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Dear Father,

Happy Easter!

I hope that you are getting along okay during these unusual Easter days. Although this year we don't have our churches open for the **World Day of Prayer for Vocations**, the Vocations Office has prepared some resources in the hope that these might be used on parish/school websites and on social media. You will see that this year Pope Francis has chosen to reflect upon Jesus' call for Peter to walk across the water during the storm. He offers a very beautiful reflection on our vocation that seems to be apt in our current circumstances.

With the closure of the seminaries, all but one of our eleven seminarians are currently in presbyteries around the diocese, continuing their formation 'online'. You may have seen one or two of them featured in the various live streamed Masses! Thank you to the priests who have welcomed them so generously during this time. There are also 14 men who continue their formation for the permanent diaconate. Please do continue to keep them all in your prayers.

Although many events are uncertain at the moment, we are praying that we will be able to celebrate the ordination of four new priests for the Archdiocese on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July. Please keep Clive Dytor, Sean Gough, Benedict Skipper and Alex Taylor in your prayers.

I am pleased to inform you that the Archbishop has recently accepted Luke Theobald as a seminarian for the Archdiocese and he will hopefully be starting his propaedeutic year at St Alban's, Valladolid.

With thanks for all that you do to contribute to the culture of vocation in our diocese, and for the particular ways in which you promote the permanent diaconate and the diocesan priesthood.

Yours sincerely in Christ,



Fr Michael Dolman  
Vocations Director