DAYS OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS TO THE SACRED PRIESTHOOD IN THE DIOCESE OF MEATH. THESE PRAYERS CAN BE RECITED AT THE END OF EVERY MASS.

Day 1: Sunday The Blessed Virgin Mary

Our Lady, Mother of Priests, we ask your intercession today for an increase in vocations to the Priesthood. Blessed Mary, you are the Immaculate Conception, the Ark of the New Covenant, and the fairest of our race. You are an example to all Christians of a disciple who entrusted your life completely to the divine will. You lived a life of ardent charity in service to our Blessed Lord and your spouse, St. Joseph. May your example of lively faith and selfless devotion to Christ be a



model for us for an ever deepening devotion to Christ and His Church. A Priest espouses himself wholly in body and soul to Christ, as a bridegroom does to his bride, like God's relationship with Israel. Let us ask God our Heavenly Father that He send more workers into His vineyard. Amen. <u>Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be</u>

Day 2: Monday St. Joseph

Holy St. Joseph, Carpenter of Nazareth, Guardian of the Redeemer, Protector of the Blessed Virgin, Patron Saint of the Universal Church and of workers, you were a holy and righteous man. Angels visited you, the Christ Child watched and learned from you, and our Blessed Mother depended upon you to protect the Holy Family. Your life was a witness to our Blessed Lord of the kind of selfsacrificial love that a father is called to exercise. O St. Joseph, we implore your intercession that many young men



will hear the promptings of their vocations to be workers in the world for Jesus Christ. Amen. <u>Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory B</u>

Day 3: Tuesday St. John the Baptist

St. John the Baptist, you inaugurated the Gospel as you leapt in your mother's womb. As the Prophet surpassing all other prophets, in complete humility you heralded our Holy Redeemer. Baptizing by water and preaching repentance, you prepared the way of our Lord to a world waiting in darkness. Saint John the Baptist, holy martyr, we ask for your most ardent intercession today for all Seminarians who will soon serve the Church by proclaiming the Word of God, preaching truth and



repentance, and baptizing in the name of Jesus Christ. Pray that these men may always follow your holy example as a strong voice proclaiming Christ's truth and mercy to our hurting and broken world. Intercede before our Lord for our Seminarians. May your words be true of them as well: "He must increase, but I must decrease." (John 3: 30) Amen. <u>Our Father, Hail</u> <u>Mary, Glory B</u>

Day 4: Wednesday St. John Vianney

St. John Vianney, patron saint of Priests, your motto for life became "loving while suffering and suffering in order to love." You were totally devoted to the service of God's holy people, especially evidenced by your tireless dedication to the Confessional. You transformed a struggling parish into a beacon of faith and holiness to all the world. Your priestly life was a vivid image of the



love of the Heart of Christ for His people. O holy Priest of Ars, you know the needs of God's Church. Pray for an increase of priestly zeal for souls in our Diocese. Pray that our priests may, like you, be beacons of humility, diligence, self-sacrificial love, and holiness. Amen. *Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be*

Day 5: Thursday St. John the Evangelist

St. John the Evangelist, beloved disciple of the Lord, you knew and experienced Christ in a deeply personal way ~ on the shores of Galilee, atop Mt. Tabor, in the Garden of Gethsemane, at the foot of the Cross, at the side of His Blessed Mother, and in the empty tomb. Your Gospel proclaims the good news in loving and richly symbolic ways, speaking of Christ as the light of



the world, the Way, the Truth, and the Life, the Bread of Life, and the narrow gate. Pray that those considering a call to the Sacred Priesthood will fell the closeness of Christ as you did, desire to be with Him as you did and witness to His Divine Light in the world as you did. Amen. *Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.*

Day 6: Friday The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Your Heart beats every second with love for Your children. Place those whom you are calling to be Priests next to Your Heart. May they find refuge in Your Heart, and there, hear your invitation to love and serve. May their hope in Your Heart empower them to cast away all fears and worries in their lives. May this hope assist them to



brighten lives of the faithful. May their love within Your Heart grow to serve You with great desire in every detail, and release this love with the openhearted purpose of service for souls, seeing Christ in all, despite any sins or weaknesses. O Most Sacred Heart, increase their faith, hope, and love for Jesus and love for the Immaculate Heart of Mary, because without faith, hope, and love, there is no foundation on which to build heavenly virtues. O Lord of the harvest, send many faithful shepherds after Your own Heart into your vineyard. Amen. *Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.*

(Kindly prepared by the Vocations Office, Diocese of Meath. For further information, contact Fr. Tony Gonoude, 044 9373923 or https://www.meathvocations.com/get-in-touch)