THE USCCB & VOCATIONS

Rev. Ralph B. O’Donnell
Executive Director
Secretariat of Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations
www.usccb.org/vocations
THE COMMITTEE ON CLERGY, CONSECRATED LIFE AND VOCATIONS

THE CCLV SECRETARIAT
USCCB Structure

• Officers
  • Archbishop Kurtz, President
  • Cardinal Dinardo, Vice President
  • Archbishop Aymond, Secretary
  • Bishop Kevin Farrell, Treasurer

• 4 Management Committees

• 16 Programmatic Committees

• 14 Subcommittees

• 4 Task Forces
Committee

- Bishop Michael Burbidge, Chairman
- Archbishop Joseph Tobin, C.Ss.R., Chairman-elect
- + 8 Bishops
- Consultants (5)

Secretariat

- Fr. Ralph O’Donnell, Executive Director
- Fr. Luke Ballman, Associate Director
- Veronica Salgado-Sorto, Staff Assistant
The CCLV Committee Mandate

- Diaconate
- Priestly Life and Ministry
- Consecrated Life
- Vocations and Priestly Formation
CCLV Consulting Organizations

- **Clergy**
  - NADD
  - NFPC
  - NOCERCC
  - ANSH
  - Vicars for Clergy

- **Vocations**
  - NCDVD
  - NRVC
  - SERRA

- **Priestly Formation**
  - NCEA Seminary

- **Consecrated Life**
  - CMSM/CMSWR/LCWR
  - US Association of Consecrated Virgins
  - US Conference of Secular Institutes
  - Vicars for Religious
Clergy
- Treatment Facilities
  St. Luke Institute
  St. John Vianney Center
  Guest House
- Ongoing Formation Institutes

Priestly Formation
- NACS
- NACTS
- IPF
- CMSM Formation Committee

Consecrated life
- Commission on Religious Life and Ministry
CCLV Collaborative Organizations

Vocations

- J.S. Paluch
- Labouré Society
The CCLV Committee Mandate

The National Directory for the Formation, Ministry and Life of Permanent Deacons

The Program of Priestly Formation
CCLV Annual PROJECTS

- **Vocations Events**
  - NVAW (First full week of November)
  - World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life (February 2)

- **Annual Surveys**
  - Ordination Class of 2016
  - Post-Ordination Survey of Deacons
  - Profession Class of 2015
CCLV Special PROJECTS

- USCCB Guidelines on Receiving Pastoral Ministers in the U.S.
- Resource on Seminary Admissions & Psych.
- Event for Novices and Seminarians of the U.S. with Pope Francis 9/2015
National Directory

- *Recogntito* expired in October of 2014
- In 2013 CCLV conducted a formal consultation on the National Directory
  - NADD, September 2013
  - Bishops, November 2013
  - Canonical Affairs & Church Governance Committee, December 2013
  - Simple renewal of *recognition* without any changes for another 5-years granted
The Working Group was appointed in December 2015 and had their initial meeting with the draft writer in March 2016.

- The writing process.
- The drafting process.
  - Committee Input
  - Ongoing Consultation
- Vote and sending of the document to the Congregation for Clergy in Rome. November General Assembly in 2018.
Simple *recognitio* for 5yrs granted November 2015

The Working Group was appointed in December 2015

The writing process and editing process is scheduled to begin in spring of 2017.

Vote and sending of the document to the Congregation for Clergy in Rome. November General Assembly in 2019.
CCLV On-Line Resources

www.usccb.org/priesthood

www.usccb.org/diaconate

www.usccb.org/consecratedlife
PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS: A KEY TO PROMOTING A CULTURE OF VOCATIONS
Every particular vocation is born from within the People of God, and is a gift of divine mercy:

- Reflect upon the apostolic community.
- Give thanks for the role the community has played in your vocational journey.
- The “call” as an antidote to indifference and individualism.
- Urge the faithful to assume their responsibility for the care and discernment of vocations.
- Vocations are born within the Church

  “A sure sign of the authenticity of a charism is its ecclesial character, its ability to be integrated harmoniously into the life of God’s holy and faithful people for the good of all. *Evangelii Gaudium*

Vocations grow within the Church

The ecclesial community always remains the fundamental formational environment.

Vocations are sustained by the Church

Continues to shape us in our willingness, perseverance and ongoing formation.
Encouraging Trends for Vocation Awareness

- 49% of those ordained in 2016 were active in a parish youth group.
- 25% were active in College Campus Ministry or Newman Center activities.
- 70% Encouraged by a parish priest.
- 14% Encouraged by a campus minister.
- 54% active as a Lector
- 26% Campus Ministry/Newman Center
- 22% (16%) Participated in World Youth Day
- 67% (35%) Come and See Weekend
Key subgroups most likely to have considered a vocation

Most important:

- Those who attended Catholic educational institutions at any level
- Those who were encouraged to consider a vocation by any type of person
- Those who personally know priests and men and women religious
- Those involved in parish youth and young adult groups; World Youth Day and NCYC
Encouragement on the national level to bring leadership from organizations dedicated to the education and evangelization of youth and young adults, into dialogue with those who work in vocations ministry.

Pooling of resources and strengthening of communication among these national organizations.

Workshops and presentations on Vocations at National Conferences
PROFESSION CLASS

- Religious (52%)
- Parish Priest (42%)
- Friend (42%)
- Mother (34%)
- Parishioner (22%)
- Father (22%)
- Other Relative (19%)
- Campus Minister (19%)
- Teacher/Cat. (18%)
- Youth Minister (7%)

ORDINATION CLASS

- Parish Priest (70%)
- Friend (48%)
- Parishioner (46%)
- Mother (42%)
- Father (31%)
- Teacher/Cat. (27%)
- Grandparent (25%)
- Other Relative (21%)
- Religious Sister (13%)
- Campus Minister (21%)
DISCOURAGEMENT

PROFESSION CLASS

- Other Relative (36%)
- Friend/Classmate (40%)
- Mother (29%)
- Father (29%)
- Coworker (21%)
- Teacher (10%)
- Priest (4%)
- Religious (5%)
- Youth Minister (5%)

ORDINATION CLASS

- Friend/Classmate (29%)
- Other Relative (22%)
- Father (12%)
- Mother (13%)
- Coworker (10%)
- Teacher (5%)
- Priest (5%)
- Religious (1%)
- Youth Minister (1%)
To foster holiness within the family through a more intimate relationship with Christ.

Prayerful reflection on one’s encounter of the Risen Christ is a vital component in discerning a call to the Priesthood, Diaconate, Consecrated Life or Marriage.

Preparation of parents for the sacraments (Baptism, Communion and Confirmation)

Preaching to develop an intimate relationship with Christ through prayer

Role of the deacon in promoting vocation awareness in the family.

Revised Rite of Marriage
“If you knew the gift.” Jn 4:10

Encouraging priests to encounter more deeply the mercy of the Lord in their own lives; (e.g. as penitents in confession and as men in spiritual direction) and inspire priests to extend that mercy of the Lord, (e.g. as confessors and spiritual directors), creating and oasis of mercy.
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