

“Could God be calling me?”

7 Vocation “Indicators”

If you have ever asked yourself the question, “Is God calling me?”, then you should give it some serious thought. A vocation may be sparked by such a question and begin a period of reflection and discernment that may lead to a life of ministry in the church.

Young people often ask, “But how do I know?”, and there is no easy answer! A life of ministry in the Church is not meant for everyone; however some are called to give their lives in service to others. The process of discernment begins with a simple reflection on some qualities that are “vocation indicators”. If you feel you may possess one or more of these qualities—even if it is just budding—a vocation to ordained priesthood or religious life may be your calling.

- **Sensitivity toward others** -a person who stands up for others, who wants to be helpful to others;
- **Attraction to organizations that help others** -people suited to religious life are also drawn to

groups like the Peace Corps, St. Vincent de Paul Society, working in soup kitchens, volunteering at hospitals or nursing homes, etc.;

- **Idealism** -a young person who is idealistic, desires to make the world a better place by working for justice and peace;
- **Leadership** -someone who works well with others, who possesses natural leadership talents, who strives for achievement;
- **Creativity** -a young person who appreciates music, drama, or the other arts can make God’s work come alive for others in new ways;
- **Orientation Toward People** – people who enjoy being around others are naturally drawn to the caring professions, such as teaching, health care, psychology and social work;
- **Faith filled** – a young person who has a desire to search for a deeper meaning in life and a deeper relationship with God.

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