

Chapter 3 of the first book of Samuel tells about Samuel, perhaps twelve, thirteen or fourteen, who was an assistant to the prophet Eli. Three times one night Samuel heard “Samuel, Samuel.” He ran to Eli asking, “Did you call?” Eli answered “no, go back to sleep.”

The third time Eli realized the LORD was calling the boy. So, Eli told Samuel, “Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say,

“Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening ”



EIGHTH GRADE BOYS **have a special incentive for listening.**

In fall of 2024, the Columbus Serra Club will be challenging eighth grade boys to write an essay of five hundred words or less answering a question about whether God might be calling them to the priesthood.

Writers of the ten best essays will be awarded a \$1,000 tuition assistance grant to a diocesan Catholic high school.

“People who say that we priests are lonely are either lying or have got it all wrong. We are far less lonely than anyone else, for we can count on the constant company of the Lord, with whom we should be conversing without interruption. We are in love with Love, with the Author of Love!”

— *St. Josemaria Escriva*

