

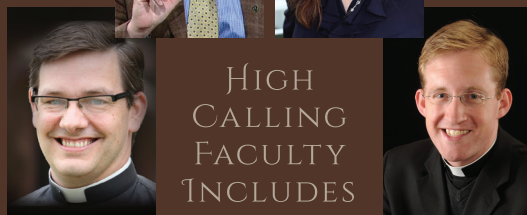


AVILA INSTITUTE

HIGH CALLING PROGRAM

FACULTY

In order to provide individualized accompaniment to each applicant through the course of the program, a faculty consisting of noted priests, ecclesial leaders, and theologians offers up to 15 three-week modules. Each module is designed to guide applicants through their process of discernment addressing common questions and concerns in addition to helping each man attain readiness for seminary formation.



HIGH
CALLING
FACULTY
INCLUDES



Dr. Anthony Lilles, Dr. Pia de Solenni,
Fr. Sean Kilkawley, Fr. Sam Morehead,
Fr. Chris Hellstrom, and
Fr. Philip Bochanski—to name a few.

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To learn more go to
Avila-Institute.org/High-Calling
or contact us
Inquiries@MyAvila.com • 833-77-AVILA



Preparing MISSIONARY DISCIPLES To Thrive In PRIESTLY FORMATION

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A PROPAEDEUTIC PROGRAM



AVILA INSTITUTE

HIGH CALLING PROGRAM

Responding to Pope Francis' call for young men to receive an introductory propaedeutic year of formation prior entering seminary, Avila Institute's High Calling Program offers a year of integral formation in philosophy, theology, and discernment.



THE MANDATE

The High Calling Program attempts to respond to what Christ is asking of the Church in its service of forming priestly vocations.

Under Pope Francis, the Congregation for the Clergy in the *Ratio Gift of Priestly Vocation* makes mandatory a period of preparation before formal studies in a seminary begin. The end of this directive is to better prepare men, holistically, to enter the seminary through the formation of hearts.

Initial formation concerns the time leading up to priestly ordination, from the beginning of the propaedeutic period, which is an integral part of it. Therefore, this time must be characterized by the elements of formation that prepare the seminarian for priestly life. This calls for patient and demanding work on the person, who is open to the action of the Holy Spirit. Its purpose is to form a priestly heart.

~ Ratio Fundamentalis Institutionis Sacerdotalis, 55.

While seminary formation encompasses a comprehensive philosophical and theological course of studies to form a "priestly heart," the new *Ratio* proposes propaedeutic formation before these studies as integral to the "patient and demanding work on the person who is open to the Holy Spirit."

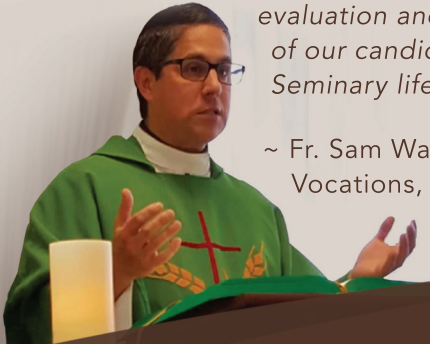
In fulfillment of this expectation, the Avila Institute for Spiritual Formation offers live, online, synchronous instruction. Men are offered an opportunity to support each other and to receive spiritual accompaniment from qualified instructors. Together they encounter Christ in an exploration of our culture, the meaning of human existence, sexuality, self-mastery, the mystery of fatherhood and missionary discipleship.

ONLINE
PROGRAMS



"The High Calling Program fills a much-needed void called for in the Ratio Fundamentalis for a more thorough pre-Seminary preparation for discerners in the areas of spirituality, Scripture, beginning Theology, and Catholic culture and heritage. Our men have had universal praise for the program and the modules. It is proving to be an invaluable additional resource in our evaluation and formation of our candidates for Seminary life."

~ Fr. Sam Ward, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Los Angeles



Serving thousands of students in more than 70 countries, the Avila Foundation is committed to providing spiritual formation for priests, religious and lay faithful who desire to serve the Church and deepen their encounter with Christ. The High Calling Program is uniquely positioned to provide online propaedeutic formation to seminary applicants for seven reasons:

1 We have developed a mystagogical model of instruction rooted in an ongoing encounter with Christ and spiritual accompaniment. Our pedagogy is deeply faithful to the magisterium.

HEALING AND HELPING MEN
LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL

The remedy, however, must not simply be to "fix" a deficiency: missionary disciples and future priests need moral and spiritual healing so that they might thrive and live life to the full. In a climate of social alienation that afflicts contemporary culture, nothing can replace the actual gatherings of faith and personal meetings that vocations directors already provide to men in discernment. The High Calling Program effectively supplements these efforts with a deeper kind of instruction, more frequent communication,

and other opportunities to build solidarity before seminary begins.

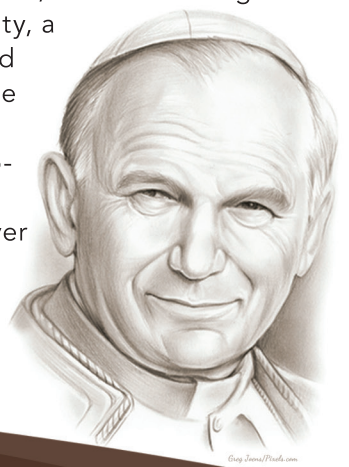
MENTORING AND CONVERSION

High Calling provides mentors and instructors who propose the truth about one's faith and one's own humanity in a way that invites ongoing conversion of life.

THE NEED FOR DISCERNMENT

Besides more time for formation, extra time for discernment is also needed. Saint John Paul II proposed the propaedeutic year not

only as a formative moment before formal philosophical and theological studies, but also as an evaluative one. The High Calling program will help the Church determine whether a man has the "right intention, a sufficient degree of human maturity, a sufficiently broad knowledge of the doctrine of the faith, some introduction into the methods of prayer and behavior in conformity with Christian tradition."



THE PRACTICAL ANSWER

2 We can provide this program through interactive learning methods organized in three week modules so that men do not need to quit their jobs or make abrupt lifestyle changes, but instead transition into seminary life after a period of sufficient preparation at their own pace.

3 We have assembled an exceptionally qualified body of faculty, hand-picked from across the nation, who can offer invaluable insight to the students entrusted to them—as well as a staff that can ensure good communication is

provided between those discerning, the vocations directors, and the seminary admissions team.

4 The virtual campus online technology enables the program to be offered at a fraction of the cost that a diocese would otherwise incur should the men spend the whole year on a physical seminary campus—\$5,000 per year per applicant rather than \$40,000.

5 We are committed to the faithful poor, and are eager to serve Dioceses and religious orders that are in need of further financial assistance. We

deliver grants to cover up to 100% of a given diocese's propaedeutic formation in select cases.

6 We are entirely scalable, able to accommodate discerners from dioceses, archdioceses, and religious orders of every size.

7 We are proven. With years of successful formation provided to thousands of lay, priestly, and religious faithful across the world and an overwhelmingly successful High Calling pilot year in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, the Avila Institute is the exemplary option for propaedeutic formation.

