

***God has created me to do Him some  
definite service***

**Lay commitment and apostolic work  
of lay people in the military  
in the light  
of the Second Vatican Council**



**AMI CONFERENCE  
Slovenia, 2013**

Though they differ essentially and not only in degree,  
the common priesthood of the faithful  
and the ministerial or hierarchical  
priesthood  
are none the less ordered to one  
another;  
each in its own proper way shares in the  
one priesthood of Christ.

*Lumen Gentium n.10.*

The sacred nature and organised structure of the priestly community is brought into operation through the sacraments and the exercise of virtues.

Incorporated into the Church by Baptism, the faithful are appointed by their baptismal character to Christian religious worship; reborn as sons of God, they must profess before men the faith they have received from God through the Church...

They are true witnesses of Christ, more strictly obliged to spread the faith by word and deed.

*Lumen Gentium n.11.*

...the Church...travels the same journey  
as all mankind  
and shares the same earthly lot with  
the world:  
it is to be a leaven and, as it were,  
the soul of human society in its renewal  
by Christ  
and transformation into the family of  
God.

*Gaudium et spes, n.40*

The individual apostolate is everywhere and always in place; in certain circumstances it is the only one appropriate, the only one possible. Every lay person, whatever his condition, is called to it, is obliged to it, even if he has not the opportunity or possibility of collaborating in associations.

*Apostolicam actuositatem, n.16*



They will be apostles both in their families and in the parishes and dioceses, which already are themselves expressions of the community character of the apostolate; apostles too in the free associations they will have decided to for among themselves

*Apostolicam actuositatem, n.18*

All Christ's faithful have the obligation and the right to strive so that the divine message of salvation may more and more reach all people of all times and all places

*CIC c.211*



Christ's faithful may freely establish  
and direct associations  
which serve charitable or pious  
purposes  
or which foster the Christian vocation  
in the world

*CIC, c.215*

Those who are sworn to serve their country in the armed forces are servants of the security and freedom of nations.

If they carry out their duty honourably, they truly contribute to the common good of the nations and the maintenance of peace.

*Gaudium et Spes, n.79*



God has created me to do Him  
some definite service  
He has committed some work to  
me which He has  
not committed to another  
I have my mission...

*Blessed John Henry Newman*

Lay people who are found to be  
suitable  
are capable of being admitted by the  
sacred Pastors  
to those ecclesiastical offices and  
functions which,  
in accordance with the provisions of  
law, they can discharge.

*CIC, c. 228 1.*

