



FAITH. HOPE. CHARITY

Diocese of Springfield

Committee for the Continuing Education, Formation and Support of Clergy

TO: Active and Retired Priests and Deacons

FROM: Fr. Warren J. Savage

DATE: May 3, 2021

RE: Clergy Day on Promoting Vocations

Bishop Byrne in his Pastoral Letter *Back to Better, Our Road To Emmaus* stated “The staggering fact that there are no seminarians for our diocese is a clear sign of the need for us, priests and lay faithful, to take up the privilege of inviting the next generation of future priests to hear and embrace the call. Each of us should be a vocation recruiter.”

Every priest is a Vocations Recruiter who has the responsibility to pass on the Priesthood of Jesus Christ. The restructuring of the Office of Vocations under the leadership of Fr. David Darcy, Director of Seminarians and Fr. Jonathan Reardon, Director of Vocations Recruitment, has made vocation recruitment a priority throughout the diocese.

The CEFSC Committee in collaboration with Fr. Jonathan Reardon planned a special *Clergy Day on Promoting Vocations* on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 (2:00 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.) at St. Michael’s Cathedral. Our presenter will be Fr. Mark Ivany, Director of Priests Vocations for the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C. Bishop Byrne would like the active and retired priests and deacons to attend this important gathering. The schedule for the day is presented below.

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 2:00 p.m. | Eucharistic Holy Hour led by Bishop Byrne (Bishop Byrne will lead Daytime Prayer and Fr. Ivany will offer a reflection during this time of prayer.)
(See Video) |
| 3:00 p.m. | Priests will gather in the Bishop Marshall Center |
| 3:10 p.m. | Presentation on Vocations: Best Practices by Fr. Ivany
(See Video) |
| 4:00 p.m. | Q&A Session |
| 4:15 p.m. | Closing Comments and Prayer by Bishop Byrne |

Please RSVP to Stacy Dibbern stacy.dibbern@diospringfield.org by Friday, May 14, 2021.

Let us ponder and act on the words of Jesus, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” (Matthew 9:37-38)