

#### THE AIM OF YOUR VOCATION

By Sr. Jane DeLisle, CSJ

# **An Excerpt from Today's First Reading**

**Brothers and sisters:** 

I, a prisoner for the Lord,
urge you to live in a manner worthy of the call you have received,
with all humility and gentleness, with patience,
bearing with one another through love,
striving to preserve the unity of the Spirit
through the bond of peace:
one Body and one Spirit,
as you were also called to the one hope of your call;
one Lord, one faith, one baptism;
one God and Father of all,
who is over all and through all and in all.

**EPHESIANS 4:1-6** 

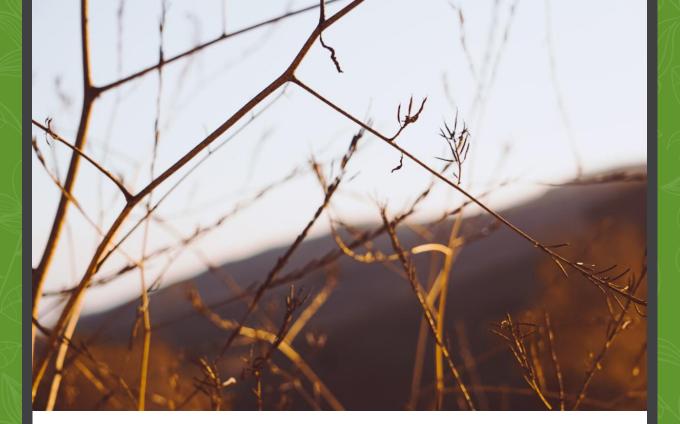
#### Reflection

The golden thread that links us all throughout the countless generations is found in the yearning for deeper meaning and purpose to our lives. God is the center of all of life. Each person has a calling or a vocation through which to channel the gifts, talents, inspiration, and life energy that witness to God uniquely. The gift of self to God flows through the intentional life commitments we have made. We are urged "to live in a manner worthy of the call you have received."

The first Maxim of Father Medaille, who founded the Sisters of St. Joseph, echoes Paul's invitation. "Keep always in mind the **aim** of your vocation which is **sublime**; and never do anything which contradicts the commitment to a life full of modesty, gentleness and holiness."

It boldly states the sacred nature of all life and God's desire for us to be One with God. It proclaims that we are God's best gift to God's self and invites to personal intimacy with God. We are called to greatness of soul.

Every person is made in God's image, with equal dignity and worth. Awareness of this "sublime" truth has the power to shape our self-understanding, our decisions, and the way we perceive the other. Born with innate dignity, God's gentle strength and presence abides within us all. We are given the grace of being uniquely named, claimed, and loved by God. Life is sacred! Each life matters! We belong to God! The spark of divine life flows through us. This is the sublime nature of who we are formed to be, a reflection of God's love in the world. We are called to be holy!



Earth's golden thread Photo by Alicia Rodriguez

# **For Pondering**

- What stirs within me as I remember that I am made in God's image?
- How has my vocation been gift, revealing God's love to others?
- As I consider my life's vocation, what do I perceive is God's invitation to live in a manner worthy of the call [I] have received?

# **For Prayer**

I praise and thank You, Loving God,
for I am wonderfully made in Your image.

Help me to see myself and others with Your sacred eyes.
Please hold me close that I might live with fidelity
all that You have given me and use it for the good of all.
May the life commitments I strive to live each day
be life-giving to others and to me.

With gratitude and praise, I pray to embrace Your sublime call in me.
Amen.

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