



ST. MARY'S SEMINARY

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

2026-2027

9845 Memorial Drive

Houston, TX 77024

713.686.4345

Section 1

Personal Information

1. Full legal name (as it appears on your birth certificate)

2. Sponsoring (Arch)diocese

3. Home address

4. Phone number (including area code)

5. Current e-mail address

6. Date of birth (MM/DD/YYYY)

7. Diocese of birth

8. Home parish (include the city and state) and the name and contact information of your pastor
(and parochial vicar(s)/assistant pastor(s), if applicable)

9. Year of study you will begin in Fall of 2026 (e.g. - 1st Discipleship, 2nd Discipleship, 1st Configuration, etc. - write "unknown" if this has not yet been determined)

Section 2

Family Background

10. Mother's name

11. Mother's religion

12. Father's name

13. Father's religion

14. Parents' marital status

15. Was either parent in a previous marriage?

16. Please list all brothers and sisters, along with the following information for each: age, school/occupation, marital status, religion

17. Emergency contact (please include name, relationship, address, and telephone number)

18. Do you have any close relatives who are in the priesthood or religious life? If yes, please list their names and their current diocese/order and assignment/ministry.

Section 3

Educational Background

19. High School(s): Please include the name of the school, city & state, dates attended, and approximate GPA

20. Please indicate the extent of your religious education/formation (e.g. - Catholic schools through High School, Sunday school through 8th grade, CCD/CCE, Confirmation classes, etc.)

21. College/University: Please include the name of the school(s), city & state, dates attended, approximate GPA, major, and degree(s) conferred (when applicable)

22. Have you ever failed a high school or college-level course? If so, please elaborate.

23. List your primary extra-curricular activities (social and athletic):

24. List your major honors, awards, and elected leadership positions:

25. Which non-English languages have you studied in school/spoken in the home? If any, specify your fluency in speaking and writing:

26. Do you possess any special training, certifications, or qualifications?

27. Have you ever been dismissed from a school? If yes, please provide a thorough explanation.

28. Have you ever applied to, been accepted or rejected by, or been dismissed from a diocesan formation program, seminary, institute of consecrated life or society of apostolic life? If yes, please see addendum for additional requirements.

Please note, if an applicant has been dismissed from a program of priestly formation or from an institute of consecrated life or a society of apostolic life, no subsequent application will be considered in the two years following such dismissal.

Section 4

Military Service

29. If you have registered for Selective Service, please provide the following: Selective service number, classification, local board number (including street/city/state/zip)

30. If you have served in the military, please list the following: Branch of service, date of enlistment, rank at discharge, date of discharge, type of discharge, combat (yes or no), duties (mode of service), reserve status.

31. What did you most appreciate about military service? What did you like least?

Work Experience

32. List chronologically (past to present) any paid work you have done. Please include duration of employment and type of work.

33. Concerning your present or most recent job, please indicate your employer, job title, location, reason for leaving (if applicable), and approximate salary per month.

34. Have you ever been terminated from a job? If yes, why?

35. Do you belong to any professional organizations? If yes, please list them.

Personal Data

36. What types of books do you generally prefer reading? List two titles that you have read recently.

37. What periodicals, blogs, or podcasts do you read/listen to regularly?

38. What social media platforms do you currently use? How often do you typically use each?

39. Please describe any volunteer work you have done.

40. What neighborhood, civic, social, or service organizations do you belong to?

41. Please describe a recent experience in which you exercised leadership. What was the outcome?

42. How old were you when you had your first date? Are you currently dating?

43. Have you ever been engaged or married?

44. Do you have any relatives that are dependent upon you financially? If yes, please explain.

45. Are you in significant financial debt? If so, how will this be managed while in Seminary?

46. Have you ever been arrested? If yes, please explain.

Section 7

Religious Background

47. Where were you baptized (include the name of the church and the city/state)? If applicable, where were your parents married?

48. Does either parent belong to an Oriental (non-Latin) Catholic Church?

49. How frequently do you typically attend Mass? How frequently do you typically go to confession? Please list the frequency of these practices in the lives of your parents, as well, if applicable.

50. Have you ever been away (formally or informally) from the Church for a period of time? If yes, please explain.

51. Have you ever considered yourself a member of a Christian community aside from the Catholic Church? If so, please include the name of the ecclesial community/denomination and explain the extent and duration of your involvement.

52. How was religion typically practiced/observed in your home?

53. List the ways in which you have been involved in your local parish (e.g. - acolyte/altar server, choir member, lector, religion teacher, youth group, retreats, etc.)

54. List the dioceses in which you have resided for six months or longer after 14 years of age (including residence at a school/college/seminary outside your home diocese, if applicable)

55. Have you ever applied or been accepted as a candidate for any other diocese, religious order, or secular institute?

56. If yes [to 54], please list the following information: name of diocese/order/institute, dates of affiliation, any vows taken (and when), and reason for departure (type "not applicable" if this does not apply).

57. Have you received any of the following: Admission to Candidacy, Ministry of Reader/Lector, Ministry of Acolyte? If yes, please provide the date, location, and instituting bishop of each (remember to upload a copy of the certificate, if applicable).

58. How old were you when you first considered becoming a priest?

59. What is the attitude of your parents towards the priesthood and the idea of you studying for it?

60. What personal qualities would make you a good husband and father?

61. What skills and experiences do you have which may be valuable in your ministry as a diocesan priest?

62. What motivates you to want to serve your particular diocese?

63. If you are ordained, what kind of priestly ministry would you find most attractive?

64. What is your understanding of priestly celibacy?

65. What do you think would be the greatest challenge for you in priesthood?

66. Would you be interested in serving as a priest in an economically poor parish? An economically wealthy one?

67. Should you not become a priest, what other career(s) would you consider?

Please arrange for the following documents to be uploaded or delivered/mailed to the Seminary:

1. Sacramental: A newly produced Certificate of Baptism with notation and any other applicable certificates.
2. Reference Letters (**to be mailed in a sealed envelope - not uploaded*): Please provide a reference letter from both (1) your most recent seminary rector (if applicable) and (2) the Pastor of your home parish. If an alternative reference (i.e. - not the Pastor) is preferred, please contact the Admissions Coordinator prior to submission.
3. Medical History: A completed Sports Physical is required for admission. (A separate, comprehensive Medical History & Physician Report will be provided upon acceptance and should be completed within 6 months.)
4. A copy of your most recent seminary evaluation (if applicable)
5. Typed Autobiography (see guidelines below) - you may upload the autobiography submitted to your diocese/ordinariate, as long as the data requested by the guidelines is provided and up to date.
6. Psychological Testing (see list of requirements below)
7. If applicable, a formal letter from diocesan bishop regarding previous seminary or formation programs (See *Addendum A: Norms Concerning Applications for Priestly Formation from Those Previously Enrolled in a Formation Program*)

NOTE: **Separately**, all college transcripts and ACT/SAT scores must be mailed directly to: Admissions Office UST School of Theology 9845 Memorial Drive Houston, TX 77024

Autobiography Guidelines

- 1) Personal Summary
 - a) Briefly describe your family of origin and your relationship with your parents, family members, and other significant people in your life
 - b) Your experience of schooling (elementary, high school, and college)
 - c) Work experiences
 - d) Your social life (close friendships and dating experiences)
- 2) Vocational Discernment
 - a) Briefly describe your spiritual journey from your earliest awareness to the present day
 - b) Your sense of vocation to the diocesan priesthood and readiness to enter the seminary
 - c) The experiences in your life that have affirmed your desire to be a priest and your conviction that God is calling you to be a priest
 - d) Your understanding of celibate chastity and your readiness and capacity to live it
 - e) Your growth in chastity and healthy boundaries
- 3) Formational Growth
 - a) Briefly describe the areas in which you have grown most recently
 - b) Areas of growth you want to focus on as you begin the next stage of formation

Psychological Test

Techniques Administered:

1. Clinical Interview
2. Rorschach Ink Blot Test (Exner Comprehensive System)
3. Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory-2 (MMPI-2)
4. Million Clinical Multiaxial Inventory-III (MCMI-III)
5. Mooney Problem Check List
6. Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory (SASSI-3)
7. Incomplete Sentence Test
8. Beck Depression Inventory
9. Burns Anxiety Inventory
10. Internet Sex Screen Test (ISST)
11. Adult ADHD Self-Report Scale (ASRS)
12. The Problematic Pornography Consumption Scale
13. The Sexual Symptom Assessment Scale
14. Sexual History Questionnaire
15. Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale-Fourth Edition (WAIS-IV)

Addendum: Applicants for Priestly Formation from Those Previously Enrolled in a Formation Program

Please provide a written statement with the following:

1. Written declaration indicating any diocesan formation program, seminary, institute of consecrated life, or society of apostolic life to which you have initiated or completed an application, including the date and name of each diocese, seminary, institute of consecrated life, or society of apostolic life and reasons for not completing the process, for being rejected, or for not affiliating with the diocese, institute of consecrated life, or society of apostolic life.
2. Written declaration indicating your acceptance by any formation program in any diocese, seminary, institute of consecrated life, or society of apostolic life, including the date and name of each diocese, seminary, institute of consecrated life, or society of apostolic life and reasons for not enrolling or entering.
3. Written declaration indicating the dates and names of any diocese, seminary, institute of consecrated life, or society of apostolic life in which you have ever enrolled, including stage(s) of formation before departure, date of departure, and whether the departure was the result of a dismissal or withdrawal, including reasons for leaving formation.