us the mother of Your Son to be our Queen and Mother.

With the support of her prayers may we follow her model of faith and joy and come to share the glory of Your children in the kingdom of heaven.

Let us offer this decade for those who have been called that they may have the grace to understand that to serve God is to reign with Him. Whatever sacrifices need to be made in order to live the mission God gives us will pale in comparison to the glory He has reserved for His faithful servants.

Holy Queen, we entrust ourselves and our vocations to your Immaculate Heart.
Pray for us.



“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD,
“plans to prosper you and not to harm you,
plans to give you hope and a future.”

Jeremiah 29:11

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others, and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to come.

And he said to them,
“The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; pray therefore to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.”

Luke 10:1-2

YOU ARE CALLED

DO NOT BE AFRAID OF CHRIST!
HE TAKES NOTHING AWAY, AND
HE GIVES YOU EVERYTHING.

POPE BENEDICT XVI

VOCATIONS FOR CATHOLICS IN THE PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE

For more information please email:
vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
www.portsmouthvocations.org.uk



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