

Proposal to Diocese of Oakland Presbyteral Council

From:

Fr. Larry D'Anjou; Director of Vocations

Subject:

Establishment of the position of Parish Vocations Advocate

Current Situation:

A primary component of the mission of the Vocations Office is to advocate for all Catholic vocations, with a special emphasis on vocations to the priesthood and religious life. The Vocations Office has sought the support of the parishes in this effort through periodic communiqués on vocations-related events such as Vocations Awareness Week, World Day of Prayer for Vocations, Project Andrew, and the annual Seminary Collection. Generally these communiqués have been sent to the parish priests.

Problem/Opportunity:

The Vocations Office seeks to improve the vocations effort at the parish level. This would include establishment (and renewal in some cases) of Parish Vocation Committees, provision of new materials to help promote prayer for and awareness of vocations as well as continuing to maintain the items listed above. Continuing to have the priest as the primary contact for these efforts is not necessary nor is it a best use of their time.

Proposal:

Each Pastor would appoint a Parish Vocations Advocate. The Parish Vocations Advocate would be the primary contact for the vocations effort at the parish, collaborating with the priests, religious education department and school principal or designate. The Vocations Office would provide the Parish Vocations Advocate with orientation, training, materials and direction. Selection of the Parish Vocations Advocate would be the responsibility of the Pastor in collaboration with his priests, parish and school staff.

APPROVED BY PRESBYTERAL COUNCIL
November 6, 2007