

What Is The Thinking Of Priesthood Program?

In a program that can run from one day to three, you will join others like you who are interested in learning more about the call to the priesthood. By attending, you are making no commitments except one: to listen more closely to how God is moving in your life.

This program is not designed to force you to become a priest. However, through conferences, presentations, discussions and plenty of time to have your questions answered, you and your peers will have the opportunity to discover the many ways—and the best way for you—to determine whether you are called to priesthood.

Experience the who, what, where, when and why of a vocation to the Roman Catholic priesthood. Take the opportunity to explore questions you

have always had but never asked. Raise the issues and the concerns that confuse or intrigue you. Take time out of your busy life to hear God's voice in your heart.

Over the years, we've found that there are a lot of myths and misconceptions that surround a priestly vocation. The questions you have are probably not unique. These questions are asked all the time!

Wouldn't you like to be among the minority of Catholics who truly understand the nature of seminary education and priestly life? You can, by getting answers to these questions and more!

- ❖ **What really happens when someone goes to seminary?**
- ❖ **How long does it take to become a priest?**
- ❖ **What else takes place at a seminary beside classes and prayer?**
- ❖ **How does somebody know if God is calling?**
- ❖ **How does one become holy enough to be a priest?**
- ❖ **Why is celibacy part of the vocation?**

This program is available to single men, aged 18 - 40, who are open to listening to how God is speaking to them. It is presented by Saint Meinrad School of Theology in Indiana, which has more than 140 years of experience in seminary education. Over those years, thousands of men have come to listen more closely to whether their call is to priesthood. Why not join them in asking, "How can I best serve the Lord?"

Take the time to step out of the busyness of life to listen more carefully to how God may be calling you. Join your peers in learning more about the life as a priest. You have nothing to lose and everything to gain!

“Priests are called to prolong the presence of Christ, the one high priest, embodying His way of life and making Him visible in the midst of the flock entrusted to their care.”

“All have received the Spirit as a gift and call to holiness in and through the carrying out of the mission.”

Since the time of Christ, some men have pondered whether they are called to ordained service to the People of God. They may understand the theoretical concept of a calling, but they don't know how it comes to them practically, specifically. God continues to call men of faith from all cultures, education levels, interests and personality types. For some, it's a constant nagging; for others a recurrent tugging of the heart. For still others, the suggestion comes from family and friends. Is God calling you to be a priest?

There isn't always an easy or ready answer to that question. But there are ways to explore whether the thought of you as a priest is truly a calling from God. First, you need to learn more about the calling, the life of a priest and the joy that you will receive from fulfilling God's unique Will for you! Taking time out of your busy schedule to reflect on this is a step in the right direction.

"Thinking of Priesthood" programs are especially designed to provide an atmosphere for learning more about the priestly life. Through the experience, you will begin a process of discernment, of looking at all aspects of your life and your faith to assess how God is calling you.

Consider a small investment of your time...to learn more about priesthood and discern what that calling could mean for you.

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**“Each Christian
vocation comes from God
and is God’s gift.”**

Pope John Paul II