

The 9 Keys

Church Documents

Second Vatican Council Documents:

- [*Optatam totius*](#) (Decree on the Training of Priests, 1965)
- [*Presbyterorum ordinis*](#) (Decree on the Ministry and Life of Priests, 1965)

Papal Documents:

- [*Ad Catholici Sacerdotii*](#) (Encyclical Letter on the Catholic Priesthood, Pope Pius XI, 1935)
- [*Sacerdotalis Caelibatus*](#) (Encyclical Letter on the Celibacy of Priests, Pope Paul VI, 1967)
- [*Pastores dabo vobis*](#) (Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation on the Formation of Priests in the Circumstances of the Present Day, Pope John Paul II, 1992)
- [*Veritatis splendor*](#) (Encyclical Letter, Pope John Paul II, 1993)
- [*Ordinatio sacerdotalis*](#) (Apostolic Letter on Reserving Priestly Ordination to Men Alone, Pope John Paul II, 1994)
- [*Vita consecrata*](#) (Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation on the Consecrated Life and its Mission in the Church and the World, Pope John Paul II, 1996)
- [*Fides et ratio*](#) (Encyclical Letter on the Relationship between Faith and Reason, Pope John Paul II, 1998)

Other Documents of the Holy See:

- [*Instruction Concerning the Criteria for the Discernment of Vocations with regard to Persons with Homosexual Tendencies in view of their Admission to the Seminary and to Holy Orders*](#) (Congregation for Catholic Edu., 2005)
- [*Ratio Fundamentalis Institutionis Sacerdotalis*](#) (The Gift of the Priestly Vocation, Congregation for the Clergy, 2016)

USCCB Documents:

- [*Program for Priestly Formation*](#), 5th ed. (2006)
- [*Guidelines for Receiving Pastoral Ministers in the U.S.*](#), 3rd ed. (2014)
- [*Guidelines for the Use of Psychology in Seminary Admissions*](#) (2015)

Additional documents can be found at usccb.org.