Vocations: Answering God's Call

Final Performance Task Options for Unit 8

Important Information for All Three Options

The following are the main ideas you are to understand from this unit. They should appear in this final performance task so your teacher can assess whether you learned the most essential content:

- A daily pattern of conversation with God is essential to discerning his will for us.
- True discernment involves our whole selves—spiritually, intellectually, and emotionally.
- Our Christian vocation must be discerned in the midst of a community of faith.
- To generously respond to God's invitation—whatever that may be—means to be filled with the fire of God's love and with a passion for loving service.

Option 1: An Essay on a Saint

Read a biography of a saint and write a four- to five-page typed essay on him or her. The focus of your essay is to answer the question, How did this saint discern his or her vocation? You may ask your teacher for suggestions on which saint to write about. Include the following in your essay:

- answer to the question, How did this saint go about living out his or her Christian calling?
- answer to the question, How can this saint help you to discern your own Christian vocation?
- the essential understandings for this unit

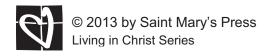
Whether you work alone or with a partner, you must read the entire biography of the saint. If you choose to work with a partner, the two of you must discuss what you read. You may divide responsibilities, but each partner must contribute ideas equally for the essay and share the task of writing. Notes and draft copies should be turned in with your essay.

Option 2: Interviews with People who Live Christian Vocations

Interview a married person, a vowed religious or priest, and a faithful single person. The focus of each interview will be to find out how each person discerned his or her Christian vocation and to describe how this person is living out this Christian calling today. Prepare to share these three stories with the class and to describe how they offer lessons for how other people may discern God's call, wherever that may lead them. If you work in a group, all members of the group must be present for every interview and must contribute equally to the class presentation.

Use the following list of questions as a guide for your interview:

- How did you go about choosing your vocation?
- Did you experience anything like a specific calling from God to pursue this way of life?
- What events have transpired to reaffirm your choice since you first experienced an attraction to this vocation?
- How does this vocation help you to grow closer to God and to be the presence of God in the world?



Option 3: A Discernment Journal

Begin a discernment journal today and continue writing in it until the day before it is due. Use the journal as a time for prayer and reflection about your goals in life. In your journal you will focus on the following question each day: What is God asking of me? During this period, you must consult at least once with a trusted adult to discuss how God might be calling you at this point in your life. Consider consulting with someone who can hear you objectively, such as a teacher, a counselor, or a spiritual director. On the day before you submit your journal, you will write a summary of what you learned through this process of reflection. Your journal need not contain very personal information, and only your teacher will read it.