



Mary, Our Model

COMPANION RESOURCE FOR THE USCCB VIDEO “WE ARE CALLED: MARY AND VOCATIONAL DISCERNMENT”

Opening Prayer

My Lord Jesus Christ, Your word is living and active in me. I do want it to have the effect You intend. I believe You have a particular plan for my life and holiness. Please let Your Holy Spirit open my mind and heart in prayer. Help me recognize the commanding authority of Your voice within me. And if you are

calling me to the priesthood, as You did the apostles, grant me the manly courage and devotion to promptly leave all and follow You with confident trust. May Your Blessed Mother draw me close, teaching me to listen and respond in faith, hope and love. Amen

Read

Mary’s devotion to God and willingness to say “yes” to him is something Catholics learn very early in faith formation. And Mary’s deep faith and dedication to doing God’s will can be an inspiration for anyone searching to fulfill the will of God, no matter their vocation. The US bishops explain in the pastoral letter, *Behold Your Mother: Woman of Faith*, just how Catholics can use Mary as a guide, especially youth, consecrated religious, single women devoted to God, spouses, and parents. The bishops wrote, “No one ever followed Jesus so well as Mary his

Mother. No one can help us more, by her example and by her intercession” (*Behold Your Mother: Woman of Faith*, no. 130).

The bishops also wrote, “May [Mary’s] pilgrimage of faith strengthen us in our individual Christian vocations. May her loving desire that her Son’s words be heeded hasten Christian unity. May her motherly intercession make us worthy of the promises of Christ” (*Behold Your Mother: Woman of Faith*, no. 146).

Watch



Take a few minutes to watch *We Are Called: Mary and Vocational Discernment*.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rshnmGgkG_8

After watching the video, allow time for reflection on the questions below. Listen and respond in faith, hope and love.

Questions for Reflection:

What word or phrase in the video caught your attention?

How might the Blessed Mother be a role model for you in your discernment or vocation?

Do you trust in God’s plan for you as Mary did? Is your heart open to where God is calling you?

In thinking about fidelity, and Mary’s fidelity discussed in the video, how can you have unwavering faithfulness to the vocation to which you have been called?