



NSW Vocations Network

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Interim National Vocations Network Team

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Dear Vocation Ministers,

Happy new year and blessings to you each of you. As we embark on the of year 2024, we move forward with hope in continuing to inspire hearts to follow Christ in the promotion of vocations within the Catholic Church.

As ministers of vocation ministry, we believe in the dignity of everyone to respond to their baptism calling and pursue a life of holiness and Christian service for others. We also believe in the opportunities that religious life can offer people to live a consecrated life for the glory of God and to commit themselves to the various charisms within the Church; charisms, including teaching and education, catechesis, social justice, pastoral welfare, age-care, hospital chaplaincy and youth and retreat ministry among others.

The NSW Vocation Ministry Network has a long history of connecting, sharing and supporting Catholic vocation ministers who are dedicated to animating and accompanying people in the search for God in our contemporary society. However, we believe that now is the time to expand our reach and offer a new platform for vocation ministry and reimagine how we support one another in our common ministry for vocations.

As such, we would like to begin 2024 with an online virtual gathering where we can invite any interested persons – whether candidates or our contacts – to meet and greet one another in a safe and supportive digital space where we can engage in Questions and Answers – and share stories with each other. Throughout the year, we propose meeting once in person and the other meetings to offer an opportunity to gather virtually. The advantage of this is to offer a “free” and opt-in service of connecting and continue to be connected to a network for vocation ministry. We also endeavour to offer prayer resources, vocation stories and the sharing of best practices, events, dates and the creation of new vocation podcasts for schools and ministries.

We propose the first date as: **Sunday March the 10th at 6.00pm online (a zoom link will be provided in a subsequent email)** – please bring a coffee or some food and bring some questions where we will begin with Pope Francis’s calling for “the Year of Prayer”.

If you would like to be part of this new format, please email: josephbufalo@gmail.com or to receive the Monthly Prayer Services for Vocations, as in the Attachment for February, which Br Joseph develops for the De La Salle Brothers in his District.

Yours in Christ,

The Interim National Vocations Network Team Executive

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Br Lewis Harwood