

LEGACY FOR OUR MISSION:

For Our Children and the Future

CALL TO PRIESTHOOD EMERGES WITH ENCOURAGEMENT

Deacon Scott Nobbe has the kind of diversified background that would generate the interest of corporate recruiters. After graduating from Valparaiso University, he completed a four-year enlistment in the United States Army and taught English as a second language in South Korea.

Instead Nobbe has chosen to answer a call to service as a Catholic priest, a new way of life that emerged several years ago after talking with his hometown pastor from Fortville, the late Father Joseph Kos.

“The inclination had always been there, but I ignored it most of the time,” Nobbe says. “Father Kos helped me realize I had always pursued a path of service, and he inspired me to look closer at how I felt I should fulfill that path.”

That’s when Nobbe decided to explore his vocation and look closely at what he sensed was God’s call to the priesthood. That prompted him to make the initial inquiry into the archdiocesan Office of Priestly & Religious Vocations and begin the admissions process for consideration as a seminarian.

In 2001, already possessing significant experience as a soldier, a teacher and a single man who wished to serve others, Nobbe entered the seminary at Saint Meinrad Archabbey in southern Indiana and began his formation as an archdiocesan priest.

This spring, as he prepares for his ordination, Nobbe reflects on the fact that he arrived at Saint Meinrad without expectations. He had approached his first year of philosophy and theology education with the awareness that his profound leap of faith would be challenging and even lead to the awareness that he might not be called to a life as a priest.



But patience paid off. Along the way Nobbe even discerned a possible life as a Benedictine monk during a stint in the monastery at Saint Meinrad. It didn’t last, but he says he realizes its significance today.

“The whole experience helped solidify my call to the priesthood,” he says.

Perhaps that awareness comes in part from life experience. Nobbe—a native of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Fortville

and now affiliated with St. Gabriel Parish in Connersville—will be 34 years old in June when Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein ordains him. And perhaps that calling has also been affirmed by a variety of pastoral assignments during the past several years. Nobbe has enjoyed what he calls “dream assignments” in Hispanic ministry at St. Mary and Holy Spirit parishes in Indianapolis, where he has helped serve the many Spanish-speaking newcomers to the archdiocese. He also has traveled to World Youth Day in Cologne, Germany, and immersed himself in Spanish and cultural studies during trips to Guatemala and Mexico.

Nobbe fully realizes the great costs—financially and otherwise—required to find, educate and shape men for the priesthood. That may be one reason why he has enthusiastically supported initiatives such as the annual United Catholic Appeal and also *Legacy for Our Mission*, the archdiocesan capital campaign that has been underway since last fall. It’s through such development programs that the archdiocese can fund a seminarian’s education and development.

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“I feel very blessed to have that support,” Nobbe says. “God knows when to put you in certain places, and He does so in His own time.”

Legacy for Our Mission, the archdiocese’s capital campaign, is guided by the principles of Christian stewardship and addresses the needs of archdiocesan ministries such as seminarian education. By contributing to the Legacy for Our Mission campaign through your local parish, a portion of your gift will be allocated to future ministry needs and distributed to efforts such as seminarian education.