

Finding Your Vocation With the Help of the Holy Spirit

All people in the world have a unique calling from God known as their vocation. In Confirmation, the Holy Spirit bestows upon us the gifts of courage and knowledge so that we can know what God wants of us. It is through our vocation that we are able to live our lives according to God's plan. Catholic vocations include the single life, married life, priesthood, and religious life. In Mark 8:34, Jesus says "Take up your cross and follow me." This is the very essence of courage and knowledge. We must have the knowledge to know what our vocation entails, and the courage to accept what God asks of us even if it requires sacrifice. This is clearly evident for those who respond to a religious vocation and have the courage and knowledge to commit themselves to a life without marriage, children and worldly possessions. The priests, sisters, and brothers who dedicate themselves to God in this way are truly filled with the gifts of the Holy Spirit. They recognize that by following God's plan we become who He intended us to be. St. Catherine of Siena beautifully sums this up by saying, "If you are who you should be, you will set the world on fire."