



Vocation Story Collection: Filming Preparation Packet

To those going on film,

Persons who have been gifted with the grace of a religious vocation have received the call to serve as eschatological witnesses to the world. J.M.R. Tillard, O.P. once described religious as themselves being a sign of the vertical dimension to human existence. In a world that is consumed by materialism, consumerism, and relativism, religious serve as beacon and sign of that which is spiritual, eternal, and true.

The videography and photography of Vocations Outreach is designed to allow the world and particularly young people to see the beauty of religious life. We pray that you consider this chance to go on film as an opportunity to witness to Christ to others.

This in itself is a ministry, as your story has the potential to help others realize how God is working in their lives. While you are speaking on film, don't think of the camera or the lights. Imagine the faithful college student who's considering entering religious life or the curious middle schooler who will see a sister for the first time in these videos. This work is not about the camera or the attention- it's about helping those who otherwise would never get the chance to understand religious life or those themselves who are discerning this way of life.

Thank you for your willingness to witness to others through this project and know these videos will help people better see God in their lives.

In Christ,
The Vocations Outreach Team



Preparing Your Story

Each vocation story video can be *maximum 4-5 min* long. This is because shorter videos hold attention spans better, especially for young people. As a result, *you will not be able to include all the details of your entire vocation story.*

However, we do hope that these videos are able to capture the heart of your story along with some of the most important truths you've learned about discernment and vocation.

To prepare your story, we ask that you do the following:

1. In the chapel, reflect on your vocation story. Which moments stand out the most?
 - a. Pick *one single moment* or part of your story that you feel like God is calling your attention to.
2. Spend some time re-living this moment or part of your discernment in your head. What was your view of God like then? How did you see yourself? How did you feel God speaking to you?
 - a. *This is your "moment story" and it will be the focal point of the video*
3. After this, reflect on what other parts of your life were most crucial in leading you to that moment and what parts were the most crucial steps you took after. You should include these as supporting details to your main story.
 - a. When you are finished reflecting, fill out the sheet below.
4. *Time yourself* and practice your story with another person prior to going on film. Do not memorize anything word-for-word, but you should know the main points you want to hit while on film.
 - a. Keep in mind that, while it is possible for us to fix some mistakes in editing, it is better if a story can be told all in one take. The more you practice, the easier it will be the day of filming.



Structure Sheet

**This structure is analogous to the rising action, climax, and falling action of a story*

Supporting details leading up to your “moment story”

Your “moment story” (include details- take the viewer to where you were in your life)

Supporting details following your “moment story”