

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.

- Through the Sacraments of Holy Orders and Matrimony, Christians receive particular consecrations for special service in the Church.
- Through the Sacrament of Holy Orders, baptized men are ordained to serve the Church in varying degrees.
- In the intimate union of man and woman in both body and spirit, marital love is an image and likeness of God's love for all of us.
- The key elements essential to Marriage are unity, indissolubility, and openness to children.

Option 1: An Interview with a Priest and a Married Couple

You will interview both a priest and a married couple to learn more about their respective vocations. You will need to make arrangements with a priest at your local parish for an interview time. Arrange to interview a married couple other than your parents. The married couple you choose does not have to be Catholic, but they must be baptized Christians who were married in a church by a priest, deacon, or other minister. Each interview should take no more than 30 minutes. Be aware that time is valuable, so be generous and flexible with your own time. Once you have made arrangements for an interview, be on time.

Use the following questions in your interview with a priest:

1. What attracted you to service in the Church as a priest?
2. What is the highlight of your life of service as a priest?
3. What role does daily prayer serve for you as a priest?
4. What is most difficult about being a priest?
5. What is the experience of celebrating the Eucharist like for you?
6. What is the experience of celebrating the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation, or the experience of witnessing the Sacrament of Marriage like for you?
7. Where do you find your strongest support for your vocation?
8. What do you think people should know about the life of a priest that they may not be aware of?



9. Do you envision any changes being made to the priesthood in the future? If yes, what do you think they will be?

Use the following questions in your interview with a married couple:

1. When did you first know that you were meant for each other?
2. How long after that moment did you wait to get married?
3. Why did you choose to get married by a priest, deacon, or minister in a church?
4. How important for you was it to have children at the time you got married?
5. (If the couple has children): How have your children contributed to your marriage?
6. In what other ways does your marriage vocation help to support and nurture other people outside of your immediate family?
7. What is the best thing about being married?
8. What is the most difficult thing about being married?
9. Do you believe that marriage is intended to be permanent?

Option 2: A Vocational Guide for Priesthood, Religious Life, and Marriage

Write and design a vocational guide that is aimed at helping teenagers begin to look seriously at possible future vocations. Life as a diocesan priest, as well as life in a religious order as a priest, brother, or monk, is a special and important vocation. Equally significant is the vocation to be a religious sister or monastic nun. The vocation of marriage is a more popular choice for many, but it is no less valuable or holy. A challenge to the Sacrament of Matrimony and its meaning is the unfortunate reality that more and more couples are choosing to live together without ever marrying. You need to convince your peers that, should they decide to marry, they should choose to receive the Sacrament of Matrimony.

Your task in creating your vocational guide is twofold. You must first create a guide (questions or statements) that will help someone your age to responsibly consider the vocations of priesthood, religious life, and Marriage by helping them to know what to expect. This will require the use of the student book for information, as well as some outside research. The second important task of your guide is to promote the positive benefits of each vocation, and to show the respective importance of each. Be creative! You should type all written parts of the guide, but you may add color, images, and other designs to make the guide more attractive to someone your age. Be sure to address, directly or indirectly, the key understandings for the unit in your vocational guide.



Option 3: A PowerPoint Presentation on the Rites of the Sacraments of Holy Orders and Matrimony

Create a PowerPoint presentation that illustrates, step-by-step, the liturgical celebration of a priest's ordination and the liturgical celebration of Marriage within a celebration of the Eucharist. Include all of the major parts of these liturgies in outline form on PowerPoint slides. To accompany the slides you create, write detailed notes for the presenter of the PowerPoint presentation that explain each part of the liturgy in greater detail. The major part of this presentation will be words; however, you should also include several pertinent images that illustrate the power of the celebrations of the Sacraments of Holy Orders and Matrimony. You may ask your teacher, the librarian at school, or a priest at your local parish for permission to use the books in which the Rites for Holy Orders and for Matrimony can be found. Much of the information you will need can be found in the student book. Be sure to incorporate the key understandings for this unit directly or indirectly in your presentation.

