

## Seminarian Survey Statistics

520 participants total

**Did your involvement in the Life Teen Movement (events from question #1) help support your discernment to enter the seminary?**

- Yes: 144 – 28%
- No: 376 – 72%

**Number of people involved in some Life Teen activity:**

- Total: 254 – 49%

**Please check the following Life Teen/Edge Events that you have participated in:**

- None of the above: 265 – 51%
- Parish Program: 190 – 37%
- LT/Edge Camp: 40 – 8%
- Life Teen Steubenville: 92 – 18%
- LTLC: 20 – 4%
- Inspiration: 22 – 4%
- XLT: 61 – 12%
- Life Teen Training: 8 – 2%

**Check any of the following aspects of Youth Ministry that helped you in your discernment process.**

- Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: 459 – 88%
- Social events with peers: 243 – 47%
- Strong catechesis: 284 – 55%
- Opportunities for and focus on the sacraments: 306 – 59%
- Relationships with and support from strong Catholic adults: 317 – 61%
- Praise and worship through music: 201 – 39%
- Service opportunities, including service trips: 214 – 41%
- Praying the Rosary and other Catholic devotionals: 307 – 59%
- Scripture Study: 238 – 46%
- Relationships with and support from Priests: 433 – 83%

**In what way(s) can the Life Teen Movement best support you in your current role as a Seminarian? Please mark all that apply.**

- Pray for me: 500 – 97%
- Send me materials that would help me become more familiar with the Life Teen Movement: 167 – 32%
- Invite me to be more involved in a Life Teen ministry at a parish near me: 98 – 19%
- Invite me to be a part of summer Life Teen ministry opportunity - summer camp, leadership conference, Steubenville conference or retreat: 116 – 22%
- Help me attend a Life Teen training opportunity: 76 – 15%

**Seminarians marked these mentors as “very important” in their discernment process  
(Ranked 1 or 2 on a scale of 1-7)**

- Parents: 253 – 49%
- Youth Minister: 72 – 14%
- Vocation Director: 160 – 31%
- Parish Priest: 303 – 58%
- Lay Leadership (Teacher, Core, etc.): 86 – 17%
- Friends: 151 – 29%
- Other Seminarian: 130 – 25%
- Other answers included: Whole parish community, Deacon, the Bishop, Campus Minister, Spiritual director, siblings, religious sister, newman center, extended family, military chaplain, missionary work, FOCUS missionaries, coach

**Explanations from people who said “YES” to Life Teen helping their discernment.**

Youth minister pushed retreats and events where I heard my call to seminary. Also, a super holy woman.

Yes, the retreats that I went on were vital in fostering my relationship with Jesus, with was how I heard the call to seminary.

yes, as someone who was assisting with these programs (and leading music for the XLT) Working with youth always encourages me to become a better teacher, role model and fatherly figure

While I participated in a LifeTeen program, it was only in a leadership capacity. However, being involved with the youth program at my parish allowed me to see the joy the youth brought to the Church. It allowed me to grow in my own faith.

Through the prayers and the support of the Core Team and also having to talk about it within the program.

They did an altar call for vocations at the Steubenville West event I went to that was very powerful for me.

they brought up the topic of vocations, but I had not really ever thought about vocations before

The witness of the kids is strengthening to see a church that is growing.

The time in eucharistic adoration has been indispensable for the deepening of my prayer life. Also, the altar call was very inspiring.

The support of the Life Teen program in the parish was a way for me to continue developing my relationship with God. A stable youth group was a good source of support.

The Steubenville Conference, like many other retreats, gave me a whole weekend to focus on my relationship with God and that includes discerning my vocation

The Jesus-centered perspective of talks and Liturgy fostered a great understanding of what God is calling me to do.

The first time I heard my call to the priesthood was during adoration on Saturday night at Steubenville West

The events gave me an opportunity to interact with the seminarians in my diocese who were helping at the parish level and at the Steubenville Conference.

The Conferences gave me time to pray in front of Christ which allowed me to hear the call.

The Church offered me support in my discernment (priest, family, parish, Diocese Vocation Office). The Life Teen Movement contributed by providing support through prayer.

The atmosphere was very supportive of vocations to the priesthood, so it was a great base to help me discern.

The aspect of relational ministry, done well, is essential to priestly ministry and I believe I learned about this a good deal being part of the Life Teen movement.

Steubenville solidified my self-concept as a beloved son of God.

Spending time with Christ helped my discernment and I was able to spend a lot of quality time with Him on these events listed above

Several core members challenged me to think about the Priesthood, and one entered seminary with me. It was a Steubenville conference that first got me to think about the priesthood through the core members and college helpers.

Seeing other faith filled and faith exploring catholic youth helped my own discernment already in seminary. I was invited as a guest speaker in my first year of seminary (2010) and seeing so many Catholic youth involved was such an awesome morale boost.

Priesthood was presented as good, a way to serve others and Christ.

Prayers for vocations during events

Prayers for vocations during event

Powerful experience led to a deeper desire for the priesthood.

No -- I experienced life teen as a seminarian, and was able to participate in learning how life teen works.

N/A

My youth ministry was great and I really had the chance to know Christ and listen to His calling.

My parish youth program was a part of LifeTeen, and the personal mentorship that I received from the core helped with my discernment

My faith meant little to nothing to me before I experienced Lifeteen. Coming to know Jesus and believe in him through LT opened my heart to the possibility of seminary.

My attendance at Steubenville conferences played a large part in developing my spirituality while I was in High School.

Most of these events I participated as a visiting leader. I myself was not in LifeTeen growing up. However, every single event that I had the honor of participating in has strengthened my faith and encouraged my vocation.

LT was what really brought me closer to the faith as a volunteer youth leader- as we were leading "youth closer to Christ".... I myself was closer to Christ!

LT strongly enforced my relationship with Christ and helped me to relate my faith to my peers and friends. It also helped me to actually want to go to prayer so as to learn more about my faith.

Lighten provided a community and events which provided opportunities to grow deeper in love with the Lord and discern my vocation.

Lifeteen indirectly aided me in my discernment through keeping me engaged in my faith as I

grew up.

Life Teen offered me as a young man a safe place to nurture my discernment of my vocation to the priesthood. Without Life Teen, I fear that I never would have even considered the seminary.

It was through Life Teen National events that I met priests who made me say "I want to do what you do." I saw the profound impact that holy priests can have on building up the body of Christ. I also got to see a huge variety of personalities and passions

It was a powerful time of growth in the faith and prayer while in high school.

It was a great opportunity to serve the youth in my parish while discerning whether or not to enter the seminary. The experience has continued to help me serve well the youth in other assignments during my time of priestly formation.

It somewhat did, inviting us up to the stage to show people that we were thinking of the priesthood gave me inspiration, it helped me understand that this was a good thing.

It really helped not only start a relationship with Christ it developed it and gave me the tools to make it grow.

It opened my eyes to daily prayer.

It kept me involved in my faith, so once the support system broke down when i went to college, i was still dedicated to going to church and praying during my college years

It helps me understand the connection between the youth in the parish and the pastor

It helped, it gave me an environment in high school that permitted me to grow in an authentic relationship with Christ

It helped me recongized how important it is to be aware of how God is working through and in others

It helped me grow in faith to a point that allowed me to branch out into other catholic groups which helped me realise my calling

It gave me a strong foundation of faith

In the sense that it helped form me in my faith.

In so far as Life Teen was part of my Confirmation preparation, which gave me the grace that later enabled me to discern priesthood (I did not seriously discern priesthood until college).

I went on a Steubenville retreat about seven years ago (not sure if it was sponsored by Life Teen at that point), and it was there that I first encountered Jesus in the Eucharist in a deeply memorable way. The call to priesthood quickened after this.

I was involved all four years of high school and returned later after college as a core team member.

I was introduced to the possibility of a vocation by my parachute minister after attending Steubenville Atlanta and seeing a large number of men respond to the vocation call.

I was already in seminary when I encountered Life Teen, it helped in my discernment in that it clearly showed the vibrancy of the Church

I was able to see the quality of people that give their lives to teaching the faith in youth ministry. Also seeing teenagers my age on fire for God showed that religion isn't just for "old people".

I was a youth minister for five and a half years at a parish that used the Life Teen curriculum.

I believe that all of the events helped from my love of serving God's people.

I was a core team member and led some small groups and my experience helped lead me to

decide to apply to enter seminary.

I think the love of the teens, their challenges, and their hunger for God was influence in my life

I owe my conversion to my Lifeteen at my Church. The community there really fostered my vocation because we all grew together in th faith.

I got involved with lifeteen after joining seminary, which helped to bolster my desire to work with youth, either a priest or lay

I first started thinking about my vocation when I first attended Steubenville Atlanta at age 16, and attending different Life Teen events as a chaperone helped me to see myself as a spiritual father.

I discovered life teen while working at Kellenberg HS and it truly changed my life and I wouldn't be in the seminary today if it wasn't for lifeteen.

I discover the beauty of the vocation through people

I did not participate in LifeTeen as a High School student, but I was on the core team of my parishes LifeTeen program for a year (after I graduated High School and could not be enrolled in the program as a youth). I learned about the church this way.

I attended the XLT events monthly, and this played a significant role in my decision to go to seminary.

I attended a Steubenville conference after my first year in seminary. The energy and devotion of the teens at the conference transferred to me, and it made me look forward to serving in a parish.

I am a Vietnamese Youth Movement (TNNT) leader for 7 years. I am now serving as a youth leader of (TNNT) in Our Lady of Refuge in San Jose, CA.

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I already was a seminarian when I encountered LifeTeen in a parish

Helping out with Lifeteen was inspiring when seeing young adults and teenagers so dedicated and in love with the Lord

Dicoesan youth day inspired my vocation with lively youth praising Christ

Bring from a small diocese the event and conferences where instrumental in showing me the universality of the church along with meeting others diisherning

Being able to serve the teens and young adults of our diocese has given me a goal for my ministry as a future priest. It is working with them that I realize that they are the Church NOW, not of the future.

Being a member of the altar server and parish youth

Being a leader for LifeTeen made me realize more and more that I wanted to be a minister of the Word, in all areas of my life; this backed up the call I was already feeling in my heart.

before my coversion, lifeteen was exposing me to the beauty of the church. At a young age, it was difficult for me to comprehend and synthesize everything that was happening, both my secular life and the religious life. Lifeteen was my foundation.

Became involved in my parish through Lifeteen, met and interacted with many influential priests

Atlar Call, Vocations talks and inserts by Priests and nuns

At the end of the weekend, they asked all the men considering the priesthood to come down

to the stage for a blessing. I went down. I had been discerning for years, but this was definitely a step in the direction of actually applying for the seminary.

As a teen I, my desire to follow Christ and His will for my life grew. I became a core member then youth minister yet still felt a tug at my heart. I wanted to do what the priest was doing-- so I decided to enter seminary and discern that call further!

Although, parish program help support my discernment to enter the seminary, but this would'nt have been possible without good family background. In other words, to foster vocation, lets build good nuclear families.

### **Explanations from people who said “No” to Life Teen helping their discernment.**

My vocation stemmed mostly from my family support and an active prayer life with the foundation in spending time before the blessed sacrament. I often found my parish program to be very "fluffed" and not engaging on a deeper level, only very surface info.

My parish just started middle school Edge this year. I've heard a lot about LifeTeen, but this is the first direct involvement I've had with them beyond an internet article.

My parish did not sponsor such events. My vocation was fostered from Parish involvement and participation in the Liturgy.

My experience was more of an instructional program about what God is and Scripture. My decision for seminary was a result of pursuing Who God Is.

LifeTeen did help bolster my faith before college so I did not fall away, however my discernment came about after graduating college.

Just attended one XLT during World Youth Day in Madrid.

It was enjoyable, but did not play a role in my discernment

It was after I entered.

I've never been to a LifeTeen event.

I've never had the opportunity to participate in Life Teen events.

I've attended Lifeteen events but was never regularly involved with a Lifeteen program.

I'm sure Life Teen would have helped in my discernment to enter the seminary; unfortunately, there weren't any opprotunities I knew about/were available to me.

I'm from England and didnt encounter life teen.

I went to a Life Teen mass on Sundays. In my area there were very few Catholic groups involved in youth/young adult ministry.

I wasn't involved in Life Teen before I entered.

I wasn't introduced to LifeTeen until just before I was about to enter the seminary.

I wasn't in the US then but in my youth programs helped me in my discernment to the priesthood. I am a nigerian.

I was not taking my faith seriously at the time I went to the conference.

I was not involved in Life Teen before the seminary

I was not involved in Life Teen before seminary.

I was not involved in any Life Teen events before entering seminary.

I was not familiar with LifeTeen before entering the seminary. It was only afterward that I would help out at certain LifeTeen events or meetings held at the parishes I was assigned for the summer.

I was NOT familiar with Life Teen in my younger years. Only learned of them within the last 10 years.

I was not exposed to Life Teen as a youth

I was not aware of Life Teen until after I had begun seminary.

I was not aware of a Life Teen program near be, but I was really helped in my discernment by a priest who had been very involved in Life Teen.

I was not attracted to the type of spirituality that Life Teen emphasizes. I was much more attracted to a contemplative personal spirituality first.

I was not at a place in my life to discern--I wasn't really committed to my faith yet.

I was never involved with Lifeteen -- it wasn't in my area when I was younger.

I was never involved in the Life Teen Movement

I was never involved in Life Teen.

I was introduced to Life Teen only after entering seminary

I was influenced by my growth in trusting God and answering his call to trust him more.

However, a particular family I am close to has two daughters who influenced me quite a bit in my journey to trust God and they both have been involved in life teen.

I was in seminary when I attended

I was assigned to a parish which had a life teen program

I was asked by my vocation director to fill this form out.

I was an adult convert

I was already in the seminary when I first served at an Edge Camp in my diocese...it supported my formation development.

I was already in seminary when I attended my first youth rally

I was already in seminary

I was already a seminarian when I was exposed to Life Teen.

I was already a seminarian when I first got involved in Life Teen.

I was already a seminarian when I became involved

I was already a seminarian before Steubenville

I was already a seminarian before hand

I was a seminarian when I worked in a Life Teen parish program.

I was a part of a parish program after I entered the seminary.

I was a Core Team member in local parish 20 years ago, long before I entered seminary.

I really wasn't involved in a Life Teen program. I was apart of our parish youth group, but i wasn't that serious about it

I really dislike LifeTeen

I participated in it after I became a seminarian

I only went to lifeteen after I entered seminary

I only started actively living my faith in college. Life Teen seemed geared for a younger audience. I have been to Steubenville Atlanta once after I became a seminarian.

I only occasionally attended LifeTeen Masses

I only got to know Life Teen after I entered Seminary. It is only because we did not have Life Teen in my home parish.

I only attended the parish youth group a few times. It did not hinder my discernment, but it was not a big help either. Formation I received at home was more influential in my

discernment.

I only attended as a seminarian

I never, at any Lifeteen event, thought about the priests hood, wasn't until I was making my faith my own in college that I started discerning

I never was involved in life teen.

I never was in an area with the Life Teen movement

I never participated in Life Teen events

I never participated in any life teen activities

I never heard about vocations to priesthood or consecrated life. Since it is the Year of Consecrated Life, Life Teen should help support that!

I Never experienced any of them.

I never became involved with the Life Teen movement directly.

I never about it

I knew the parish I attended mass had a life teen program but I didn't enter it because seemed like a place to boost emotions not the dogmas of the faith

I haven't participated in any Life Teen events.

I haven't had any experience with LifeTeen

I haven't been intimately associated with LifeTeen

I have not been involved in Life Teen

I have not attended a lifeteen event

I have never heard of Teen Life Ministry.

I have never encountered Life Teen before

I have never been involved with Life Teen.

I have never been involved in the Life Teen Movement. It has had no effect on my discernment.

I have barely had any experience or even heard of Life Teen unfortunately.

I had no involvement with Life Teen prior to seminary.

I had many friends who were involved in Life Teen, but as I was not involved in Life Teen, it contributed little to my discernment.

i had little to no involvement with life teen

I guess entered in spite of them; I am much more feed by more traditional Catholicism.

I felt called to the priesthood prior to lifeteen. However, I now go to a parish that has lifeteen where I am on the coreteam. I still believe there is much improvement that can be done for the liturgy. The music needs to be chosen more prudently.

I entered in the seminary before to be involved in this Life Teen Movement

I do not know much about LifeTeen

I do not believe Life Teen is available in my area.

I dislike contemporary Christian music and the Mass full of it was not attractive to me. I was already in Seminary.

I didn't participate in these things until I had a conversion in high school and started to think about seminary.

I didn't participate in any life-teen events

I didn't have LifeTeen where I was at (overseas military instillation), but I do have a few memories of experiences with God.

I didn't even know what LifeTeen was until already in the seminary.

I did not participate in LifeTeen but Steubenville conferences helped a lot in my discernment to enter seminary.

I did not have exposure to Life Teen growing up.

I did not feel a sense of genuineness in the Life Teen community at my parish

I did not encounter Life Teen until I started by discernment.

I did most after joining seminary. My parish didn't use Life Teen.

I came into the Catholic Church the semester before I graduated from the University of Nebraska

I attended Life Teen Masses in high school and served on my parish Team during my discernment to enter seminary, but I didn't feel particularly impacted by Life Teen in my discernment process.

I am not familiar with the Life Teen Movement.

I am from Mexico and this program wasn't in my parish

I am from a small rural parish that did not have any of these programs. Other reasons led me to consider entering seminary.

I actually wasn't very involved in my parish before seminary

Honestly, if anything, it would have led me further from seminary. Often the material seemed much more emotion-centered than solid, inspiration Catechesis.

Hispanic ministry is lacking in that area.

Heard of Lifetime after joining seminary

Have not participated with Life Teen before

Have not participated

Encountered LifeTeen after entering seminary.

didn't participate in any

did not participate in any

Did not attend any

At my parish, the LifeTeen program was poorly executed and had minimal catechetical value. It did not harm my discernment, but neither did it help me on my way to basic discipleship or to the priesthood.

All of my experience with LifeTeen has been after I entered the seminary.

Admittedly, I wasn't too involved in the Life Teen group at my parish. I would show up sporadically, because I was looking to purely grow in faith, and didn't realize at the time how that could happen through social events as well.