

Don Bosco Vocation Office 315 Self Place, South Orange, NJ - 07079

PRAYER SERVICE FOR VOCATIONS

Theme:- Our Response to God's Call

Hymn - O the word of my lord

Introduction - The theme of today's prayer service is, "Our Response to God's Call".

God calls us in many ways, through our parents, friends, teachers, relatives. But how do we respond to God's call? God has blessed each one of us with a gift of vocation. He is the one who helps and strengths us to remain faithful to it. Do we believe in it or do we depend on our own strengths? In the past God called many to be his prophets, how did they respond to His call? Let us now listen to the call of prophet Jeremiah and see how he responded to God's call.

Reading - Jer. 1: 4-10 (pause)

Reflection - God has chosen us in our mother's womb. He has consecrated us and has appointed us a prophet to the world. Let us now listen to the formula of "CALL".

First, GOD CALLS, the person gives excuses, GOD GIVES REASSURANCE, the person shows to be unworthy, GOD STRENGTHENS HIM, and then the person accepts. Let us connect this formula in our lives. First God calls us and we give excuses like, Lord I am too small. But the Lord reassures us but we tell the Lord, no Lord you are joking, I am not worthy to work in your vineyard, I am a sinner. The Lord strengthens us to face all the difficulties that come on our way and then we accept humbly and with full trust in God.

Did we respond in the same way? (Let us spend some time in silent reflection)

INTERCESSIONS

Let our response be, 'Lord listen to your people praying.'

- 1) Lord we pray for our Pope, bishops, priests and religious. Bless them with the best of health and bless all their intentions. Give them the courage to proclaim your message.(Res)
- 2) Lord we pray for all the missionaries all over the world. Be with them in their moments of trials and difficulties and help them to bring more people close to your heart. (Res)

- 3) Lord we pray for all the seminarians. Do bless them lord and help them to discern their vocation and remain faithful to it. (Res)
- 4) Lord we pray for more vocations to our congregation. Lord inspire many youngsters to come forward and serve the church in the Don Bosco way. (Res)
- 5) Lord we pray salesians working all over the world. Help them to be the good shepherds of the young and lead them to God.(Res)
- 6) Please pray for your personal and local needs.

Concluding hymn - It takes courage to answer your call