

THE USCCB & VOCATIONS



Rev. W. Shawn McKnight, S.T.D.

Executive Director

Secretariat of Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations

www.usccb.org/vocations

THE COMMITTEE ON CLERGY,
CONSECRATED LIFE AND VOCATIONS

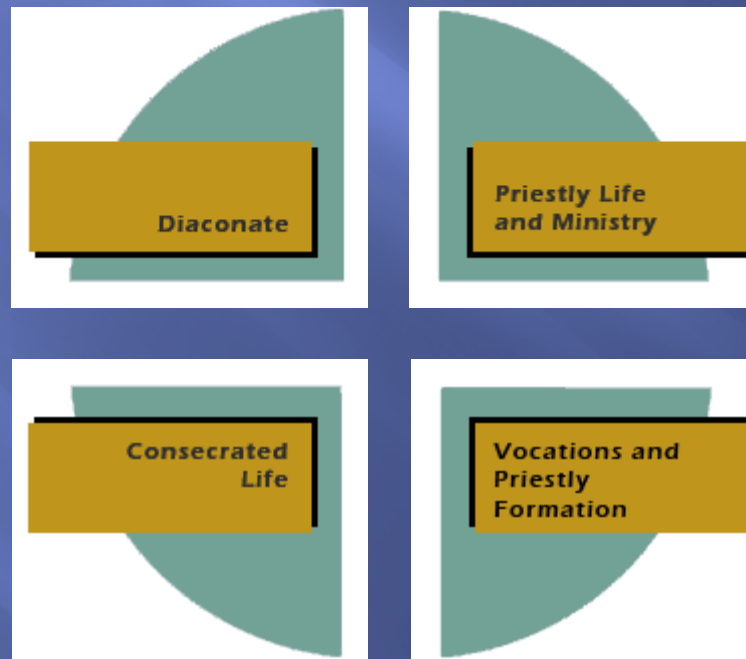
THE CCLV SECRETARIAT

THE PROGRAM OF PRIESTLY
FORMATION, 5TH EDITION

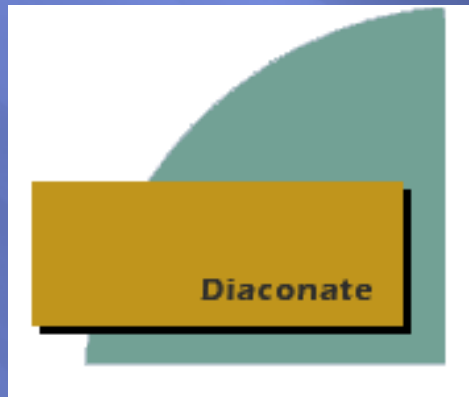
The CCLV Committee

- Archbishop Robert J. Carlson,
Chairman
- Bishop Michael F. Burbidge,
Chairman-elect
- Mrs. Rose Sullivan, Consultant

The CCLV Committee Mandate



The CCLV Committee Mandate



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

The Program of
Priestly Formation



The CCLV Committee Strategic Priorities 2013-2016

- ▣ Foster a Stronger Culture of Vocations in Youth/Young Adult and Campus Ministry
- ▣ Increase the Ethnic Diversity of New Vocations, especially among Hispanics

The CCLV Secretariat

- Fr. Shawn McKnight, Exec. Dir.
- Fr. John Guthrie, Assoc. Dir.
- Ms. Sarah George, Staff Assist.

CCLV PROJECTS

- ❑ Vocations Events
 - World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life (February 2)
 - World Day of Prayer for Vocations (4th Sunday of Easter)
 - NVAW (First full week of November)
- ❑ Annual Surveys
 - Ordination Class of
 - Profession Class of
- ❑ Guide to Seminary Admissions
- ❑ Guidelines on International Seminarians & Clergy

Seminary Enrollment 2012-2013

▣ College: 1,425 (670 fs / 534 col)
1,248 (2004-2005)*
1,460 (2010-2011)**

▣ Theology: 3,694
3,114 (1997-1998)*
3,723 (2011-2012)**

▣ Pre-Theology: 811

* = Lowest ever

fs: free standing

** = Most recent higher enrollment col: collaborative

CCLV Recent Surveys

- ▣ Consideration of Vocations by Never-Married Youth & Young Adults 2012
- ▣ Profession Class of 2012
- ▣ Ordination Class of 2013



VOCATION SURVEY CHARACTERISTICS

- Self-administered, national online survey, conducted in May and June 2012
- Scientific, probability-based sample of 1,428 never-married Catholics ages 14 and older [R: 14-35]

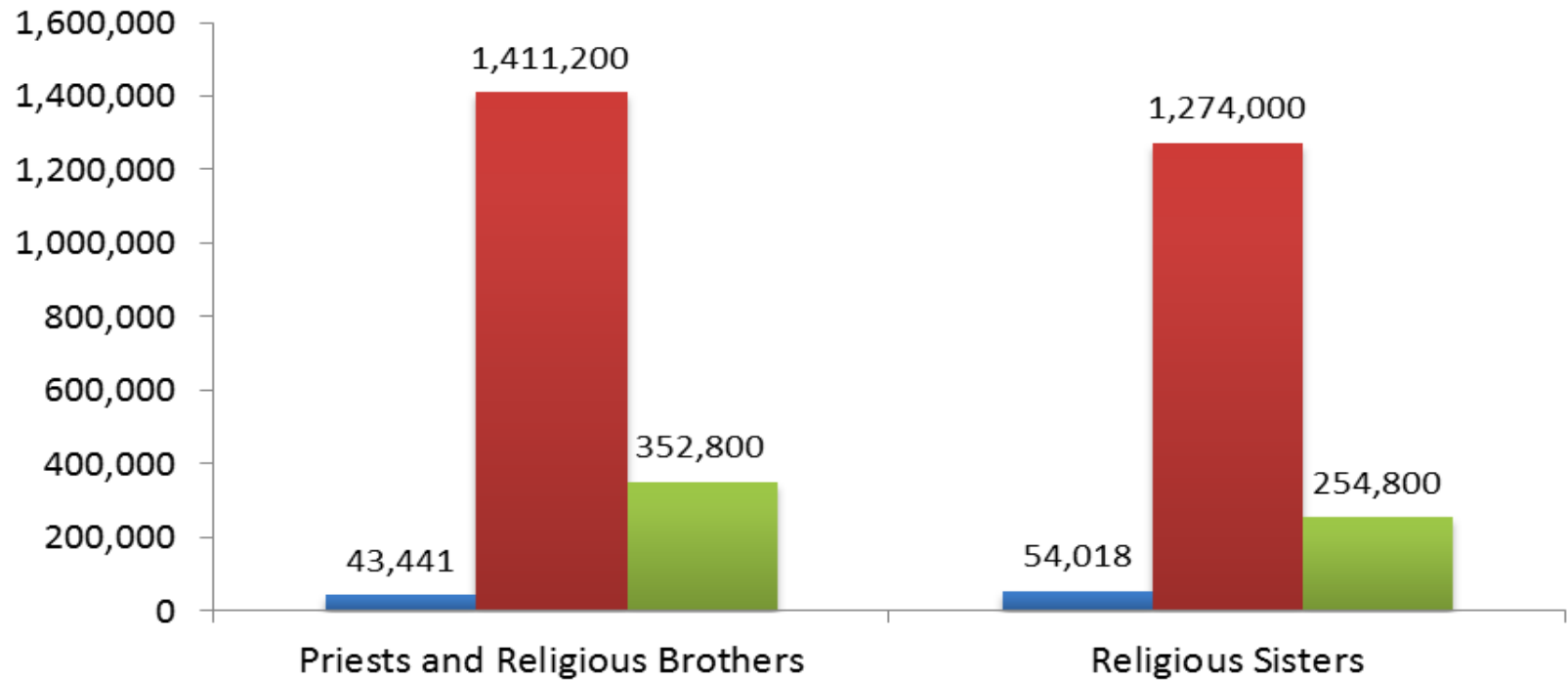
Males (average age 26):

- Six in ten are adults (18 or older)
- 36% Non-Hispanic white adults, 20% non-Hispanic white teens
- 19% Hispanic adults, 16% Hispanic teens
- 4% Other race adults, 5% other race teens

Females (average age 28):

- Seven in ten are adults (18 or older)
- 40% Non-Hispanic white adults, 15% non-Hispanic white teens
- 22% Hispanic adults, 13% Hispanic teens
- 7% Other race adults, 3% other race teens

No Shortage of Interest



■ Current population

■ Never-married Catholics who have considered vocation at least "a little" or more

■ Never married Catholics who have considered vocation "very seriously"



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

Profession Class of 2012

- ▣ 156 potential candidates identified
- ▣ 85% response rate [108 Sisters / 24 Brothers]
- ▣ 69% Caucasian, 15% Asian, 8% Hispanic
- ▣ 29% foreign-born [Vietnam (8%), Latin America (4%), Philippines (4%), Africa (3%)]
- ▣ Average age: 39 / Median age: 37
- ▣ Strong representation of Catholic High School (36%) and Catholic University/College (33%)
- ▣ College debt is a factor [7% / 2 yrs./ \$19,500]

Ordination Class of 2013

- ▣ 497 potential candidates
- ▣ 67% Caucasian, 15% Hispanic; 10% Asian;
- ▣ 31% foreign-born (Mexico, Vietnam, Colombia, Poland, Philippines, Nigeria)
- ▣ Average age: 35 / Median age: 32
- ▣ Strong representation of Catholic High School (42%) and Catholic University/College (44%)
- ▣ College debt is a factor [26% / \$20,250].

ENCOURAGEMENT

PROFESSION CLASS

- ▣ Parish Priest (47%)
- ▣ Religious (42%)
- ▣ Friend (42%)
- ▣ Mother (26%)
- ▣ Parishioner (25%)
- ▣ Father (19%)
- ▣ Other Relative (17%)
- ▣ Youth Minister (15%)
- ▣ Campus Minister (14%)
- ▣ Teacher/Cat. (12%)

ORDINATION CLASS

- ▣ Parish Priest (67%)
- ▣ Friend (46%)
- ▣ Parishioner (38%)
- ▣ Mother (34%)
- ▣ Father (28%)
- ▣ Teacher/Cat. (22%)
- ▣ Grandparent (21%)
- ▣ Other Relative (16%)
- ▣ Campus Minister (14%)
- ▣ Religious Sister (12%)

DISCOURAGEMENT

PROFESSION CLASS

- ▣ Other Relative (29%)
- ▣ Friend/Classmate (25%)
- ▣ Mother (23%)
- ▣ Father (22%)
- ▣ Coworker (9%)
- ▣ Teacher (9%)
- ▣ Priest (9%)
- ▣ Religious (5%)
- ▣ Youth Minister (0%)

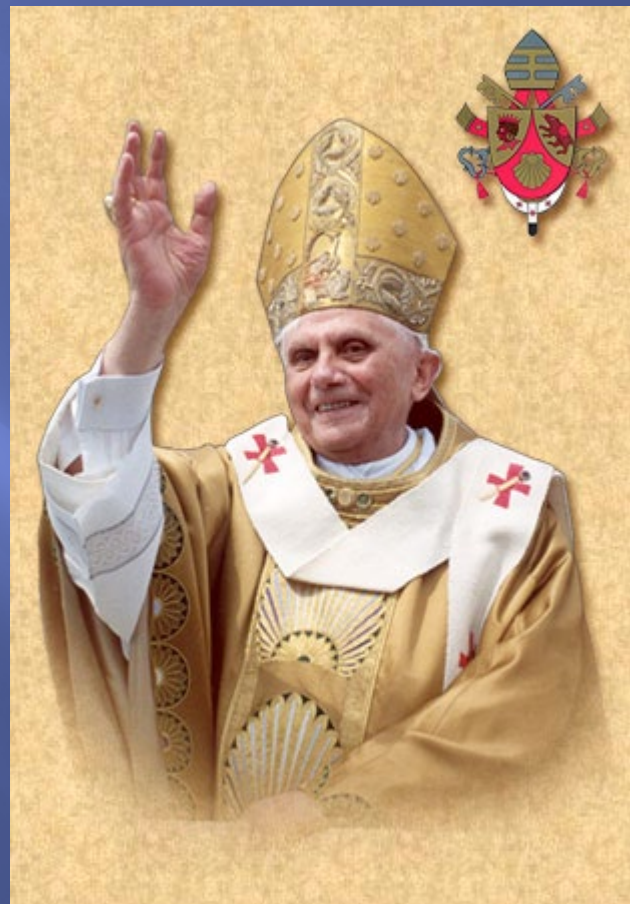
ORDINATION CLASS

- ▣ Friend/Classmate (55%)
- ▣ Other Relative (43%)
- ▣ Father (30%)
- ▣ Mother (28%)
- ▣ Coworker (21%)
- ▣ Priest (19%)
- ▣ Teacher (11%)
- ▣ Religious (3%)
- ▣ Youth Minister (0%)

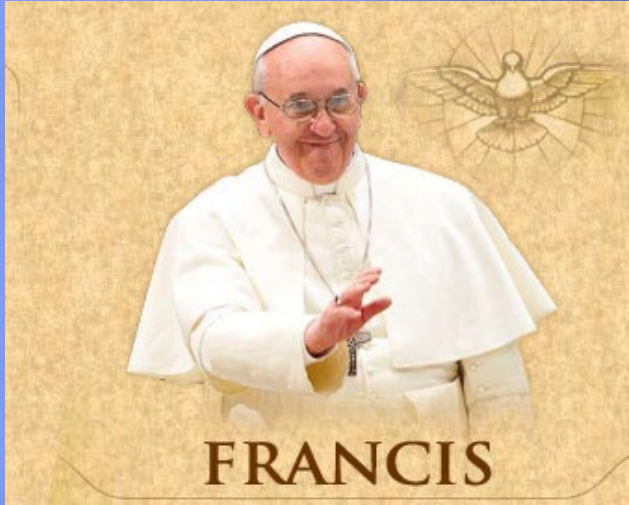
PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS: A KEY TO PROMOTING A CULTURE OF VOCATIONS

Porta Fidei n. 15

“What the world is in particular need of today is the credible witness of people enlightened in mind and heart by the word of the Lord and capable of opening the hearts and minds of many to the desire for God and true life, life without end.”

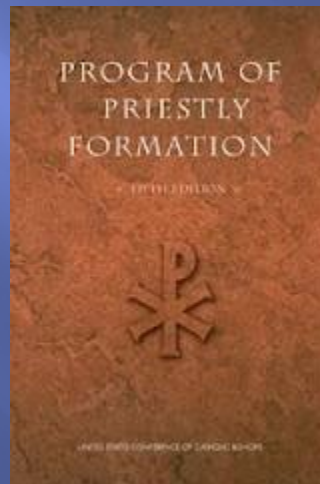


Lumen Fidei n. 38



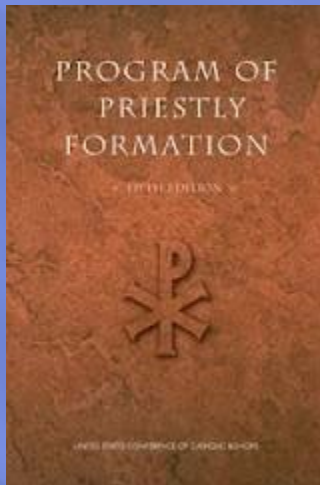
“Persons always live in relationship. We come from others, we belong to others, and our lives are enlarged by our encounter with others. Even our own knowledge and self-awareness are relational; they are linked to others who have gone before us: in the first place, our parents, who gave us our life and our name. . . The same thing holds true for faith, which brings human understanding to its fullness. Faith’s past, that act of Jesus’ love which brought new life to the world, comes down to us through the memory of others — witnesses — and is kept alive in that one remembering subject which is the Church. ”

THE PPF & YOU



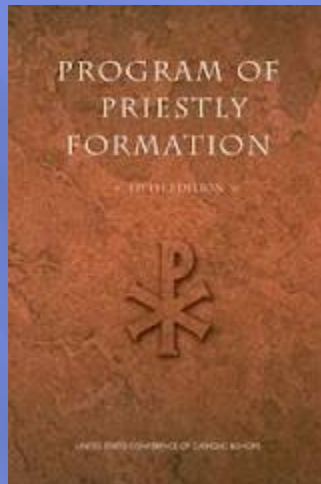
www.usccb.org/priestlyformation

Program of Priestly Formation, 5th Edition



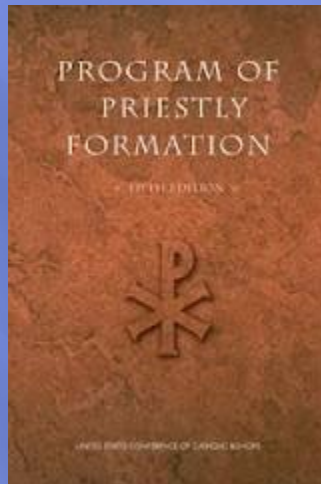
- ▣ Prescriptive norms for the admission and formation of all seminarians in the United States (diocesan and religious, Latin & Eastern Churches) (Cf. 6)
- ▣ Approved by the body of Bishops and granted renewal of *recognitio* by the Congregation for Catholic Education in 2010

Sources of the PPF



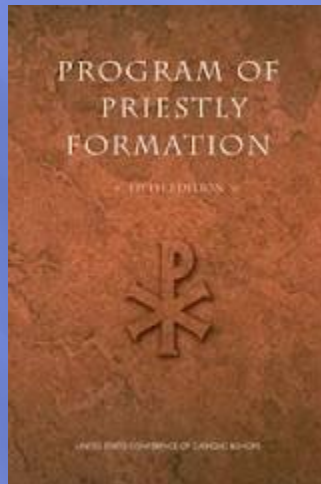
- ▣ Vatican II
 - *Lumen gentium*
 - *Christus Dominum*
 - *Presbyterorum ordinis*
 - *Optatam totius*
- ▣ *Ratio fundamentalis institutionis sacerdotalis* (1970 / revised 1985)
- ▣ *Catechism of the Catholic Church*
- ▣ *Pastores dabo vobis*
- ▣ Seminary Visitations

Revision / Renewal



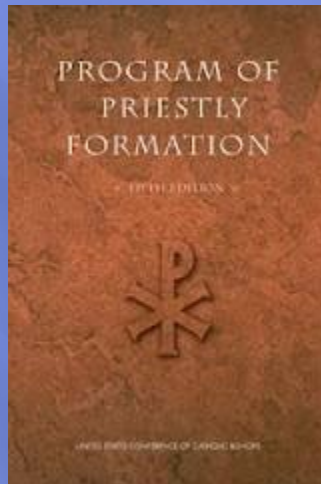
- ❑ 5th edition *recognitio* expires in November 2015
- ❑ CCLV recommends simple renewal or revised edition to the body of Bishops
- ❑ USCCB approves the renewal/revision
- ❑ Congregation for Clergy grants *recognitio*

PPF 6th Edition?



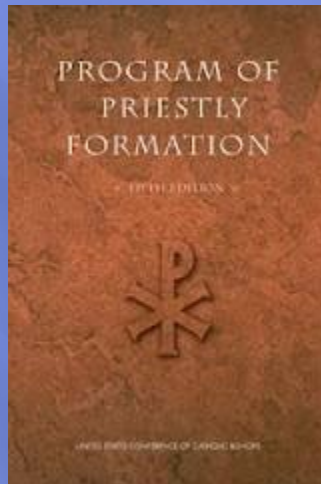
- ▣ New documents from Rome
- ▣ Consultation with collaborative organizations
 - NCDVD
 - NACS
 - MATS
 - RECTORS
- ▣ CCLV Committee will determine a course in 2014
- ▣ Simple renewal is possible
- ▣ Awaiting revision of *Ratio fundamentalis*

Structure of PPF



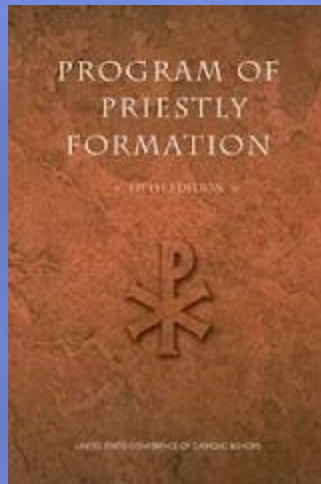
- ▣ Introduction & Conclusion with 7 Sections
 - Nature & Mission of Priests
 - Life of Priests
 - Vocations & Admissions
 - Formation
 - Seminary Governance, Administration and Faculty
 - Administration
 - Ongoing Formation
- ▣ Addendum on readmission

Format of PPF



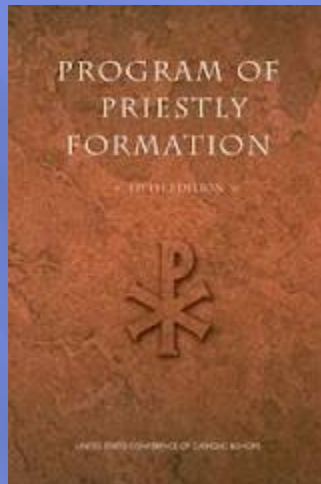
- ▣ Narrative Overview
- ▣ Specific Norms

Vocations & Admissions



- ▣ Narrative: PPF ns. 32-41
- ▣ Norms: PPF ns. 42-67

Vocations & Admissions: Narrative

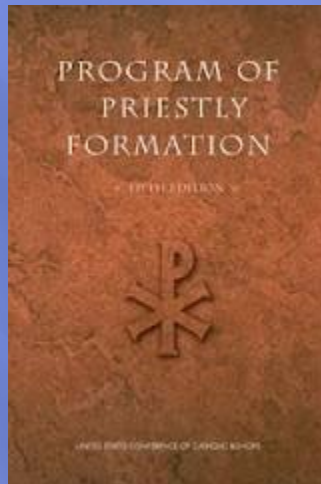


- ▣ Discernment of Vocations
 - A divine and ecclesial dialogue
- ▣ Those Responsible for Vocations
 - Church, family, bishop, presbyterate, vocation director, seminary, seminarians

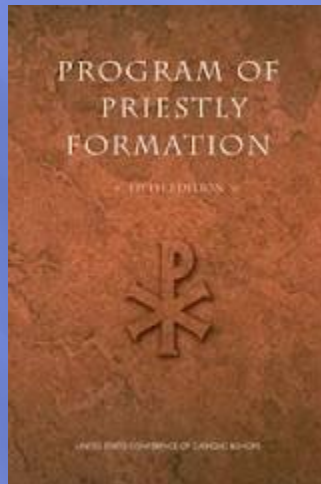
Vocations & Admissions: Narrative

▣ Admissions Process

- Purpose
- Principle of gradualism
- Minimum standards
- Modern context
- Responsibility of bishop & vocation director
- From admissions to formation
- Thresholds of sexuality

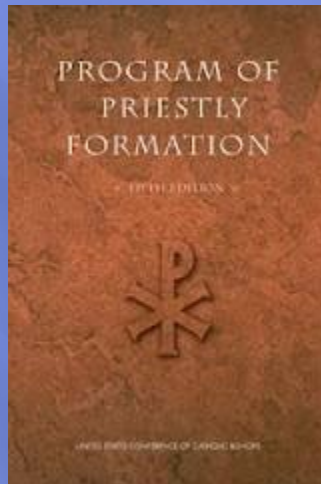


Vocations & Admissions: Norms



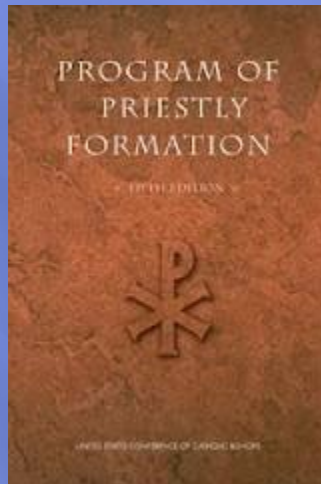
- ▣ Develop/review policy and follow it
- ▣ Both the diocese and seminaries have admissions processes (n.39)
- ▣ Benefit of doubt – Church
- ▣ Seminary not the place for therapy
- ▣ Obligation of applicant to give evidence of a vocation

Vocations & Admissions: Norms



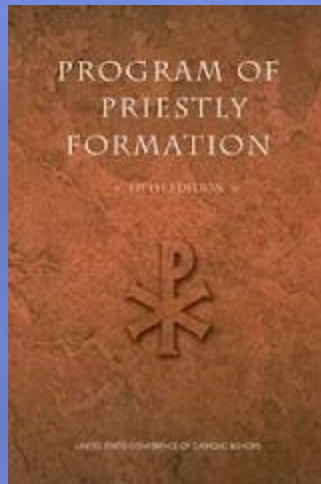
- ▣ Pre-theology
 - Two years for all four dimensions of formation, not just philosophy (n. 60)
- ▣ Screening process
 - Interviews
 - Letters of reference
 - Records (cf. 63, 64, 66)
 - Medical & Psych evals. (n.b. 65)
 - Criminal background checks

Vocations & Admissions: Norms



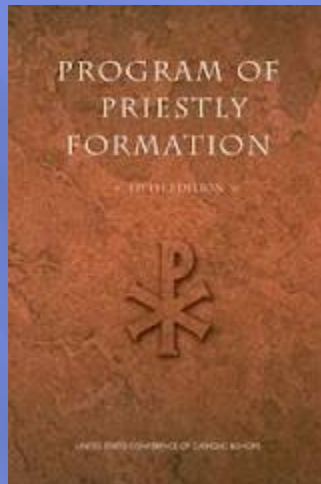
- ❑ Vocation Directors must give results of a complete screening process in a timely manner to seminaries (n. 48)
- ❑ Culturally diverse applicants
- ❑ Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution

Vocations & Admissions: Norms



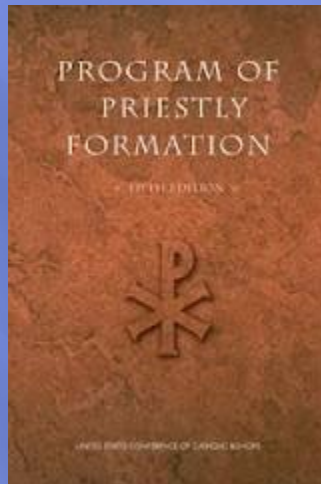
- ▣ Guidelines for psychologist
- ▣ Confidential but shared information
- ▣ Dysfunctional family background

Vocations & Admissions: Norms



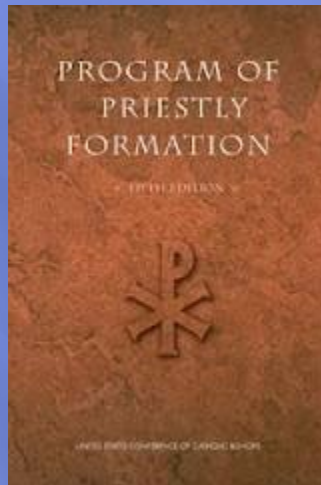
- ❑ Open & frank discussion of life experiences
- ❑ Evidence of having lived in continence for two years
- ❑ Evidence of or inclination toward criminal sexual activity with minor
- ❑ Candidates with same-sex experiences and/or inclinations

Vocations & Admissions: Norms



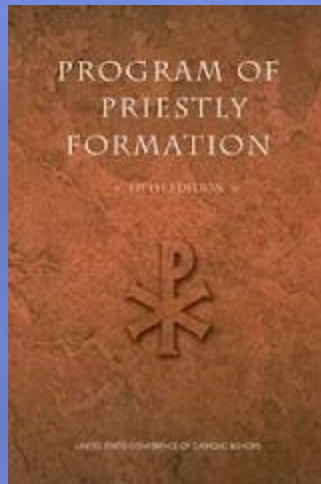
- ▣ Right to privacy & sharing of sensitive information with formation personnel
- ▣ Debt, college and otherwise
- ▣ Sense of entitlement
- ▣ Recent converts

Readmission of Former Sems: Norms & Addendum A



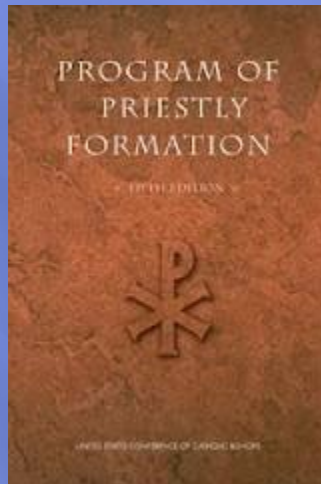
- ▣ Requirement to consult all previous formation programs (n. 61)
- ▣ 2-year period after dismissal from previous formation program (n. 62)
- ▣ Purpose of these procedural norms:
 - Full disclosure
 - Confidential exchange
 - Consultation

Readmission of Former Sems: Norms & Addendum A



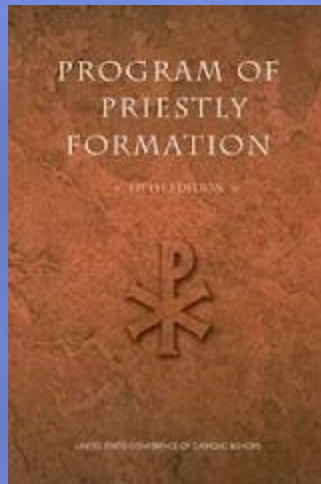
- ▣ Requirement of a written statement at the time of departure from bishop or rector that relevant information will be shared if the former seminarian attempts enrollment in another diocese or seminary
- ▣ If dismissed, no application for two years

Readmission of Former Sems: Norms & Addendum A



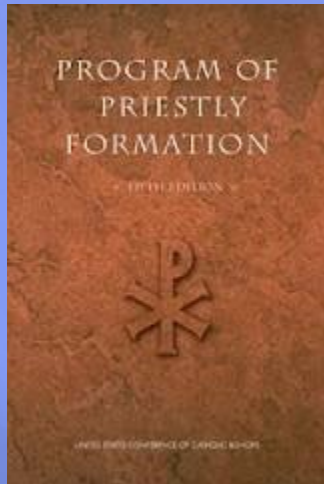
- ❑ Diocesan & seminary application forms must include question about previous applications / acceptance / rejection / dismissal
- ❑ At time of reapplication, sem must permit release of all relevant information
- ❑ Contact in written form, and if possible, oral interviews

Readmission of Former Sems: Norms & Addendum A



- ❑ Written notes of interview maintained in applicant's permanent file.
- ❑ A record of calls or inquiries received regarding a former seminarian should be maintained.
- ❑ Even if an institution or person responsible is not contacted, all relevant information should be disclosed

Readmission of Former Sems: Norms & Addendum A



- ▣ If the bishop accepts a former seminarian, he must write a formal letter to the seminary where he is sending the seminarian, copying the bishop(s) or major superior(s) of any previous diocese / religious institute
 - Applicant has been evaluated according to Addendum A
 - Including interviews with prior officials
 - It is his prudential judgment that the applicant is now fit for studies
 - No admission w/o this letter