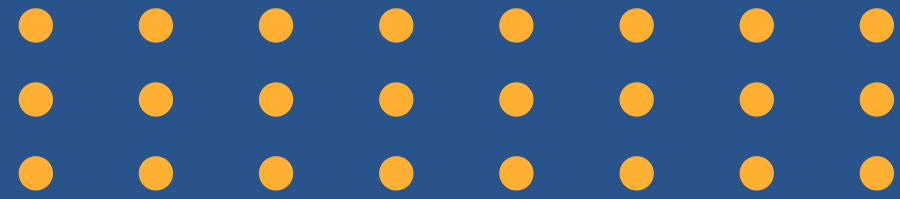
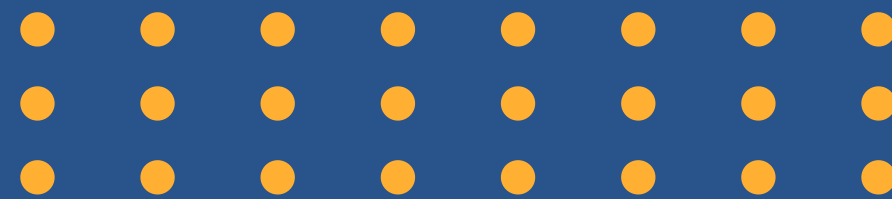


# 2025 CARA REPORT



**THE CENTER FOR APPLIED  
RESEARCH IN THE  
APOSTOLATE SOUGHT  
SURVEY RESPONSES  
FROM 140 RELIGIOUS  
MEN AND WOMEN WHO  
PROFESSED VOWS IN 2024.**

It received **140** responses, a response rate of **72%**.  
Responses came from **73 sisters** and  
**67 brothers and priests.**



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

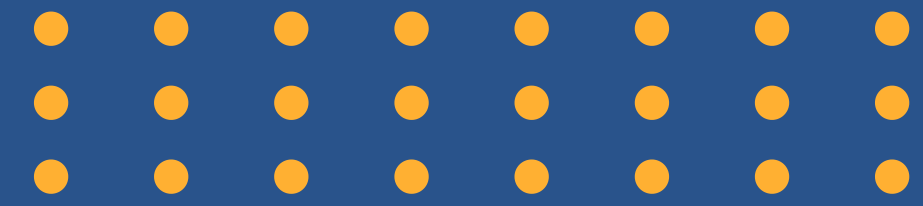


**59% OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS**

**SAID A RELIGIOUS SISTER OR BROTHER  
HAD BEEN AN ENCOURAGING  
INFLUENCE ON THEIR VOCATION**

followed by a friend (59%), a parish priest (38%),  
their mother (27%), their campus minister (25%),  
or a parishioner (24%).

## THE CALL



**18- AVERAGE AGE WHEN ORDINANDS FIRST  
HEARD CALL TO RELIGIOUS LIFE**

**37- AVERAGE AGE AT PROFESSION**

## BEFORE ENTERING SEMINARY

54% HAD **SERVED AT THE ALTAR**

73% REGULARLY TOOK PART IN  
**EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

## BEFORE ENTERING SEMINARY

43% HAD ATTENDED A CATHOLIC  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (K-8)

64% PARTICIPATED IN RELIGIOUS  
EDUCATION AT THEIR PARISH

49% HAD PARTICIPATED IN  
THEIR PARISH YOUTH GROUP

## DISCOURAGING INFLUENCES

**57% WERE DISCOURAGED FROM  
CONSIDERING RELIGIOUS LIFE**

Friend or Classmate: 47%

Other Relative: 44%

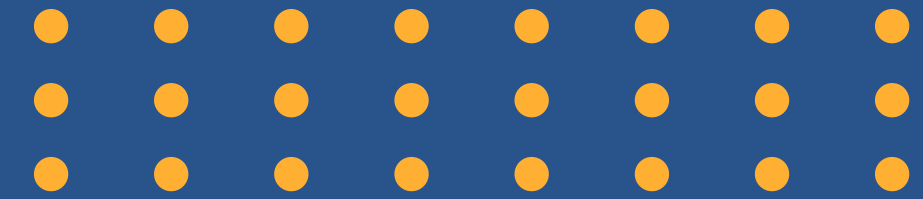
Mother: 44%

Father: 34%

Coworker: 20%

Priest: 4%

## **FAMILY LIFE**



**90% WERE RAISED BY PARENTS  
WHO WERE MARRIED AND LIVING  
TOGETHER.**

**87% HAD PARENTS WHO WERE  
BOTH CATHOLIC**

**69% HAD TWO OR MORE SIBLINGS**



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

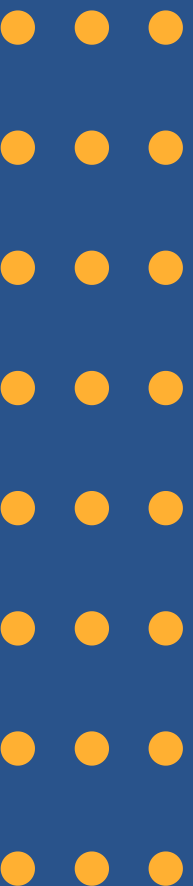
**BUSINESS: 39%**

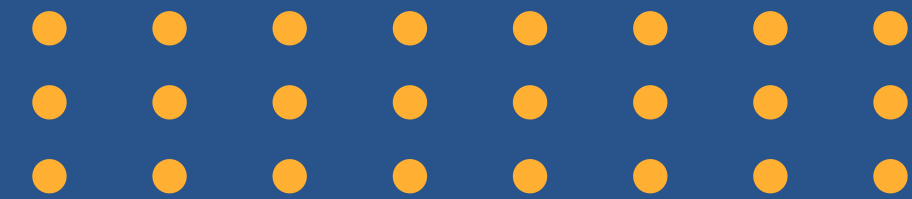
**EDUCATION: 32%**

**CHURCH MINISTRY: 20%**

**HEALTHCARE: 6%**

**OTHER: 4%**





# HELP US BUILD A CULTURE OF VOCATIONS