# 2125 HIII

THE CENTER FOR APPLIED RESEARCH IN THE APOSTOLATE SOUGHT SURVEY **RESPONSES FROM 309** SEMINARIANS TO BE ORDAINED IN 2025.



It received **309** responses, a response rate of **76%**. Responses came from ordinands at **115 U.S. dioceses** and **36 different religious institutions**. **405 men are set to be ordained priests this year.** 



Conclusion: **FAMILY** and **PARISH PRIESTS**, alongside **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**, provide optimal environments for a vocational call to growth.





#### 66% OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS

## SAID THEIR PARISH PRIEST HAD BEEN AN ENCOURAGING INFLUENCE ON THEIR VOCATION

followed by a fellow friend (52%), a parishioner (42%), their mother (38%), their father (29%), or a teacher/catechist (25%).







### 60% FIRST CONSIDERED THE PRIESTHOOD BEFORE GRADUATING FROM HIGH SCHOOL

High School (20%), Elementary (35%), Pre-School (5%)

16- AVERAGE AGE WHEN ORDINANDS FIRST HEARD CALL TO THE PRIESTHOOD

34- AVERAGE AGE AT ORDINATION

42% OF ORDINANDS TO DIOCESAN PRIESTHOOD ARE 30 OR YOUNGER



#### **BEFORE ENTERING SEMINARY**

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## 78% REGULARLY TOOK PART IN EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

73% HAD SERVED AT THE ALTAR



#### **BEFORE ENTERING SEMINARY**

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46% HAD ATTENDED A CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (K-8)

51% PARTICIPATED IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT THEIR PARISH

51% HAD PARTICIPATED IN THEIR PARISH YOUTH GROUP



#### **DISCOURAGING INFLUENCES**

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## 43% WERE DISCOURAGED FROM CONSIDERING THE PRIESTHOOD

Other Family Member: 21%

Friend: 19%

Mother: 12%

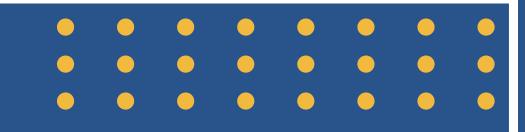
Father: 12%

Coworker: 8%

Teacher: 5%







89% WERE RAISED BY PARENTS WHO WERE MARRIED AND LIVING TOGETHER.

85% HAD PARENTS WHO WERE BOTH CATHOLIC

71% HAD TWO OR MORE SIBLINGS



#### FULL-TIME WORK EXPERIENCE BEFORE ENTERING SEMINARY

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**OTHER: 26%** 

**EDUCATION: 19%** 

**RESTAURANT: 17%** 

**CHURCH MINISTRY: 16%** 

**BUSINESS: 14%** 

**CONSTRUCTION: 10%** 

**MILITARY: 6%** 





# HELP US BUILD A CULTURE OF VOCATIONS

