



LISTENING TO JESUS' CALL

This resource is meant to be used alongside the poster for **Vocations Sunday 2022**.

At the centre of the poster is Jesus in the monstrance, during Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (on the altar of St. Chad's Cathedral – the mother church of the Archdiocese of Birmingham).

You might ask pupils what the composition of the poster shows. They may suggest:

- we all look to Jesus for guidance,
- all vocations come from Jesus,
- we are all called to centre our life on Christ,
- those living four vocations shown all help bring us closer to Jesus,
- just as Jesus loves us so much that he left us the gift of the Eucharist, so we are called to give love to Him and others.
- we will find our vocation through talking to and listening to God in prayer,
- those living out their vocation rely on Jesus' help daily,
- all of us, whatever our state in life, are called to be close to Jesus and keep focused on Him,
- we are the Christ's body on earth – a body made of made of many parts,
- the call to live a vocation isn't a one-off: we must keep listening to Jesus.

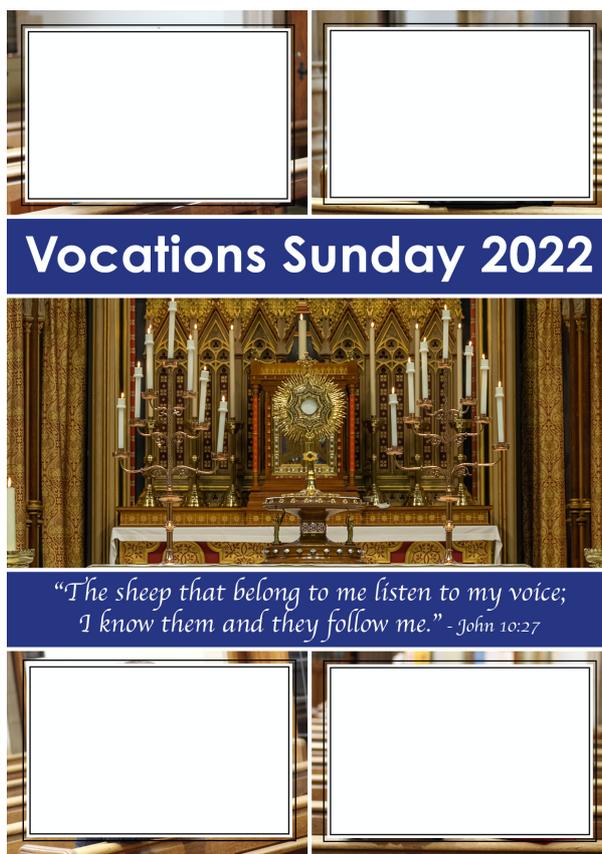
On the poster, we see representatives of the four primary, **permanent vocations** in the Church, in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament:

- **Holy Orders:** ordained men - *bishops, priests and deacons* [bottom left]
- **Consecrated Life:** those living under vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, usually in a in a community of either men or women who live a common way of life (*the Religious Life*). This life may be *apostolic* (brothers and sisters living active service to the Church) or *contemplative* (monks and nuns living a life of prayer) [top right]
- **Marriage:** family life - men and women who have make lifelong vows to each other [bottom right]
- **Apostolic Celibacy:** a committed, lay, single life [top left]

(Note that some people have more than one permanent vocation: many permanent deacons are married; some priests, as an exception, are married; some men in religious life are also in Holy Orders.)

The quotation is from John 10:27, from the Gospel passage for Vocations Sunday. It speaks of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, knowing each of us. We must listen and He will lead us to something great in this life, and to be with Him for eternal life.

Suggestions for using the *Listening to Jesus' Call* resource sheet



- Draw or write about four ways a pupil might hear God's call for them,
- find and record found different biblical accounts of God's call,
- label the four permanent vocations: list people you know living those vocations,
- draw or paint a portrait of someone living each of the four permanent vocations,
- draw how these people serve us,
- think about the qualities and charisms (spiritual gifts) people living these vocations need,
- compose a prayer for each of the vocations -
 - praising God for his wonderful call to follow his Son,
 - thanking him for what these people do for us,
 - asking for strength and blessings on their life,
 - asking that more people answer God's call to this vocation,
- find a saint for each state in life. Ask them to pray with us for vocations.

However you are marking Vocations Sunday in school, if you share your work or collective worship on Twitter, please tag the Diocesan Vocations Office - @AskInvitePray - we love seeing how a culture of vocation is built up in our schools!