

How Do Councils Help All Seminarians



Need For Vocations

- Over the past twenty five years the number of Catholics in the diocese has doubled, we are one of the few dioceses in the US where Catholics are growing in numbers.
- When parents move into the state, many times their older children are entering the priesthood in their old diocese.
- The number of priest we have today is the same number as we had 50 years ago. Luckily deacons are supporting their priests in their parishes



Current Coverage

- Approximately 1/3 of our priests are from our diocese
- Approximately 1/3 are on loan from other diocese around the world
- Approximately 1/3 are from religious orders or the Oratory
- Each year, we need approximately 5-6 priests just to replace those retiring or dying each year
- The average age of the priests in our diocese is approximately 60 years old



Long Journey to the Priesthood

- If you enter a diocesan seminary right out of high school the journey is 8 years.
- If you enter a diocesan seminary with a bachelors degree the journey is 6 years.
- If you are entering a religious order the journey is 11-12 years of formation including a pastoral year.
- Normally 55-60% of those that start the process become priests. This is why every seminarian needs our prayers and support



Growth in our Seminaries

- Three years ago, we had just 9 in the seminary and ordained none that year.
- Two years ago, we added 9 and we ordained Father Fryml
- Last year, we added 5, with one that dropped from the program and we ordained Father Williams
- This year, we have just one going into the seminary, Peter O'Steen from St. Mary's in Greenville and will ordain three.
- Sadly, we have had three drop from the program and are not returning in the fall; Matthew Curley, Patrick Judd and Charles Foley



Selection of Seminarians in the Past

- Councils have been asked by their priest to support a given seminarian, council members have made suggestions of who to support, some have gone on the website and chosen a seminarian, others have gone to the vocations office for a name (who do not keep track of who they recommend) while others have gone to the state vocation chair for recommendations.
- This has caused a situation where 7 councils are sponsoring Justin Damask and Jimmy Touzeau while other seminarians just have one or two.
- We need a system in place to adequately provide coverage to all seminarians.



Selection of Seminarians this Year

- For those seminarians in Pre-Theology or Theology we would like 4 councils supporting them.
- For those seminarians that are in College, we would like 3 councils to support them
- For those seminarians that are in a religious order or Oratory, we would like two councils to support them.
- ALL councils **MUST** go through the state vocation chair so that we can track and make sure that we are balanced in our support of all seminarians.



Priority of Support

The priority would be:

- Home council of the seminarian
- If the parish is served by an order or the Oratory, then they support seminarians of the order or the Oratory.
- Councils that only support one seminarian (this would reduce the impact on those councils having to change seminarians)
- Those councils that commit to the state vocation chair until the slots are filled.



				Council	Council	Council	Council				
Mario Aguilar	2nd College	Charleston Dio.	St. Anthony Hardeeville	7129	5026	10819					
Sebastin Barbosa-Garcia	2nd Pre-Theology	Charleston Dio.	St. Mary Magdalene	10819	7129						
Bruce Barnett	4th Theology	Charleston Dio.	St. Theresa Little Flower	6629							
Matthew Bauer	3rd College	Charleston Dio.	Prince of Peace	9184	10819	12995					
Michael Cellars	3rd Theology	Charleston Dio.	St. Mary Annunciation	6250	9475	7531	12995				
Justin Damask	3rd College	Charleston Dio.	St. Thomas Moore USC	12554	8980	11910	8182	9575	6891	12263	6847
Thomas Drury	2nd Pre-Theology	Charleston Dio.	St. Peter Beaufort	5026	11028						
Alexander Foley	3rd College	Charleston Dio.	St. Mary Greenville	1668	13112						
Will Frei	3rd Theology	Charleston Dio.	Mary Help of Christians	3684	6629	10668	5086	6847			
Michael Ghattas	3rd College	Charleston Dio.	St. Andrew, MB	5086	704						
Raphael Ghattas	1st Theology	Charleston Dio.	St. Andrew, MB	5086	8980						
Reyes Palomares	2nd College	Charleston Dio.	St. Mary Greenville	13112	7289	6847	6076				
Francisco Ornate-Vargas	4th Theology	Charleston Dio.	Our Lady of the Hills	6726	6892	7122	A1900				
Eric Roman	3rd College	Charleston Dio.	St. Anne Rock Hill	14475	8980	9475	12263				
Nick Shiver	4th College	Charleston Dio.	Christ Our King MP	9475	13713						
Pedro Silva	2nd Theology	Charleston Dio.	St. Peter Beaufort	5026	8980	6884	12663				
Jimmie Touzeau	4th Theology	Charleston Dio.	Holy Cross	8295	9576	10334	2207	7129	3067	8123	
Peter Oosterman	1st Pre-Theology	Charleston Dio.	St. Mary Greenville								



Br. JohnBert Lolo	Pastoral	Adorno Fathers			
Br. Harvey Bermudez	2nd T	Adorno Fathers			
Br. Samuel Maestro	2nd T	Adorno Fathers			
Br. Ronie Lorcha	3rd T	Adorno Fathers			
Br. Ben Weiskircher	1st T	Adorno Fathers	Jesus Our Risen Savior	9575	
Br. Cris Cubinar	3rd T	Adorno Fathers			
Br. Rafael Padron	4th T	Adorno Fathers	Immaculate Conception	11991	
Br. Hardey Aguilar	3rd T	Adorno Fathers			
Br. Arjay Cecilio	4th T	Adorno Fathers			
Br. Everhisto Cavite	2nd T	Adorno Fathers			
Br. Michael Mercado	2nd T	Adorno Fathers			
Br. Xyril Umecez	2nd T	Adorno Fathers			
Br. Emiliano Gutierrez Jr	4th T	Adorno Fathers		9575	
Br. Marlon Landicho	1st T	Adorno Fathers		9575	
Br. Wilson Olea	1st T	Adorno Fathers		9575	
Rob Lester		???			
Jeffrey Evangelina		Redemptrist			
C. Daniels		Sacred Heart			
Eddie Hoffman		Arch Military			
Abbie Truesdale		Dominican Nashville			
Joseph Martuscello		????			
Indian Seminarian		????			
James Dvorek					
Matthew Aun					
Mark Madden		St. Louis			
Madison Hayes		St. Paul			



Thank you for your support and
prayers for our seminarians

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