

Speaking at the Irish Bishop's conference, Father Willie Purcell, National Diocesan Vocations Coordinator, said, "This year marks the 60th anniversary of the initiation of the annual World Day of Prayer for Vocations, instituted by Saint Pope Paul VI in 1963 during the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council. The World day of prayer for Vocations is also referred to as Good Shepherd Sunday. We see in Jesus, the Good Shepherd, the heart of every calling. As we launch this Year for Vocation to the Diocesan Priesthood, on the theme 'Take the Risk for Christ', **our televised Mass this Sunday at 11.00am on RTÉ One** unites us in prayer for vocations to the priesthood, consecrated life, and permanent diaconate. I am grateful to RTÉ for providing this opportunity for us to join with the world through the media of television, and the internet, as one family praying for vocations as we walk the synodal pathway in hope."

For further information: www.vocations.ie

