



## TESTIMONIALS

In my own discernment and formation, the Community of Jesus Crucified is where I have encountered the power of the Cross, which is to say it is where I have encountered Divine love. This is the indispensable light by which anyone discerns their vocation, and I know of nowhere where it shines more clearly than here. The members of this community - both lay and religious - are fully devoted to an interior life which bears abundant fruit in their tireless apostolates, and so live a life that may reasonably be esteemed as a standard for any Christian's formation, a formation which unabashedly and resolutely takes a cruciform shape.

**Fr. Travis Abadie, Diocese of Lafayette**

Receiving the formation provided by the CIC, as well as the prayers and example of the Community members, was essential to my priestly formation. Even today I consider it an eternal asset. If not for this formation, I am convinced that I would not have persevered in pursuing the call from Jesus Christ.

**Fr. Carl Beekman, Diocese of Rockford, Illinois**

I often look back at my time at CIC, and can even now taste the Joy that I experienced. I would recommend this opportunity to anyone who might be contemplating a total surrender to the will of God. The atmosphere of silence, prayer, community, and the ever present reality of Christ Crucified, made the idea of a life of service in the Church not only possible but extremely desirable. Now as a husband and father of 5 young children, I recognize that the time spent at CIC was more than just a discernment process. It was an incomparable spiritual and intellectual formation for the great task of shepherding the domestic church that God has entrusted to me.

**Daniel LeBrun, Lake Charles, LA**

It was during my time with the CIC that I came to the realization that the mystery of the cross of Christ is more fully revealed only in the context of community--a community enriched by frequent prayer and selfless service; being of one mind and of a diversity of vocations: Priests, religious and laity combined.

**Fr. Eric Zegeer, Our Lady Star of the Sea, Key West, FL**

The three months I spent at CIC did something to me which I shall never forget. For the first time in my life I found that I was left to be in a solitary relationship with God. Although I participated in the communal aspects of life, I experienced more than anything the reality that I had chosen to walk with Christ as the beginning and the end. There was peace in living with others who all desired the same thing - the Lord God -- and to be his hands and arms in this world.

**Fr. Jay Alexius, Diocese of Lake Charles, LA**

Living with the Community of Jesus Crucified was a time of great joy and intense prayer. The authenticity of their common life, both in poverty and religious devotion, was spiritually invigorating and invaluable in discernment. Formation in religious life is taught practically by the community's life of prayer and worship and intellectually through teaching and reading the Church's spiritual tradition. I'm forever grateful for my experience of the Community of Jesus Crucified.

**Fr. Adam Travis, Diocese of Alexandria, LA**

The CIC Discernment Program is a really good place to find oneself and hear the voice of God. In one of the most difficult times of my life I encountered there the Good Samaritan, the hand of a friend, family, and the tender embrace of God's charity through them. God bless the Community of Jesus Crucified. It is a gift from God to the Church.

**Fr. David Guadalupe de la Trinidad, Mexico**



# VOCATIONAL DISCERNMENT PROGRAM



## COMMUNITY OF JESUS CRUCIFIED

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# DISCERNING VOCATIONS TO PRIESTHOOD AND RELIGIOUS LIFE

## Today's Pressing Need

*"But God was not in the fire...After the fire there was a tiny whispering sound" (1 Kgs. 19:12).*

Just 50 years ago there were 58,632 religious and diocesan priests in the U.S. Last year the number had decreased to 38,275. In the same period religious sisters in America decreased from 179,954 to 49,883. In 1965 there were 12,271 religious brothers serving in the U.S. and last year the number had decreased to 4,318. Yet, the Catholic population has grown by more than 50%.

God calls young people to address needs in His Church. Presently the need is great, thus it is clear that God is calling many young people to serve as diocesan and religious priests, as religious sisters, and brothers. But why do we have so few vocations in comparison to the needs? One significant answer to this question is that our culture is no longer conducive and supportive to vocational discernment. In short, the "tiny whispering sound" of the Holy Spirit goes unrecognized in the wind and fire of our fast lives.

Since its beginnings the Community of Jesus Crucified (CJC) has offered an unbiased program for discernment to provide a much needed environment to prayerfully discern God's Will in one's life. Experience has shown us that God will never be outdone in generosity. The person who makes the sacrifice to enter such a program should come to know God's Will in his life.

## THE PROGRAM



The CJC discernment program is open to any man 18 years and older who is serious about discerning a vocation to priesthood or religious life. The discernment resident lives with the Priests and Brothers of Jesus Crucified and follows their way of life while receiving formation in the spiritual life. The program runs from September 1 - December 15 (fall semester), February 1 - May 15 (spring semester), and June 1 - August 15 (summer semester). The discernment resident can be a full-time student or hold full-time employment. He may also stay full-time with the community for the program, in such case he would participate in manual labor and apostolate during the day. The resident remains at CJC when not in studies or at work and follows the horarium and rule of life. A person can remain in the discernment program for a single semester, for two semesters, or for up to one year. At that point or before he should have some clarity on what God desires of him and should be prepared to pursue his specific vocation in the Church.

## HOW TO APPLY

In order to apply for the CJC Discernment Program or for inquiries, contact Fr. Michael Champagne, CJC for a personal interview (frchampagne@yahoo.com or 337-394-6550). An application and curriculum vitae form can be obtained at that time or downloaded at [www.jesuscrucified.net](http://www.jesuscrucified.net)

## HORARIUM

Developing sound and lasting habits in the spiritual life is indeed a challenging task which requires the discipline of a balanced plan of life. Discernment residents follow the CJC daily horarium. The Silentium Magnum is from Compline until after Matins the following morning. The choral chanting of the Liturgy of the Hours and celebration of the Holy Eucharist with a nightly Holy Hour of Adoration is also included in the horarium.

### WEEKDAYS

5:15 AM	Bell for Rising
5:40 AM	Confessions
6:00 AM	Holy Mass
7:00 AM	Lauds
7:15 AM	Meditation
7:40 AM	Matins
8:00 AM	Breakfast
11:45 AM	Sext
12:00 Noon	Lunch
6:15 PM	Vespers
6:40 PM	Supper
7:15 PM	Recreation
8:30 PM	Holy Hour & Compline
9:20 PM	Benediction
10:30 PM	Lights Out

### SATURDAYS

Same as above except the following revisions:

6:15 AM	Bell for Rising
12:00 PM	Holy Mass

### SUNDAYS

Same as above except no manual labor and the following revisions:

6:15 AM	Bell for Rising
10:30 AM	Holy Mass