The Master, Jesus, invited his disciples to repeat his words and actions to prolong their meaning in the practice of the church. About washing feet, St. John recorded Jesus saying, "I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do.” Concerning the Eucharist, Saint Paul tells us Jesus said, “Does this in memory of me.” As Catholics, we believe that we are commanded to celebrate the Eucharist every Sunday. It is not optional but essential for us to do. First, we proclaim the Word of God and then we remember the sacrifice of Christ that Jesus announced at his last supper.

On this Holy Thursday night, the church teaches us to remember three elements: the institution of the Eucharist, the call to serve as in the washing of the feet by the master to his disciples and one more element. By tradition, the church celebrates the priesthood. On Tuesday, many priests met with the archbishop, his deacons and the people of God in the cathedral to renew the promises of the priests. We carry from the cathedral the Holy oils used by the parish to bless and anoint.

Recently, I gave my vocation story taking part in a WhatsApp Discussion Group. When I am asked to use new types of social media like WhatsApp, I try. What kind of year have we had using GoToMeeting and other forms of livestreaming instead of meeting face to face! In my history of vocation, I remembered events from my family life as a young man. My father and I would attend early Mass on Saturdays praying for vocations. I did not personally feel pressure to be a priest, but every Catholic shares responsibility for praying for more priests, deacons, religious, lay ministers, married and single vocations.

I see that, in reading the Book of Exodus, the Passover meal happened precisely in the family home taking a lamb for family, one per house or if the family was too small to eat a whole lamb, to join with the neighbors. In fact, the vocation begins in the domestic family not only the family of parents and children, but the family that includes grandparents, cousins, grandchildren and godparents. There is often a nice connection between grandparents and grandchildren or between cousins. There is mutual understanding, and family members pray for each member to follow their call.

The parish represents another kind of large family. As a young adult who sang a lot in the parish choir, the music director once asked me if I wanted to say Mass. I was already singing the psalm from the lectern as a cantor. Now she was asking me to move behind the altar to pray the Mass with the people. For the first time, I thought about a priestly vocation on my own. Although I had other worldly interests, like to be a lawyer, for example, I understood in time I could use my talents for the church and make a great contribution to saving souls for God.

Service in the way of Jesus Christ who humbly washed the feet of his disciples became a key for me to open the door of my future. I say to us to pray for the strength to accept our vocations with patience and faith.