

Vocations Placement Service

Gratefully Serving Since 2001

Vocations Placement
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Dear Vocations Directors and Discerners

September 2025

Peace and joy in Jesus!

All discerners should be aware of the “Three Hallmarks of Vocation”. These hallmarks are becoming visible along the discernment process as discerners meet various vocation directors or persons they are dating in the case of marriage discernment.

1. The Religious Community, the Diocesan Priesthood, the potential spouse, has a **“special grace for your conversion”**. That is why we have a vocation in the first place which is to be perfect as our Heavenly Father is perfect (Matthew 5:48). What do I mean by “special grace”? They have special grace for you to grow in the Fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5: 22-23). Particularly the Fruit “Self-Control”. Because it takes Self-Control to be kind, gentle, patient, etc. Because you WILL be tested.
2. The Religious Community, the Diocesan Priesthood, the potential spouse **“can accept your reality”**. What do I mean? They accept the things that are not going to change such as your age, your health conditions, your need-to-know history etc. Like Joseph could ultimately accept Mary’s reality that she was pregnant without knowing a man.
3. The Religious Community, the Diocesan Priesthood, the potential spouse, **“is reciprocating an interest leading to a lifelong commitment”** between you and them. You would be surprised how many discerners waste an enormous amount of time lamenting that a community, the diocese, or someone they are dating ultimately does not reciprocate. It should be noted that most discerners are not reciprocated simply because it is “not a good fit”. Who knows why. It doesn’t matter. Move on to the Religious Community or potential spouse that welcomes you with open arms.

Next month's article is going to be on "The Five Steps Everyone Has Taken Who Entered Their Vocation".

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Love to serve!

Natalie, Brad, and staff

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