

Chapter 16 **Come, Follow Me**

As the Father has sent me, so I send you. *John 20:21*

To the Parents:

In chapter 16, your child learned the following:

- Through Baptism, God calls each person to a vocation of loving service.
- The sacraments of Holy Orders and Matrimony bless the vocations of marriage and the ordained ministry.

Jesus presents the perfect model of loving service and care for others. Those who follow Jesus have heard his call to fidelity, commitment, and holiness, and have responded with enthusiasm and grace. The word “vocation” was once used to describe a life dedicated to God through ordination or religious vows. Today, the Christian vocation extends to those who marry, those who remain single, and those who enter religious life.

A follower of Jesus lives out his or her Christian vocation by loving and serving others as Jesus did. Ordained men—bishops, priests, and deacons—serve by presiding at sacramental liturgies and by providing spiritual leadership. Married men and women serve by their care and commitment to their families, workplaces, and communities. Single men and women serve their families, friends, and employers with dedication and selfless devotion. All have chosen a different way to follow the call of Jesus, but all have responded with the same loyalty, courage, and joy that is modeled in the example of Jesus.

With Your Child:

1. Make a list of possible career goals and list how each career can utilize your gifts and talents for the service of God, your family, or your community.
2. Speak to someone who has celebrated the sacraments of Holy Orders or Matrimony and ask about that person’s responsibilities and roles in the family, workplace, or community. What joys does the role bring? What difficulties? Talk about it as a family.
3. Read about Felix and Mary Barreda on the Review and Explore page.