



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

DIocese OF BRIDGEPORT

238 Jewett Avenue • Bridgeport, Connecticut 06606 • 203-416-1352 • FAX: 203-371-8323

January 5, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

A Blessed Epiphany to you and your family!

I write to invite you to reflect on a matter of profound importance in the life of our Church — the call to priestly vocations. The priest is called to be a shepherd, a servant, and a visible sign of Christ's presence among us. Without the priesthood, we would not have the Eucharist, and without the Eucharist, we would not have the Church.

In 2025 we are launching the **Called by Name Campaign to identify faithful young men who may be open to discerning the priesthood**. I invite you to submit the names of young men aged 16-40 who love Christ and the Church, and who exhibit qualities of faith, leadership, and a heart for service. **You can submit names at www.bridgeportpriest.org.**

As we recognize the importance of priestly vocations, we must also recognize our responsibility to foster them. God continues to call men to the priesthood, but they need our support to hear and respond to His call. We, as a community of faith, must pray fervently for an increase in vocations.

I also urge every family to create an environment where the idea of the priesthood is cherished and respected. Parents, speak openly with your sons about the possibility of a vocation to the priesthood. Encourage them to seek God's will in their lives and help them discern how they may be called to serve the Church.

Through the grace of God and our collective efforts, may we see a new generation of priests who will continue to serve the Church with love, faith, and dedication.

May the Lord bless you and keep you always in His love.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano
Bishop of Bridgeport