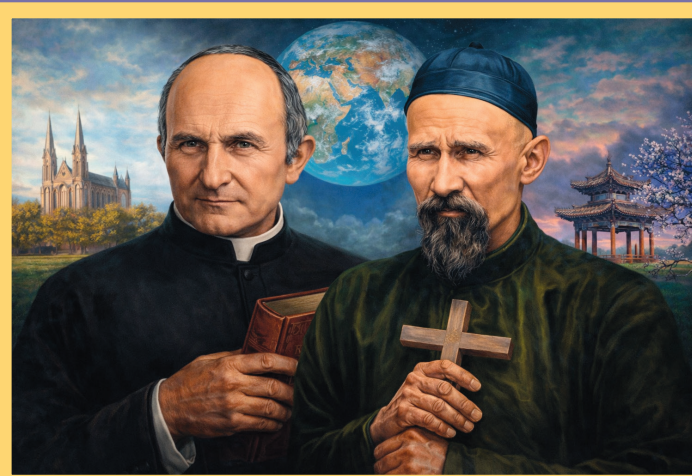


*“I have called you by name,  
you are mine, follow me.”*

*(Isaiah 43:1, Matthew 4:19)*

**LIVE FOR SOMETHING THAT MATTERS.**



## OUR FOUNDER

**Saint Arnold Janssen (1837–1909)**

St. Arnold Janssen was born in Goch, Germany in 1837 and ordained a priest in 1861.

In 1875, he founded the Society of the Divine Word (SVD) in Steyl, Holland, with a vision to send missionaries to proclaim the Word of God beyond the frontiers of the Church.

In 1879, he sent his first missionary, St. Joseph Freinademetz, to China — marking the beginning of a global mission that continues today. Both men were beatified by Pope Paul VI in 1975 and canonised by St. John Paul II in 2003.

**Today, more than 6,000 Divine Word Missionary priests and brothers serve in over 80 countries.**

As an international and multicultural community, we are sent to proclaim the **Word of God** and to share the love of Christ with all peoples — especially where He is not yet known, or where the Church is still growing.

## WHAT IS A VOCATION?

Every Christian, through Baptism, is called by God to live a life of purpose — to love, to serve, and to help build His Kingdom.

This call can be lived in many ways: as a married person, a single person, or through priesthood or religious life.

At its heart, every vocation is about giving your life for others. God created us to love beyond ourselves — and in doing so, we discover true joy, meaning, and holiness.

## WHAT IS RELIGIOUS LIFE?

Religious life is a complete gift of self to God, lived through the vows of **poverty, chastity, and obedience.**

Those in religious life dedicate their lives to God and to others, following Christ who came to serve.

**As Divine Word Missionaries, this life is lived in community, prayer, and mission, proclaiming the Gospel and making Christ present in the world.**



**FOLLOW CHRIST • SERVE THE WORLD • LIVE YOUR MISSION**



## HOW DO I HEAR GOD'S CALL?

Discovering your vocation is a journey called **discernment** — and it can begin at any stage of life.

Discernment means learning to listen:

- † to God in prayer,
- † in your experiences,
- † and in the quiet desires of your heart.

God calls each person in a unique way. As Pope Leo XIV reminds us:

*“A vocation entails an intimate dialogue with the One who calls.”*

Your vocation is how God invites you to love, to serve, and to give your life for others.

## IS GOD CALLING YOU? TAKE THE NEXT STEP.



## COULD I BE CALLED TO BE A DIVINE WORD MISSIONARY?

Perhaps. If this question has crossed your mind, it may already be the beginning of something deeper.

As a Divine Word Missionary, you would join a global, multicultural community of priests and brothers, sent to proclaim the **Word of God** and to serve across cultures and nations.

**Our mission is to bring Christ to all peoples — especially where the Gospel is not yet known — and to build communities of faith through service, dialogue, and witness.**

God often speaks in quiet and unexpected ways — through your experiences, your desires, and the questions that stay with you.

- † What is God placing on your heart?
- † Are you open to something more?
- † Could you be called to serve beyond yourself?

*“Be who you are meant to be and you will set the whole world on fire.” - St Catherine of Siena*

## TAKE THE NEXT STEP

God continues to call.

If you are asking the question, you may already be on the path.

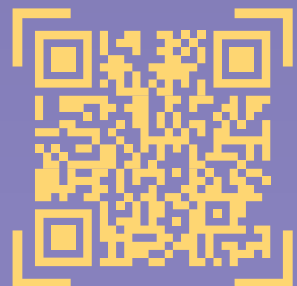
Take the next step — begin the conversation, and explore where God is leading you.

**Discover your vocation:** [divineword.org.au/vocation](https://divineword.org.au/vocation)

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Produced by  
Society of the Divine Word  
Australia Province  
Vocation Coordinator



**Listen to the voice of the Lord who invites you.** Pope Leo XIV