

**FRIDAY NIGHT PRAYER**  
**Vocation—Called to live God's Dream**

**GATHER**

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**PRESIDER 1:** Often when we talk about vocations, we somehow get to the question: “What am I going to be when I grow up?” Consider instead that our vocation — which underscores all we do in life, no matter our age — is to love.

**PRESIDER 2:** As Salesians, our goal is to live as Jesus asks us to in Scripture. Before we can focus on our path in life, we are first called to love God and love others. The cross, endured by Christ for our sakes, is the most perfect example of love. In it there is a vertical beam, which reminds us of the love between God and each of us. The horizontal beam reminds us to love others. This evening we are invited to recognize that the first choice in our vocation is to love —and Jesus shows us the way.

**PRESIDER 1:** And so let us pray.  
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

AMEN.

Loving God, you who have called each of us by name to be a part of your family, help us to you love in all that we do. Guide us, Lord to share Your love with others, especially those in most need. Help us to do all things through your love and not hold anything back. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**LISTEN**

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**READER 1:** A Reading from the prophet Samuel  
Samuel was lying in the sanctuary of the Lord where the ark of God was, when the Lord called, “Samuel Samuel!” He answered, “Here I am.” Then he ran to Eli and said, “Here I am, since you called me.” Eli said, “I did not call. Go back and lie down.” So he went and lay down. Once again, the Lord called, “Samuel! Samuel!” Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, “Here I am, since you called me.” He replied, “I did not call you, my son, go back and lie down.” Samuel had as yet no knowledge of the Lord and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. Once again, the Lord called, the third time. He got up and went to Eli and said: “Here I am since you called me.” Eli then understood that it was the Lord who was calling the boy, and he said to Samuel, “Go and lie down, and if someone calls say, “Speak Lord, your servant is listening.” So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

SYLC 2023 NIGHT PRAYERS

The Word of the Lord .

*All:* Thanks be to God

**RESPOND**

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**PRESIDER 2:** Our response is:  
*Here am I, Lord, I come to do your will.*

**READER 2:** We thank You God of Mysterious ways,  
that You have a holy design for us.  
We rejoice that we are special to You,  
That our names are written  
In the palm of Your hand and our place in history,  
our purpose for existing,  
is known within our heart, since endless ages.

**ALL:** *Here am I, Lord, I come to do your will.*

**READER 1:** We are grateful for that long line of holy people,  
who since ancient times have inspired others  
by their faithfulness to their own destinies.  
They by their very lives, shout out to us not to compromise our  
destiny but to live fully within Your eternal design.

**ALL:** *Here am I, Lord, I come to do your will.*

**READER 2:** Blessed are You, inscrutable Lord,  
for those events, persons, talents and experiences  
which have helped us to discover adventure and purpose,  
fruitfulness and meaning, in our sometimes empty  
and seemingly insignificant lives.

**ALL:** *Here am I, Lord, I come to do your will.*

**READER 1:** Blessed are You,  
for colleagues, teachers, parents, family and friends  
who call us out from the cocoon of comfort  
and contentment to embark upon that unique path  
which You have sent forth for each of your sons and daughters.

**PRESIDER 1:** At this time in your small groups, share the following question:  
How are you called to be a sign and bearer of God's love to  
others?

**SEND**

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***PRESIDER 2:*** Let us ask the Lord to give us the courage to respond to His call.  
Let us pray...

***PRESIDER 1:*** Lord, Jesus, thank you for your call to build your Kingdom through our Salesian Charism.

Open our hearts to hope and help us to understand the privilege moment that we live today.

Grant that as a Salesian Family be capable of continuing the work started by our Founder, Saint John Bosco, for the youth and especially those who need us the most; with deep faith and ardent zeal.

Open our hearts so we may hear your voice calling to us and respond with generosity.

Give courage to those of us who discern responding to your call as Salesian brothers, sisters, priests, and lay people committed to the Salesian mission.

Inspire the Salesian Family of this province to be open to new forms of announcing a promising future more than a “maintain the status quo” vision.

Challenge us to rather than being excessively concerned about survival, we may with Your Grace, put all our effort, in continuing to be instruments of salvation for the world.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

***ALL:*** Amen!

***PRESIDER 2:*** At this time, we invite who is to come up and share with us our Salesian Good Night.