



## Discerning the call to the priesthood

Operation Andrew Dinners, sponsored by the diocesan Office of Vocations, were held in November and December for high school boys. These dinners served as an

invitation by Bishop John C. Nienstedt to young men who are discerning a call to the priesthood. The dinners were held at parishes in Hutchinson, Willmar, and

Marshall. Every pastoral leader in the diocese was encouraged to invite young men to attend. The host parish then provided a meal, where the participants were able to speak with priests about a variety of issues.

After dinner, the participants watched a video entitled *Carrying the Legacy* which explored the meaning of priesthood and gave practical hints for discernment. Priests in attendance shared vocation stories, some highlighting their own discernment, while others spoke of the joys that their priestly ministry has meant in their lives. Bishop Nienstedt spoke at each of the events, giving encouragement to the youth to continue to discern God's call in their lives.