**Family Background**

1. While you were growing up, was your mother Catholic? 
   - [ ] Yes  
   - [ ] No

2. If no, what was her religious preference? 

3. How important was religion to your mother while you were growing up? 
   - [ ] Not at all  
   - [ ] A little  
   - [ ] Somewhat  
   - [ ] Very

4. While you were growing up, was your father Catholic? 
   - [ ] Yes  
   - [ ] No

5. If no, what was his religious preference? 

6. How important was religion to your father while you were growing up? 
   - [ ] Not at all  
   - [ ] A little  
   - [ ] Somewhat  
   - [ ] Very

7. While you were growing up, who was your primary caregiver? 
   - [ ] Two parent family  
   - [ ] Single parent family  
   - [ ] Grandparent(s)  
   - [ ] Sibling or other relative  
   - [ ] Other: ____________________________

8. When you were a teen, how old was your primary caregiver (e.g. 30s, 40s, 50s, 60s)? 

   - [ ] Yes  
   - [ ] No

9. Were your parents married in the Catholic Church? 
   - [ ] Yes  
   - [ ] No

10. Were you raised Catholic? If no, what faith were you raised in? 

11. How often did you attend Mass or religious services as a family? 
   - [ ] More than once a week  
   - [ ] Once a week  
   - [ ] Two-three times a month  
   - [ ] About once a month  
   - [ ] A few times a year  
   - [ ] Seldom or never

12. How many brothers and sisters do you have? 

13. What is your birth order? 
   - [ ] Only child  
   - [ ] Eldest  
   - [ ] Youngest  
   - [ ] Somewhere in the middle  
   - [ ] Other: ____________________________

14. What was the primary language spoken in your home while you were growing up? Check only one.
   - [ ] English  
   - [ ] Spanish  
   - [ ] Other: ____________________________

15. Parents' divorce  
16. Serious illness/death of a parent  
17. Serious illness/death of a sibling or other close relative

18. Do (did) you have a relative who is a priest or a religious brother or sister/nun? 
   - [ ] Yes  
   - [ ] No

19. Outside of family members, while you were growing up did you ever get to know a priest or a religious brother or sister/nun? 
   - [ ] Yes  
   - [ ] No

20. Which of these best describes your religious faith while you were growing up, relative to your family members? 
   - [ ] I was more religious than my other family members  
   - [ ] I was about the same as other family members  
   - [ ] I was less religious than my other family members

21. While you were growing up, which of these were important religious celebrations or customs in your family? Check all that apply. 
   - Mass, or other religious services  
   - Active participation in parish life  
   - Eucharistic adoration  
   - Faith sharing, Bible study, or prayer groups  
   - Participation in Catholic organizations (e.g. Knights of Columbus, Altar Society, Legion of Mary, Sodality)  
   - Volunteer or charitable service in the community  
   - Catholic advocacy (e.g. peace & justice, poverty, life)  
   - Rosary/novena (parents or as a family)  
   - Grace before or after meals  
   - Family prayers for special intentions  
   - Celebrations of particular saints (e.g. St. Joseph)  
   - Marian devotions (e.g. Our Lady of Guadalupe, Our Lady of Vietnam, Our Lady of Czestochowa)  
   - Home altars  
   - Religious art (e.g. crucifix, statues, pictures of saints)  
   - Sacraments (e.g. cross, medal, prayer card, scapular)  
   - Quinceañeras  
   - Processions (e.g. Via Crucis, Stations of the Cross)  
   - Sacred scripture or other spiritual reading  
   - Catholic books, periodicals, movies, TV shows  
   - Other: ____________________________

22. How often would your family typically pray at home together (outside of meal blessings)? 
   - Daily  
   - A few times a week  
   - A few times a month  
   - Less frequently  
   - Seldom or never

23. Did you experience any of these in your family while you were growing up? Check all that apply. 
   - Grace before or after meals  
   - Family prayers for special intentions  
   - Special celebrations of the birth of a sibling  
   - Special celebrations of a sibling's baptism  
   - Special celebrations of a sibling's first communion  
   - Special celebrations of a sibling's confirmation  
   - Special celebrations of a sibling's quinceañera  
   - Special celebrations of a sibling's wedding  
   - Special celebrations of a sibling's graduation  
   - Special celebrations of a sibling's military discharge  
   - Special celebrations of a sibling's career accomplishment  
   - Special celebrations of a sibling's illness/death  
   - Other: ____________________________

24. Did you ever feel called to the religious life? 
   - Yes  
   - No

25. Did you experience any of these in your family while you were growing up? Check all that apply. 
   - Grace before or after meals  
   - Family prayers for special intentions  
   - Special celebrations of the birth of a sibling  
   - Special celebrations of a sibling's baptism  
   - Special celebrations of a sibling's first communion  
   - Special celebrations of a sibling's confirmation  
   - Special celebrations of a sibling's quinceañera  
   - Special celebrations of a sibling's wedding  
   - Special celebrations of a sibling's graduation  
   - Special celebrations of a sibling's military discharge  
   - Special celebrations of a sibling's career accomplishment  
   - Special celebrations of a sibling's illness/death  
   - Other: ____________________________
23. What in your family background was most influential in your discernment of your vocation?

24. What more from your family would have been helpful to you as you discerned your vocation?

Encouragement and Discouragement

Yes  No
☐₁  ☐₂ 25. Did your mother ever speak to you about a vocation to priesthood or religious life?
☐₁  ☐₂ 26. Did your father ever speak to you about a vocation to priesthood or religious life?
☐₁  ☐₂ 27. Did another family member ever speak to you about a vocation to priesthood or religious life?
☐₁  ☐₂ 28. Overall, was starting a discussion with your family about your vocation easy for you?

29. How much encouragement did (do) you receive from these family members in regard to your religious vocation?

30. Briefly describe how your family supported your vocational discernment.

Background and Demographics

38. Please select the category that best describes your primary ethnicity/cultural background?
☐₁  Caucasian/European American/White
☐₂  African/African American/Black
☐₃  Hispanic/Latino(a)
☐₄  Asian/Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian
☐₅  Native American/Alaska Native
☐₆  Other: _______________________

39. Were you born in the United States?
☐₁  ☐₂ 40. If no, when did you first move to the U.S.?
☐₁  ☐₂ 41. Were you baptized Catholic as an infant?
☐₁  ☐₂ 42. If no, year you became a Catholic.
☐₁  ☐₂ 43. Were you ever home-schooled?
☐₁  ☐₂ 44. Did you ever attend parish-based religious education (e.g. CCD or PSR)?
☐₁  ☐₂ 45. If yes, years of parish-based religious education.
☐₁  ☐₂ 46. Have you ever been married?
☐₁  ☐₂ 47. Do you have children?

48. Did you ever attend any of the following?
☐₁  Catholic primary school (preschool through grade 8)
☐₂  Catholic secondary school (grades 9 through 12)
☐₃  Catholic college or university
☐₄  Catholic seminary

49. What is the highest level of education you completed before entering your religious institute or seminary?
☐₁  High School diploma or less
☐₂  Trade or technical school
☐₃  Some college, but not a Bachelor’s degree
☐₄  College or university undergraduate degree
☐₅  Graduate degree

☐₁  50. Year you were born.
☐₁  51. Year you first considered a vocation.
☐₁  52. Year you entered religious life (if applicable).
☐₁  53. Year you entered seminary (if applicable).
☐₁  54. Year of professed perpetual vows (if applicable).
☐₁  55. Year of ordination (if applicable).
We would like to survey families, such as yours, who have produced a vocation. These family members will be asked questions similar to those asked of you in this survey, to help us better understand the influence of families on vocational discernment. Their responses will not be compared to yours, nor will any responses be reported in a way that could identify an individual.

PLEASE PROVIDE CONTACT INFORMATION OF A FAMILY MEMBER (PREFERABLY A PARENT OR SIBLING) WHO CAN RESPOND TO A BRIEF SURVEY ABOUT YOUR FAMILY AND ITS INFLUENCE ON YOUR VOCATION:

Name:___________________________________________________________________________________________

Address:_________________________________________________________________________________________

City: ______________________________________________State: ___________________ZIP:_________________

Email:___________________________________________________________________________________________

Please let this person know to expect a survey from us in the next few weeks. Thank you!