DIOCESE *of* BILOXI

CALLED BY NAME

October 15, 2023

Dear Friends in Christ,

Today I am announcing a special Called by Name Campaign to identify faithful young men and women in our diocese who, through God's providence, could have a vocation to the priesthood or religious life. The campaign will take place on October 21-22, 2023.

As you know, our diocese has a great need for "more workers for the harvest." I firmly believe that our future priests and sisters will come from our own parishes and schools, but we need the entire Church to identify them, so that we can offer support and encouragement as they discern their vocations.

Next weekend, as you reflect upon the vocation story shared by your priest, please consider the following:

1) For Young People

For those of you discerning your life's vocation, be open to the priesthood or religious life. God's calling is a beautiful gift – be courageous and open to his call! Jesus came that we might have life and have it to the full. Do not be afraid. If God is calling you to the priesthood or religious life, then nothing less will satisfy.

2) For All Parisioners

I invite you to think deeply about the youth & young adults in your parish who you believe might have a calling to the priesthood or religious life. While God is the one who calls, he often uses our voices. **Please write down at least one name using the envelope provided at Mass, or submit names online at biloxivocations.org.**

This initiative is near to my heart, and I ask you to please participate thoughtfully, so that it will be a great success throughout the diocese. And please join me in praying that the Lord will raise up many new leaders who are intentional disciples for the future of the Church!

May God bless you,

Most Reverend Louis F. Kihneman, III
Bishop of Biloxi