

**Welcome!**

Session Twelve:

An introduction to the  
sacramental life of the church:

Mission and Ministry: Holy Orders, Vocation, gifts and talents

What is a Sacrament?

Reminder of the definition of a sacrament.

Outward and  
visible sign

A Sacrament is an outward and visible sign...

Inward and  
Spiritual Grace

...of an inward and spiritual grace.

2 'Gospel Sacraments' + 5 Sacramental Rites = 7  
Sacraments of the Church.



Baptism



Eucharist



Confirmation





Ordination



Reconciliation (Confession)



Healing



Marriage

Vocation

## Before we talk about Ordination...let's talk about VOCATION...next video

### 1. **Vocation is by invitation**

The word vocation comes from the Latin vocare which means to call. God calls or invites you to... [read more](#)

### 2. **God calls you personally**

God is interested in you personally and he calls you personally. Many times in scripture we see... [read more](#)

### 3. **Your vocation is an expression of who you are**

"Be who you are meant to be and you will set the whole world on fire": this is a common... [read more](#)

### 4. God knows us best

"Which of us knows what will make us happy?" asks Fr Jacques Philippe in The Way of Trust and Love. &... [read more](#)

### 5. A vocation is different from a career

When we speak of Christian vocations, we don't mean a job or a career. Your vocation is the way... [read more](#)

### 6. Every vocation is a call to love

On the surface the vocations of priesthood, religious life, married life, and single life

seem quite... read more

#### 7. God respects your freedom

God created us with the "dignity of a person who can initiate and control his own actions"; we... read more

Next...different kinds of vocation

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The life of the  
Baptized

We ALL have a calling...a vocation..gifts and talents...remember our session on the Holy Spirit?

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The **Gifts** of the Spirit

Not to be confused with the fruits of the spirit

### Gifts of the Spirit

Rom 12:6-8	1 Corinthians 12:8-10	1 Corinthians 12:28	Ephesians 4:11
Prophecy Serving Teaching Exhortation Giving Leadership Mercy	Word of wisdom Word of knowledge Faith Gifts of healings Miracles Prophecy Distinguishing between spirits Tongues Interpretation of tongues	Apostle Prophet Teacher Miracles Kinds of healings Helps Administration Tongues	Apostle Prophet Evangelist Pastor Teacher

## Gifts of the Spirit

What is my special calling  
or gift in the Church?

Acolyte, Altar Guild, Sunday School, Soup Kitchen  
Volunteer, Musician, Lector...let's think about  
licensed ministries...NEXT...My vocation video  
(Jason)

My vocation...Jason

Lay ministries

Lay Ministers



Some are licensed by the Bishop after training - such as Lay Readers or Preachers.



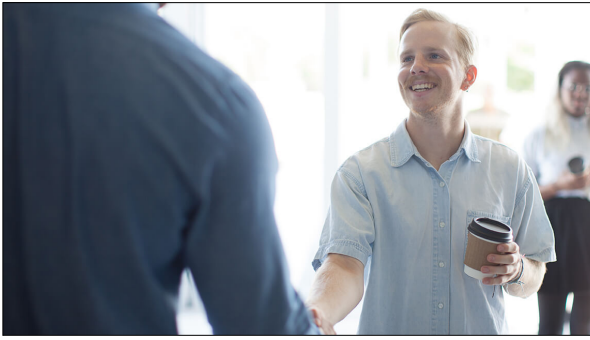
Some are more volunteer roles but still important... the Altar Guild



Acolytes



Lectors



## Ushers - Ministers of Welcome



## Ministry of Music



## Deacons - the first order instituted by the early church



Origin of the Order of deacons...READ: Acts...  
widows and orphans...poor...liturgical functions...  
Bishop's 'right hand man or woman.' FUNCTIONAL  
...NEXT...My vocation video (Myra)





My vocation...Myra

Bishops

Bishops. Read 2 Timothy.



Bishop Dietsche - mention 'see' or city.  
+New York



Successor to the Apostles  
(kissing gospel book)



In many Anglican Churches now open to women...  
Pastoral staff is about Pastoring - shepherd role  
Miter = Holy Spirit



Also a sign of unity...that can be hard!

Priests

Priests - last of the three-fold order of ministry...after  
312 (Constantine)...expansion of the church  
(gathering around bishop no longer possible)



ordained by bishops





in many Anglican and in all RC ordinations, hands are anointed with Chrism



Role of a priest...

Didn't exist for first few hundred years...

share in the Bishop's functions (expansion of the Church after Constantine became a Christian and the Church spread). Presbyter...Priest



Presiding at mass



Pronouncing absolution



marriage



anointing the sick



funerals

(Bishop does all of these things and delegates them)

What kind of person  
does God call?

next video..



Watch 4.5 minutes of this video...ends with **God**  
**calls the person as they are...**

God calls the person  
as they are...

funerals

What do we mean by  
the Religious Life?

Religious Life - very brief look at living in community.

Monks and nuns make vows - traditionally poverty, chastity, and obedience - often seen as the three knots on the rope around their waist. Many wear distinctive habits. Many take a 'name in religion' and commit themselves to the community in which they live. We often call monks and nuns by the collective name '**religious**'

## Origins of the Religious Life

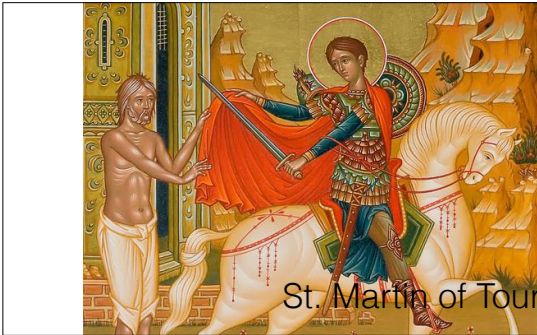
From the earliest days of the Church, the followers of Jesus gathered together to pray. Acts 2:44-47 *All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.*



## The Desert Fathers

Saint Antony of Egypt

Around 3rd Century, hermits went into the Deserts in Egypt. They lived Ascetic lives in great simplicity, reading the scriptures and praying the psalms. St. Antony of Egypt often seen as the founder of Monasticism. The desert monastic communities that grew out of the informal gathering of hermit monks became the model for Christian monasticism, first influencing the Coptic communities these monks were a part of and preached to. The Coptic Church still has vibrant monastic communities



St. Martin of Tours

Early 4th Century - Martin, a former soldier in the Imperial Guard for the Roman Emperor. Famously gave away half his rest cloak to a beggar - that evening he had a dream of Jesus wearing half a red cloak. Became a hermit monk in Gaull (now France) at Tours. Became a Bishop - many visited him, including St. Patrick, and a monastery grew up around him.

## St. Benedict



5th Century - Benedict of Nursia founded a monastic community at Subiaco in Lazio, Italy. His written *Rule* became the most influential rule in the development of the monastic life as we now have it.

## Rule of Life

All Christians have a rule of life in that the Baptismal Covenant is central to how they live their life as a Christian in the world. Religious have a life that characterizes the kind of community life that they are committed to: this can be contemplative or active. Some retreat from the world - others are immersed in it; ALL have lives punctuated by prayer. The Daily Office is called the *Liturgy of the Hours* - and time is sanctified because of it. Communities gather not only to eat, and to work, but to pray.



## Anglican Benedictines at West Malling

### CONTEMPLATIVE

traditional vows: poverty/chastity/obedience.

Benedictines take a vow of *Stability*



West Malling - part of the ruined medieval monastery and the restored monastery



## Benedictines at West Malling

### CONTEMPLATIVE

trad vows: poverty/chastity/obedience. Vows...

Stability





## Benedictines at West Malling

### CONTEMPLATIVE

trad vows: poverty/chastity/obedience. Vows...  
Stability



Carmelites are contemplative and traditionally take a  
'dedication' as well as a name in religion: Sr. Mary  
Magdalene *of the Resurrection* Sr. Elfreda *of the*  
*Cross*



Franciscans (Anglican Franciscans were resounded in  
East London in 1894)

Although they can have houses and even  
monasteries, they are traditionally itinerant monks -  
preaching, teaching, and serving the poor.



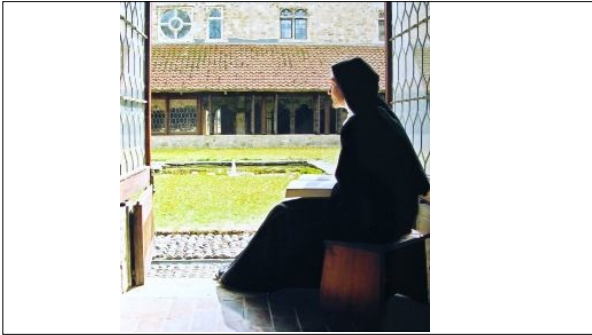
Archbishop of Canterbury is encouraging a renewal of the Religious Life...This is The Community of Saint Anselm - an Anglican religious order of young people, who give up a year or so of their lives to experience the Religious Life, devoted to prayer, study and service to the poor. It is based at Lambeth Palace in London, home of the Archbishop of Canterbury.



Next...video: RC



## What's your vocation? RC video



In July, I will be going on retreat to the Sisters of the Love of God at Fairacres' Convent in Oxford... Anglican Order whose rule of life is based on the Carmelite tradition.



*"When a sister dies, the Candle that she received at her clothing, that was lit again at her Profession, is lit again and allowed to burn out. The candle symbolizes the light of Christ and our baptismal promises as well as our monastic vows, and is a powerful symbol of our consecration to God as religious. Each of us has a candle stored in a cupboard, carefully labelled with our name and dates of clothing and profession. Unwrapping a sister's candle after her death is always a powerful moment. There, in an unknown hand, is the record of her journey through Community. Our Rule says that, after Profession, our offering of ourselves continues until it is consummated in death. The dates of clothing, profession and death give a bare outline of a life lived in Community, but those of us who have lived with a sister are aware that between those dates a whole life given to God has been lived."*



**God does not call those who are  
worthy of the calling,  
but those whom it pleases  
him to call.**

*St Thérèse of Lisieux*

*Almighty and everlasting God,  
by whose Spirit the whole body of thy faithful people  
is governed and sanctified:  
Receive our supplications and prayers,  
which we offer before  
thee for all members of thy holy Church,  
that in their vocation and ministry  
they may truly and devoutly serve thee;  
through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,  
who liveth and reigneth with thee,  
in the unity of the same Spirit, one God,  
now and for ever. Amen.*

Let us pray.

Next week:

*Relationships: Marriage, Commitment,  
and Religious Communities*