Your Vocation Discernment Journey

Every Christian man has as vocation, a call from God, to do some particular thing in this life, to live out the graces received in Baptism. It may be a call to marriage and fatherhood or a single life devoted to service of others. Some are called to a life publicly and solemnly consecrated to God in the diaconate, priesthood, or religious life. Public service, too, is vocation, especially in the military. Not all vocations are mutually exclusive and they often overlap.

Men are often attracted to both the priesthood and military service. This is no accident. Both callings demand the same natural strengths of character: honor, courage, self-sacrifice, discipline, commitment, obedience, and the service of others. It is also true that the distractions of today’s world and contrary voices can obscure the gentle voice of God’s call. If this is where you find yourself, perhaps this is the moment to take some time apart to pray, listen, and ask questions. This is what a Discernment Retreat is all about.

First: Pray. Along with regular attendance at Holy Mass and Confession, daily prayer, preferably in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, is the surest way to discern God’s call. This is the time to ask for God’s guidance and the inner light to know the path He has laid out for you.

Second: Speak to a priest. Your Catholic chaplain or pastor will be happy to answer your questions, talk to you about the priestly vocation, and advise you on the journey of discernment.

Third: Contact the AMS Director of Vocations. He is standing by to assist you in discerning God’s will and to provide you with the information you need to begin your vocational journey.
You are Invited to a 4 day vocation discernment retreat beginning on a Thursday and concluding after Sunday morning Mass. Explore and learn about a priest’s life dedicated to the service of God and country.

Who Can Attend?
1. Single Catholic men
2. At least 18 years of age
3. A US citizen
4. Recommended by your Catholic chaplain, parish priest, or spiritual director

What Can I Expect?
This is your opportunity to learn more about the Catholic priesthood and the military chaplaincy, to ask questions, and to discern your vocation while participating in an AMS retreat. You will also meet priest-chaplains, chaplain candidates, and other men like yourself discerning God’s call to the priesthood.

Upcoming Retreats:

Fall Retreat
Pontifical College Josephinum
Columbus, Ohio
December 6-9, 2018

Spring Retreat
St. Patrick’s Seminary
Menlo Park, California
February 28 - March 3, 2019

“We are distracted by many things, by other more superficial voices ... We are afraid to listen to the voice of the Lord because we believe it can detract from our freedom. The truth is that each of us is the fruit of love ... the love of God. When we become aware of this our lives change; they become a response to that love which is greater than any other, and thus our freedom is fully realized.”

- Pope Benedict XVI