

The Formation of a Priest

While watching the PowerPoint "The Formation of a Priest," capture the main points by filling in the blanks in the sentences below.

Family: The First Formation

For most of us our faith development begins with _____.
They _____ and to trust in God's goodness. They are the ones who first bring us to church and introduce us to the _____.

Discernment

An important part of moving in the direction of following God's call to become a priest is to first _____.
In a general sense, to discern is simply to separate or distinguish one thing from another. Discerning a moral choice means _____
_____. Discerning a call to the priesthood means distinguishing from among a variety of good options that God may have for you. A process of discernment usually entails _____
_____. The sign of correct discernment is _____. It means that you do have a strong conviction that _____ in your choice.

The Vocations Director

If you feel strongly called to the priesthood and have begun a serious process of discernment, the next step is _____.
There are vocations directors for _____ and vocations directors for _____.
One helpful Web site that includes links to many vocations directors is _____
_____. Under the tab "discerning men" you will find links for both diocesan vocations and for religious orders.



The First Stage of Seminary Training: Pre-theology or Minor Seminary

When a young man is approved for pre-seminary studies, he begins the study of _____, a word which literally means “love of wisdom.” Philosophy deals with _____ in a systematic way. Some of these questions are: What is the purpose of human life? How did the world come to be? What is the meaning of death? _____?

What is the purpose of knowledge? Philosophy is important because this area of study helps the student to think more _____ about the world around him. It is also extremely important because philosophy underpins _____.

The Second Stage of Seminary Training: Theology Studies

The final stage of seminary training is the study of theology, a word that literally means _____. There are four broad areas of theological studies: _____, _____, _____, and _____. The seminarian must also continue to develop personally, spiritually, and pastorally. During the school year and during summer months, students are required to do _____, such as working in a soup kitchen, and pastoral work, often in a parish setting.

Theology Studies (*continued*)

Therefore, a seminarian is required to take part in _____ that give him practical experience in dealing with a wide variety of people and situations. Finally, a seminarian will usually spend time working alongside _____ so that he can deal with the myriad tasks of parish life from administration to sacramental celebrations.

