



Is A Religious Vocation Right For Me?

Choosing a life vocation is one of the most important decisions a person will ever make. Many considerations are required to make a mature decision. For example: interpreting God's call, personal motivation, and the qualities for living religious life.

First of all, it is difficult to know if one has a vocation to religious life because the calling is a mystery. God uses very personal and often ordinary means to let us know what our calling is. There is no common path. God respects our individuality and freedom and wants us to use our heads as well as our hearts when discerning our life vocation.

The monastery looks for certain signs that God uses to incline and draw people toward a religious vocation. You can look for these signs as a way to discern whether or not you are called. Discernment helps to unlock the mystery as you search for God's will through these signs.

Three Signs of a Vocation

Attraction

Are you drawn toward religious life? Does thinking about it give you a certain amount of satisfaction, joy, or positive feeling? This deep desire is important. Do you believe God is calling you to religious life? Are you willing to risk seeking out this call further?

God wants us to freely choose our vocation. This deep desire and spontaneous attraction may be one indication that you might be called. What steps will you take to answer God's call to you?

Motivation

Are you drawn toward religious life for the right reason?

A Desire To Live...

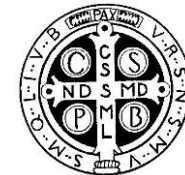
- **A full life:** Living life with purpose & authenticity.
- **A deep life:** Living life with a commitment to growth.
- **A shared life:** Living life with others who share a common passion for God.

Qualities

Are you willing to live a life under the direction of a prioress, in a community dedicated to the Opus Dei (common prayer) & Lectio Divina, (holy reading), through a balance of solitude, silence, worship, work & leisure?

If you find that you are motivated to live religious life with us, then these are the qualities of monastic living that we look for from you:

- A desire for a deeper prayer life.
- A willingness to be a woman of the Gospel.
- A healthy sense of your own goodness.
- Knowledge of self.
- Openness to ongoing dialogue and discernment.
- Some college or work experience.
- Willingness to learn new ways of being and relating.
- Good health and between the ages of 18 and 45.
- Some experience of independent living.



Mission Statement

We, the Sisters of St. Scholastica Monastery in Fort Smith, Arkansas, have responded to a call to seek God by a total gift of self in a religious community of celibate women who make profession to live the Gospel, according to the Rule of Benedict, the norms of the Federation of St. Gertrude, and the norms of the monastery.



Vocation Prayer

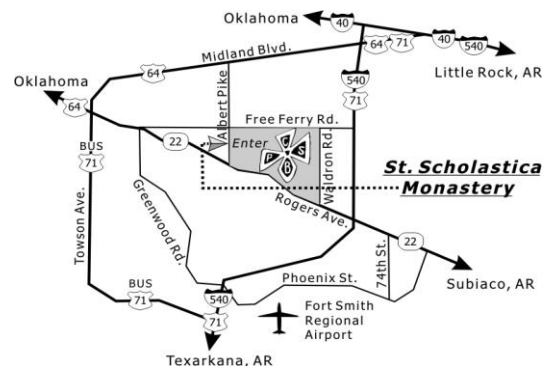
Lord, let me know clearly the work You are calling me to do in life. + And grant me every grace I need to answer Your call with courage, love and lasting dedication to Your will. + *Amen.*



A Benedictine monastery located in West Central Arkansas where women have been seeking God for over 142 years. If you think you are being called to serve the Lord as a Benedictine sister, please contact us at:

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DO YOU HAVE A



RELIGIOUS VOCATION?

VOCATIONS FOR WOMEN