



## Stewardship and Vocation

One of the most crucial questions we ponder in our lives is that of vocation.

Who are you, and what are you called to do? In a fundamental way, we share a common vocation as Christian disciples. To be a disciple is our vocation. But there is a personal vocation that must be considered as well. What shape will this discipleship take in your life?

All of these questions of vocation are given clarity when we recall the root of the word “vocation” is the Latin *vocare*, which means to call. Christ calls each of us personally.

Beyond the call to a particular state of life – priesthood, religious life, married or committed single life – there are calls that we discern and live throughout our lives. In this sense, there is no singular, once-and-for-all calling. Rather, your entire life as a steward is a process of recognizing and responding to God’s grace. You do this most profoundly when you acknowledge the gifts you have been given and discern what work or service most needs what you have to give.

Leisa Anslinger, [30 Days on Stewardship](#). Twenty-Third Publications, 2018; pg. 24.

...The important thing is that each believer discern his or her own path, that they bring out the very best of themselves, the most personal gifts that God has placed in their hearts (cf. 1 Cor 12:7), rather than hopelessly trying to imitate something not meant for them. We are all called to be witnesses, but there are many actual ways of bearing witness. Indeed, when the great mystic, Saint John of the Cross, wrote his Spiritual Canticle, he preferred to avoid hard and fast rules for all. He explained that his verses were composed so that everyone could benefit from them “in his or her own way”. For God’s life is communicated “to some in one way and to others in another”... This should excite and encourage us to give our all and to embrace that unique plan that God willed for each of us from eternity: “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you” (Jer 1:5).

Pope Francis (2018), [Gaudete Et Exultate](#), par. 11 and 13.

### Reflection

- How have I most recently responded to God’s grace?
- In what ways do I authentically and freely share my God-given gifts with others?
- What might these actions (or inactions) tell me about living out my call?



### Prayer of the month

“O my Jesus, as I desire to be your follower I will strive to accept your will in every event in life. Give me light and strength, divine Lord, through the Holy Spirit, to know the tendencies and foolishness of my own desires, so that I may have the grace steadfastly to fulfill your holy will in Jesus. Amen.”

Blessed Theresa of Jesus Gerhardinger, SSND foundress, (1823)

### Quote of the month

“Therefore, the Church fulfills her mission when she guides every member of the faithful to discover and live his or her own vocation in freedom and to bring it to fulfillment in charity.”

Pope St. John Paul II (1992), [Pastores Dabo Vobis](#), par. 40.

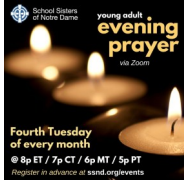
Check out this [resource](#) of the month!



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## [Young Adult Evening Prayer](#)

*For young adults ages 18+*

September 23, 2025

8 p.m. ET / 7 p.m. CT

PLEASE NOTE: We take a break from our online evening prayer in July and August.

For previous issues of *Vocation Reflections*, visit [ssnd.org/vocationreflections](https://ssnd.org/vocationreflections).



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