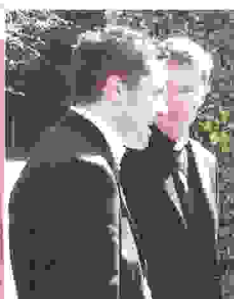


WHAT DO I DO NOW?

DISCUSS

It would be good to talk through the idea of the possibility of being a priest with someone you can trust perhaps with a friend or a priest you know. It is important to consider in your discussions the following questions:

- How often do I pray?
- How will I cope with the level of study required for priestly formation?
- What attracts me to the idea of being a priest in Salford Diocese?
- What is my attitude towards living a celibate life?
- Why do I think that God may be calling me to the priesthood?



READ

Choose from the following selection of Scripture passages:

- Jeremiah Ch 1 vs 4-9 "Go now to those to whom I send"
- Psalm 139 "O Lord you search me and you know me"
- St Paul to the Philippians Ch 3 vs 8-14 "If only I can have Christ"
- Luke Ch 5 vs 1-11 "From now it will be men that you catch"
- John Ch 15 vs 9-17 "You did not choose me, no I chose you"



PRAY

Take the fruits of your discussions to your daily prayer:

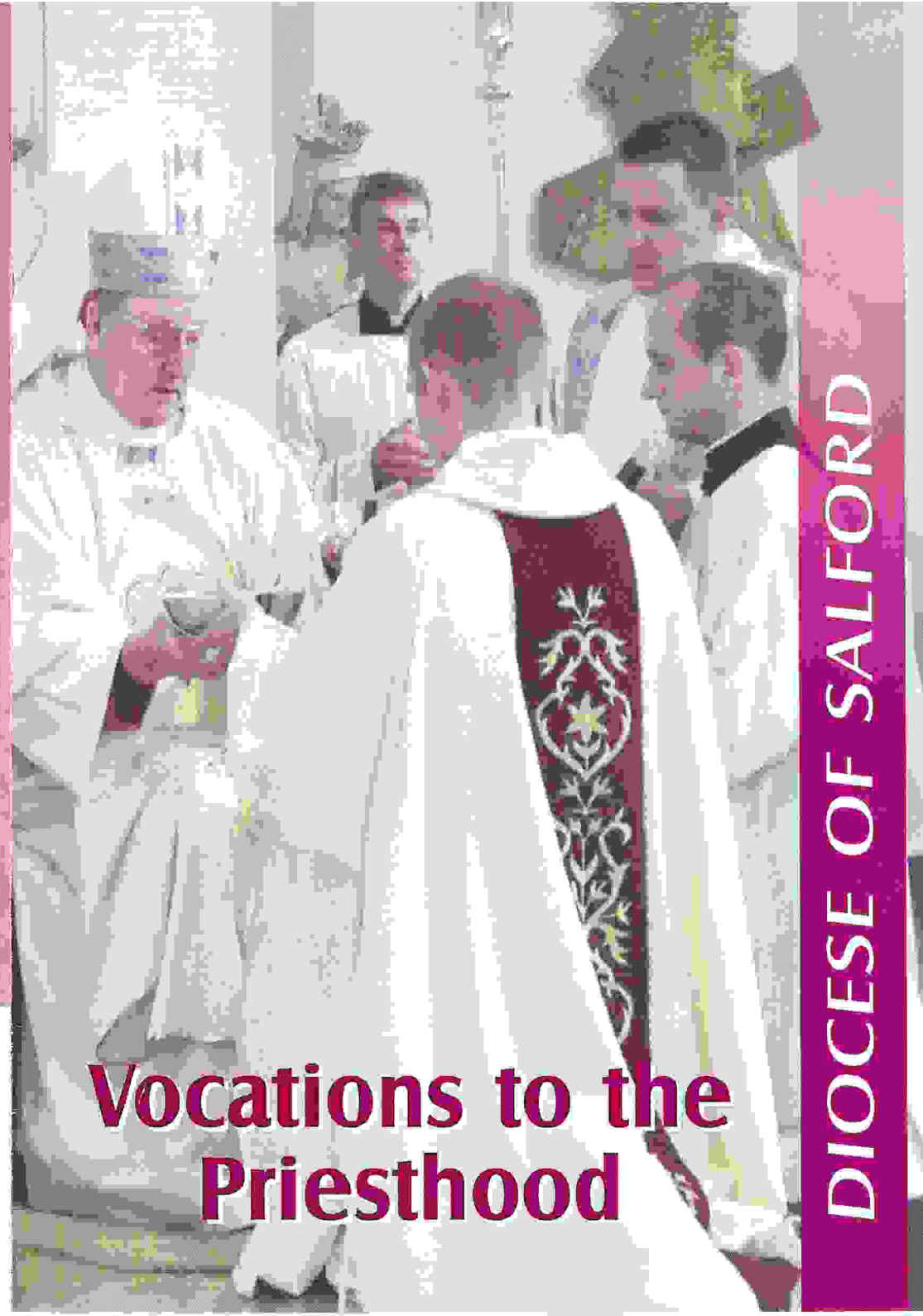
- Use any of the above Scripture passages in some part of prayer
- Ensure that you have some time of quiet reflective prayer each day
- Ask Our Lord to guide you and help you to carefully reflect on the possibility of a vocation to the priesthood in Salford Diocese
- Try to go to Weekday Mass at least once a week



CONTACT

If you would like to know more about becoming a priest in Salford Diocese, then please contact:

Fr. David Featherstone, St. Dunstan's Presbytery, 391 Moston Lane,
Moston, Manchester M40 9PA. TEL: 0161 681 1410 FAX: 0161 684 3028
Email: Stdunstanmoston@aol.com www.salforddiocese.org.uk/vocations



Vocations to the Priesthood

DIOCESE OF SALFORD

THE PRIEST IN SALFORD DIOCESE

What is a PRIEST?
by Fr. John Flynn

A priest is a man chosen by God to offer sacrifice. In practical terms this means that a priest is ordained above all to celebrate Mass. And the purpose of Mass? To make the priest and God's people become saints and so enable them to get to heaven. There are thousands of Catholics in Salford Diocese, and have been for hundreds of years. And the priest is here to serve them. He is in the business of salvation. Being 'set apart' from others in order to serve all people, he is called to be conformed to Christ in a particular way to help bring about the salvation of mankind through his gift of self.

This mind-blowing reality is lived out in any number of ways by the priests of the diocese. Beyond the celebration of Mass and the sacraments, the priest's primary care is to pray for and with the people. Strengthened by his prayer, he serves them in parishes, in schools, in universities, in prisons, in hospitals, in the streets.

Salford teems with people from all walks of life and with diverse needs. The priest's life, exhilarating and rewarding, is dedicated to those people, in the service of God and of the Church.



A SEMINARIAN'S STORY

by Richard Hester

Before I entered seminary I was a teacher for ten years, and spent the last six of these teaching P.E. in an International School in South Asia.

Thoughts of priesthood came to me quite unexpectedly, and I fully expected the idea to pass. However, as the thoughts persisted I started to pray about it more. After several months I contacted my parish priest and subsequently the diocesan Vocations Director and, after more thought and prayers, began the application process.

My first year in seminary was at Valladolid in Spain for the Propaedeutic year and I am now at the Venerable English College in Rome. Daily life at seminary consists of Mass and times of prayer and study, but there are also many occasions during the week to relax in a variety of ways. The range in backgrounds and diversity of experiences of my fellow students was an unexpected surprise for me.



Richard Hester from St Mary's parish, Horwich currently at The English College, Rome.

OUR SEMINARIANS



Pictured from left to right:

STEVE JONES

From Holy Family Parish, Oldham currently at the Beda College, Rome.

SEÁN O'BRIEN

From St. Hugh of Lincoln Parish, Stretford currently at Ushaw College, Durham.

BISHOP BRAIN

NATHAN HORNE

From Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Manchester currently at Ushaw College, Durham.

FRANK MULGREW

From St. Vincent's Parish, Rochdale currently at Ushaw College Durham.