



St. Mary Cathedral School  
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Dear St. Mary Families,

This year, we are restarting a program that will begin during Catholic Schools Week. We will start the Vocation Chalice Program during that assembly. The Vocations Chalice will be given to a family each week during the Monday Morning Assembly. The family will be responsible for praying for an increase in vocations during the week. They are “filling up” the chalice with prayers. Prayers that can be said will be included with the chalice. Families can sign up for a week to continue praying for vocations, particularly for our school and parish.

The Vocations Chalice Program is rooted in the idea that the chalice symbolizes the priesthood. The chalice will serve as a focal point for prayer. We are all aware of the need for vocations for the priesthood and the religious life, but sometimes we forget just how powerful prayer can be. If we pray with the faith of the widow of Zarephath, our cup will never run dry! We will always pray for the priests to bring us Jesus in the Eucharist. In the first book of Kings, chapter 17, during a drought, Elijah tells the poor widow of Zarephath that, “if she makes him a small loaf of bread with the last of her flour and oil, her jar of flour will not go empty, nor the jug of oil run dry, until the Lord sends rain upon the earth.” For the next year, the widow, her son, and Elijah ate bread made from the bowl of flour and the jug of oil. We can continue to trust in the widow's fervent prayer and follow her lead. We can pray for our current priests and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood. The 2nd Vatican Council instructs us that it is the laity's job to pray for and raise vocations, a teaching echoed by Pope St. John Paul II in many of his teachings. Therefore, we, as a school, will make it our goal to pray all year for vocations.

Praying for vocations is a compelling way to support vocations. A vocation is a call from the Holy Spirit, a gift from God that is nurtured in prayer. When we pray for vocations, we lift to our Father those men and women whom he is calling specially. We hope that those who bring the chalice home will continue to pray for vocations daily. If you would like to participate, please email Mr. Bruns.

Thank you for your support as we continue to pray for St. Mary Cathedral School and an increase in vocations.

God's Blessings,

Alan R. Bruns, Principal

*“Educating children to become saints and scholars.”*