

Life to the Full:

Living faith within our families

Monthly newsletter for parents: **May 2017**



Responding to God's Call

A letter appears in a child's book bag about another after school club. Sports training, French lessons, science club? How should a parent encourage their child's talents?

As a boy, Chris also wondered what he would do in the future. And like all children, he observed the people around him more than adults often realise. He was attracted to those he found welcoming and encouraging; the person whose life he found most fulfilling and attractive was his parish priest.

By recognising the goodness in someone he knew, he wanted to respond to that goodness. It drew him to realise that he wanted to be a person who helped others to find hope in their lives. Chris wanted to help others, to help them realise that they were loved by God and that they had a place in this world. And so he responded to that call. Chris decided to become a priest. And 30 years later, Fr. Chris is still living his dream, responding to this call.

Every person is created by God with a purpose and living out that deep purpose is more satisfying

than doing any particular job. Parenting, like a call to the religious life, is a vocation. So this may lead a parent to ask: what sort of a person do I want to be for my child today?

The story of why Chris decided to become a priest is told through the Ten Ten assembly for the week commencing 8 May 2017.

Prayer

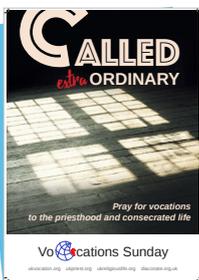
Jesus,

Thank you for the example of all those who inspire me, For all who show me a good way of living. I recognise your goodness in the lives of others and it encourages me.

Thank you for those men and women who commit to living a religious life. Help me to support them as one brother or sister to another.

Amen.

Called: extra-ordinary



Everybody is called into being by God. Everybody has a vocation. Being a parent is one of the most precious vocations to which God calls people.

It takes place on Good Shepherd Sunday (Vocations Sunday) which this year falls on Sunday 7 May 2017. In the Ten Ten assemblies for this week, there are reflections and prayers for those who have been called, or may be called in the future, to serve God in this special way.

There is one day in the year when the Church invites people to pray for less common but important vocations. On this day, people pray for those called to the priesthood and religious life.

The theme for Vocations Sunday this year is "Called: extra-ordinary". These words communicate both the extraordinary event of a call in the life of a person, and that people

are all called as ordinary people to do something extra in the life of the Church and in the name of Jesus.

For more information, visit: www.ukvocation.org