



Diocese of Palm Beach

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Office of
THE BISHOP

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March 4, 2011

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In a recent statement concerning the May 15 World Day of Prayer for Vocations, Pope Benedict XVI said, "Particularly in these times, when the voice of the Lord seems to be drowned out by other voices and his invitation to follow him by the gift of one's own life may seem too difficult, every Christian community, every member of the Church, needs to consciously feel responsible for promoting vocations."

Each year we come to you, our faithful people of the Diocese of Palm Beach, to ask your support in praying for and promoting vocations to the priesthood. And we ask for your support in prayer and affirmation for the faithful priests of our Diocese, for those men who are in the process of discerning a vocation to the priesthood, as well as those currently in formation. The Church of Palm Beach is blessed to have 15 men currently in a seminary preparing for priesthood in service to our Diocese.

Next weekend, March 12 and 13, the annual collection for the Education of Seminarians and Formation of Priests is scheduled to be taken. I ask for your generous support for this appeal. I also ask for your continued prayers for our priests, seminarians and for those still discerning their call to the priesthood.

With gratitude for your continued dedication and generosity, and with assurance of my prayers, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Gerald M. Barbarito
Bishop of Palm Beach

Note to Pastors:

Please publish this letter in the parish bulletin or have it read at all Masses on the weekend of March 5 & 6, 2011.