Building a Culture of Vocations in Hispanic Communities
Presenters

- Fr. John Guthrie
  Associate Director, Secretariat of Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations, USCCB

- Fr. Jorge Torres
  Vocation Director,
  Diocese of Orlando, Florida
  Member, Executive Board, National Conference of Diocesan Vocation Directors
PowerPoint available at:

www.usccb.org/vocations
Encuentro y misión #45: “La promoción de vocaciones al sacerdocio, al diaconado, y a la vida consagrada deberá ser parte integral de los esfuerzos del ministerio hispano.”
Video from Boston College on Hispanic Ministry
## Annual Surveys of New Priests and Religious (2014)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Priests</th>
<th>Rel.</th>
<th>Catholics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Caucasian / White</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic / Latino(a)</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian / Pacific Islander</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African / African American</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Hispanic/Latino: 15%

US-Born Latinos: <5%

The key target: 70% of young Hispanic Catholics are U.S.-born (90% of those under 18)
FUTURE ORDINATION CLASSES--MAJOR SEMINARIANS (2014)

- Caucasian/White: 65%
- Hispanic/Latino: 14%
- Asian/Pacific: 11%
- African American: 3%
- Other: 8%
FUTURE ORDINATION
CLASSES--COLLEGE
SEMINARIANS (2014)

- Caucasian/White  70%
- Hispanic/Latino   21%
- Asian/Pacific     6%
- African American  3%
- Other            2%
Key factors for serious consideration

- 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
THE BOTTOM LINE

RELATIONSHIPS
RELATIONSHIPS
RELATIONSHIPS
RELATIONSHIPS
Engage one another in thinking about building a strategy of vocations AT THE LOCAL LEVEL
Key Question:

What does it look like to build a culture of vocations in the Hispanic communities in your community?
Key Points of Contact:

- Pastors
- Families
- Catholic Education
- Youth Ministry
- The pastoral culture within:
  - Parish
  - Religious movements
KEY CONSIDERATIONS:

- Cultural-Social Environment
- Educational Levels
- Ethnic Identity
- Generational Differences
Cultural-Social Environment

- Economic struggle and poverty
- Gangs
- Drugs
- Teenage pregnancy
- High school drop out rate
## Educational Levels

### Highest Level of Education among Adult Respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Less than high school</th>
<th>High school</th>
<th>Some college</th>
<th>Bachelor's degree or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Male adults</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Hispanic white</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other race</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Female adults</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Hispanic white</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other race</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Educational Levels

- Small percentage going to college and, from that group, mostly women finish.
- The biggest obstacle to Hispanic vocations may be the educational requirements.
- A need to connect community leaders with the Hispanic youth to inspire them to view college as an attainable option for them.
Ethnic Identity

- Strategy must be nimble enough to deal with particular ethnic identities:
  - Mexican
  - Puerto Rican
  - Colombian
Generational Differences

- First generation
  - Most integrated parishes use Spanish to serve the immediate needs of the immigrant population

- Later generations
  - English is increasingly used as the common language for parish life. This reflects the impact of the growing post-immigrant Hispanic population
Case Study 1

Juan
College? Seminary
Case Study 2

Jose
THE LATINO REFORMATION

Inside the new Hispanic churches transforming religion in America

BY ELIZABETH DIAS

College Inequity/ Rand Paul, Rebel/ When Dogs Cry
MOVIMIENTO DE RETIROS PARROQUIALES JUAN XXIII

VIA CRUCIS 2014
Parroquia de San Pedro
Abril 18 del 2014
**Principle of Gradualism**

- Take a person where they are
- Move them step-by-step towards a goal GRADUALLY
- Challenge is finding ways and methods to do that
What is your initial reaction to the presentation?

What can you do in your ministry or leadership position to promote a culture of vocations in your community?
Workshop Sponsors

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

National Conference of Diocesan Vocation Directors