



August 5, 2018

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Dear brothers and sisters in the Lord,

Sometimes, things that we see often can be so regular or normal that they become almost invisible, after a while. I want to call your attention to what may be one of those things in our church.

In the back of the church, opposite from the baptistry, we have a display wall honoring all those from our parish who have accepted vocations of service in the Church, as well as some who served in the military. The number of vocations to priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life from our parish is truly impressive! This week, the parish staff and I were privileged to add two new names to the vocations wall.

First, Deacon Mike Zaiontz was a parishioner of St. Rose of Lima Parish who heard God's call to the diaconate and who served for several years here at Our Lady of the Rosary. It has been a little less than a year since he went home to the Lord. And, second, Elizabeth Rizzo is an active member of our parish who was called by God to a life of consecrated virginity lived in the world. It was just over a year ago that she was consecrated by Archbishop Aymond here in our church.

We give thanks to God for these and for all of the men and women from our parish who have accepted God's call to serve in the Church. If you know of any others who have not yet been added to the Vocations Wall, please let me know.

Finally, this is a reminder for all of us to continue to pray for and to encourage those men and women whom God is calling now to serve His Church. As pastor, I ask for your help in identifying men and women who may be receiving this call. It is the job of the whole parish to encourage vocations and to pray for them.

We are blessed to have a member of our parish in seminary now, Jason Songe, who is discerning a call to priesthood in the Archdiocese of New Orleans. We also have a couple of others who are considering entering seminary in the near future. Please keep in your prayers all those who are called to service in the Church, especially those from our parish. May God fill their hearts with zeal and charity to serve Him with their lives!

To Jesus through Mary,

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