

My Sheep Hear My Voice and Follow Me: Vocational Discernment at Every Age



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John 10:22-27

The feast of the Dedication was then taking place in Jerusalem. It was winter. And Jesus walked about in the temple area on the Portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long are you going to keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.” Jesus answered them, “I told you and you do not believe. The works I do in my Father’s name testify to me. But you do not believe, because you are not among my sheep. My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me.

Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations (CCLV)

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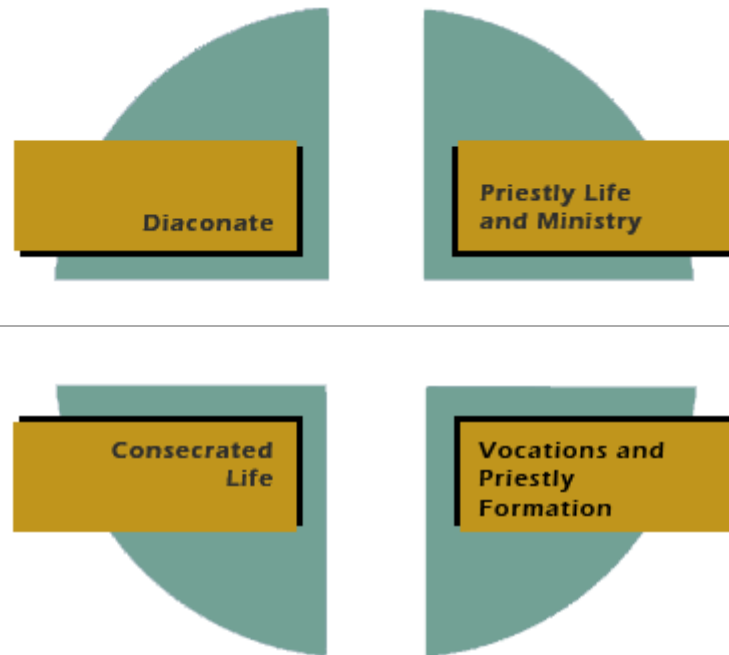
Consultants (5)

Secretariat

Fr. Ralph O'Donnell, Executive
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The CCLV Committee Mandate



CCLV Consulting Organizations

Clergy

NADD

NFPC

NOCERCC

ANSH

Vicars for Clergy

Vocations

NCDVD

NRVC

SERRA

Priestly Formation

NACTS IPF

NACS

Consecrated Life

CMSM

CMSWR

LCWR

US Association of
Consecrated Virgins

US Conference of Secular
Institutes

Vicars for Religious

CCLV ANNUAL PROJECTS



VOCATIONS EVENTS

- World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life February 2nd – 3rd 2019
 - World Day of Prayer for Vocations (4th Sunday of Easter) May 12th 2019
 - World Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests (Solemnity of the Sacred Heart) June 28th 2019
 - NVAW (November 3rd – 9th 2019)
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ANNUAL SURVEYS

- Ordination Class of 2019
- Post-Ordination Survey of Deacons (2019)
- Profession Class of 2018

Instrumentum laboris

Many young people believe a renewed ecclesial approach is decisive, especially from the relational standpoint: stating that young people want a less institutional and more relational Church, that is able to welcome people without judging them first, a friendly and proximate Church, an ecclesial community that is like a family where you feel welcomed, listened to, cherished and integrated (68).

(One person at a time).

The Call

As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew, casting a net into the sea; they were fishermen. He said to them, “Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.” At once they left their nets and followed him.

Matthew 4:18-20

The Call at Baptism

God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has freed you from sin, given you a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and welcomed you into his holy people. He now anoints you with the chrism of salvation. As Christ was anointed Priest, Prophet, and King, so may you live always as a member of his body, sharing everlasting life.

Instrumentum laboris

- The term “vocation” needs to be clarified. Caring about all young people, without exception, the Synod is asked to shed light in a convincing way on the vocational horizon of human existence as such. The young themselves are asking the Church to help them find a simple and clear understanding of vocation (85).
- The Second Vatican Council clearly recovered mankind’s vocational horizon when it used such terms to express both how all human beings are destined for communion with Christ (cf. LG 3.13; GS 19.32), and the universal call to holiness (cf. LG 39-42), locating individual vocations within this interpretative horizon: vocations to the ordained ministry and consecrated life, as well as lay vocations (cf. LG 31), especially in their spousal form (cf. LG 35; GS 48.49.52). Subsequent magisterial teaching developed along the same lines, recognizing the analogical character of the term “vocation” and the many dimensions that characterize the reality it designates with respect to each personal mission, and to the communion of all people. (87)

Vocation

Baptism:

- Initial Call of Discipleship
 - Discipleship - looks like something.
 - Our thoughts, words and actions are to be informed by the life of Christ. We are called to follow his example.
 - “My sheep hear my voice and they follow me.”
- The “Call to Love” lived out through countless concrete actions
- The Individual’s Call
 - Vocation: Priesthood/Consecrated Life/ Marriage/Life in the Single State
- Identifying a Possible Candidate

Qualities and Characteristics of a Prospective Priesthood Candidate

A personal relationship with God integrated through prayer and seen as important part of his life

Has the ability and willingness to talk about his faith

Has some involvement in his local parish

Has the desire to serve others

Motivated by the mission of Jesus and has an ability to articulate it

Willing to sacrifice personally for the service of the Gospel

Possesses a keen sense of empathy

A person of integrity

An awareness of God's omnipotent presence

Others have mentioned that he would make a good priest

One who is approachable

Possesses a psycho-sexual-socio maturity

Has the ability to collaborate with others

Takes initiative and takes responsibility for his actions

Possesses the skills of self-mastery and discipline

Has shown the capacity and evidence of living a chaste celibate life

Has healthy relationships with men, women and children

Has average intelligence, common sense, good physical & emotional health

The celebration of the Sacraments are important to him

Has the ability to nurture another person's growth

Is open to and respectful of all people

Recognizes the need to both give and accept support from others

Instrumentum laboris

Synod of Bishops XV Ordinary General Assembly

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Communication as Expressed One Person to Another...

a process by which information is exchanged between individuals through a common system of symbols, signs, or behavior

- Person to Person (Encoding - Medium of Transmission - Decoding – Feedback) Then the process is repeated.
- The transmission of a message from a sender to a receiver in an understandable way

Some Forms of Communication

Written: transcribed materials, books, periodicals, letters, billboards, legal documentation, etc.

Verbal: monologues, dialogues, homilies orations, stage performances, music, etc.

Nonverbal: a smile, a frown, making a fist, or an open palm extended

Visual: Duck Crossing sign, walk signal, stop signal, advertisements

Becoming a more relational Church...

Inspirational Images among the People of God:

How do we Encourage a culture of Vocations:

Encouraging Trends for Vocation Awareness

45% of those ordained in 2018 were active in a parish youth group.

28% were active in College Campus Ministry or Newman Center activities.

57% active as a Lector

73% participated in Eucharistic Adoration

48% active in Bible Study/Prayer Group

18% participated in World Youth Day

46% attended Come and See Weekend

PROFESSION CLASS

	Women	Men
Religious	40%	39%
Parish Priest	33%	51%
Friend	42%	46%
Mother	27%	37%
Parishioner	23%	20%
Father	21%	38%
Other Relative	23%	22%
Campus Minister	11%	11%
Teacher	12%	28%
Youth Minister	9%	8%

ORDINATION CLASS

Religious Sister	17%
Parishioner	47%
Friend/Classmate	48%
Mother	37%
Father	26%
Other Relative	20%
Teacher	31%
Campus Minister	18%
Grandparent	21%
Parish Priest	70%
Youth Minister	16%

PROFESSION CLASS

	Women	Men
Religious	2%	2%
Parish Priest	6%	6%
Friend	36%	25%
Mother	25%	15%
Father	21%	12%
Other Relative	37%	14%
Teacher	7%	6%
Youth Minister	0%	2%

ORDINATION CLASS

Religious	2%
Parish Priest	6%
Friend/Class mate	30%
Mother	14%
Father	15%
Other Relative	21%
Teacher	5%
Youth Minister	1%
Coworker	13%

DISCOURAGEMENT

CCLV Online Resources



www.usccb.org/priesthood

www.usccb.org/diaconate

www.usccb.org/consecratedlife

The USCCB & Vocations



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