



# Remembering Vocations in your Lenten Devotions—2024

*Meditation in the words of His Holiness, Pope Francis:*

“Dear friends, Lent is the favorable season for renewing our encounter with Christ, living in his word, in the sacraments and in our neighbor. The Lord, who overcame the deceptions of the Tempter during the forty days in the desert, shows us the path we must take.” “Let us pray for one another so that, by sharing in the victory of Christ, we may open our doors to the weak and poor. Then we will be able to experience and share to the full the joy of Easter.”

## *Weekly Meditations*

### **February 14, Ash Wednesday**

“...Lent offers us a providential opportunity to deepen the meaning and value of our Christian lives, and it stimulates us to rediscover the mercy of God so that we, in turn, become more merciful toward our brothers and sisters.”

Benedict XVI

### **February 18, First Sunday in Lent**

“We are continually immersed in God's merciful grace like the air that permeates us. ... Do not pray for easy lives; pray to be stronger people. Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers; pray for powers equal to your tasks.” Blessed Solanus Casey O.F.M. Cap.

### **February 25, Second Sunday in Lent**

“The more Eucharist we receive, the more we will become like Jesus, so that on this earth we will have a foretaste of Heaven.” Bl. Carlo Acutis

### **March 3, Third Sunday in Lent**

“If, in accomplishing a good deed, we do not have as our goal God's glory and the real well being of our brothers and sisters, looking rather for a return of personal interest or simply of applause, we place ourselves outside of the Gospel vision. In today's world of images, attentive vigilance is required, since this temptation is great.”

Benedict XVI

## **Recite the Vocations Prayer following each week's meditations:**

O God, Who wills not the death of a sinner but rather that he be converted and live, grant we beseech you, through the intercession of the Blessed Mary ever Virgin, Saint Joseph, her spouse, St. Junipero Serra, and all the saints, an increase of laborers for your Church, fellow laborers with Christ to spend and consume themselves for souls through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever.

Amen.



**For information on vocations, go to:**

<https://serraus.org/> or

<https://www.catholic.org/vocations/> or

<https://www.usccb.org/committees/clergy-consecrated-life-vocations/vocations>

### **March 10, Fourth Sunday in Lent**

“The Church's mission is enlivened by a spirituality of constant exodus. We are challenged to go forth from our own comfort zone in order to reach all the peripheries in need of the light of the Gospel. The Church's mission impels us to undertake a constant pilgrimage across the various deserts of life, through the different experiences of hunger and thirst for truth and justice.” Pope Francis

### **March 17, Fifth Sunday in Lent**

We pray for men of vision and courage to lead the Lord's flock. In the words of Blessed Rev. Stanley Rother, Martyr: “The shepherd cannot run.”

### **March 24, Palm Sunday**

“The saints are like the stars. In his providence Christ conceals them in a hidden place that they may not shine before others when they might wish to do so. Yet they are always ready to exchange the quiet of contemplation for the works of mercy as soon as they perceive in their heart the invitation of Christ.” St. Anthony of Padua

### **March 29, Good Friday**

“This is what we are about: We plant the seeds that one day will grow. We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise.” St. Oscar Romero, ABp., Martyr

