

## The Happiness of a Religious Vocation.

IN the world there are still many people whose faith is stanch and sincere, but who too often reason and act in direct opposition to its tenets. This is particularly true regarding the way religious vocations are treated in Christian families. Parents are firmly convinced that the happiness of heaven is preferable for their children to all earthly goods; they would be inconsolable were one of their little infants to die unbaptised, or one of the older children be



Papa, I will be a priest one day.

suddenly snatched away without receiving the last sacraments. Yet, if this same child, son or daughter, manifests a desire to assure more fully his or her eternal salvation by embracing the religious state, how often they murmur and grieve and try to turn the chosen one from his or her vocation by raising obstacles or even formally opposing the noble design.

Poor deluded parents! What causes this resistance so little in conformity with your faith and the natural inclination of your heart? Is it not unfortunate prejudice? Is it not the baneful influence of wordly surroundings, impercep-