Australian Catholic Bishops Conference
Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office

Media Release

World Day of Prayer for Vocations 2018

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On Sunday 22 April, the Holy Father and the Universal Church will gather in prayer on occasion of the 2018 World Day of Vocations. Pope Francis reminds us that "We are not victims of chance or swept up in a series of unconnected events; on the contrary, our life and our presence in this world are the fruit of a divine vocation". In His letter, He points out that Jesus, after his time of prayer and struggle in the desert, did three things before beginning his mission: he listened to the word, discerned the content of the mission entrusted to him by the Father and proclaim that he came to accomplish it "today" (Lk 4:16-21).

This model – listening, discerning, and living – can be followed by all of us as we try to live out our vocation. "Vocation is today! The Christian mission is now! Each one of us is called – whether to lay life in marriage, to the priestly life in the ordained ministry or to a special consecration – in order to become a witness of the Lord, here and now" (Pope Francis, Message 2018).

The Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office invites all catholic communities and especially migrants and refugees to join the Holy Father in praying for vocations in Australia and around the world. Many migrant communities within our Parishes are young and vibrant. It is from here that many vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life will come from. We encourage all communities to pray for their Priests and Religious and for a generosity of spirit and heart from our young men and women to take up the call and follow Jesus Christ. We also pray for families who are the seedbed for vocations.

I encourage you all to pray for vocations especially among migrant communities.

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