

## **Traveling Chalice and Madonna, Mary, Mother of the Eucharist**

**We are all aware of the need for vocations to the priesthood, the diaconate, and to the religious life; but sometimes we forget how powerful praying can be. If we pray with the faith of the saints and holy people of God, our chalice will never run dry! We will always have priests to bring us Jesus in the Eucharist and our own religious lives will be fuller.**

**The Traveling Chalice & Madonna will be used to support prayers for vocations. Families, individuals, and couples will be asked to host this devotion for one week. These sacramentals will be set in a place of honor in the host family's home. Each day for a week, during prayer time (morning, meals, or evening) they will pray for an increase and perseverance of vocations using this Chalice and Statue as the focal point for prayer, gratitude, and blessings. There be will names of current seminarians and deacons, and past and current priests of our diocese to be included in your prayers. There also will be a special Prayer for Vocations, and other prayers for you to use as you choose. The purpose of the Traveling Chalice & Madonna is to provide a focal point for prayer, not just for vocations to the religious life, but also for ourselves, friends, and family.**

**Praying for vocations is the most powerful way to support vocations. A vocation is a call from the Holy Spirit, a gift from God that is nurtured in prayer. When we pray for vocations, we lift up to our Father those men and women whom He is calling in a very special way. We hope that those who bring the Chalice home will continue to pray for vocations daily. There will be a prayer journal that will be included with the devotion. The family, individual, or couple that has the shrine may enter a thought, prayer, or scripture verse that describes their experience of praying for vocations for the week. Over time, this journal will serve as an encouragement to support our men and women serving the Church.**

**All families, couples and individuals interested in participating should use the sign-up sheet on the tables in the rear of either church or call Mary Jo at 453-3695, Mary Ann at 764-6141 or contact either parish office. We will need 52 homes at each parish to host this Traveling Chalice & Madonna for the next year. How blessed we are to have an excellent foundation of men and women of our parishes in years gone by; let us bind together in prayer to build a CULTURE OF VOCATIONS for the future of our children and grand-children.**