

## St. Joseph's Young Priests Society

The Society comprises committed lay people who foster vocations to the priesthood and religious life. It was founded in Ireland by Mrs Olivia Mary Taaffe in 1895 and a branch was established in Drumcree Parish in October 1985.

### Our Mission Statement

We believe, at this critical time, our Society is called to a renewal of faith, to proclaim boldly the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to work in partnership towards a greater understanding of Christ's call "Come follow me".

The purpose of the Society is twofold:

1. To foster vocations to the priesthood and religious life, and to assist financially in the education of students for the priesthood.
2. To promote the vocation of the laity, to foster a greater understanding and love of the Mass, and to help members to be Christ's presence in every aspect of life.

Jesus said to His disciples, "The harvest is great, but the labourers are few. So pray to the Lord to send more workers into his fields." (Matthew 9:37) Jesus looks at all who follow Him as a field ripe for harvest. Many people would like and are ready to give their lives entirely to Christ if someone would show them the way. Jesus commands each of us to pray and to support the great need of workers in the harvest. God answers our prayers by using each of us to help another person to respond to God's invitation to follow Him.

How can you help?

The work of fostering vocations belongs to the entire Christian community. Taking part in the work of the Society is one way in which lay people can respond to the task. They look to the future and to their children's future. They want to hand on their faith and their love of the Mass, for which priests will always be needed.

Please consider using your gifts and talents to support the work of the Society.

When and where do we meet?

Members of the Drumcree Parish branch meet on the last Wednesday of each month (excluding July and August) at 7.30pm in Drumcree Parish Pastoral Centre.

Those interested in joining the Society are most welcome to attend.

Further information can be obtained from any committee member or by contacting Mr David Greer.

### A Prayer for Vocations

O Jesus, send labourers into your fields, which are awaiting holy apostles, saintly priests, heroic missionaries and dedicated sisters and brothers. Enkindle in the hearts of men and women the spark of a vocation. And grant that Christian families may desire to give Your Church, helpers in the work of tomorrow. Amen.