

where is  
life calling you?

## LIVE-IN DISCERNMENT PROGRAM

### GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Brothers of the Sacred Heart Live-In Discernment Program is a vocational discernment program designed for men who are seriously considering a call to religious life, while continuing their educational course of studies or professional careers. Men would move into one of the Brothers' communities to further experience and understand their life of prayer, community and ministry, while continuing with college, graduate school or work. Discerners would meet regularly with a Brother "mentor" to guide their prayerful considerations.

### PROGRAM GOALS

Our program offers serious college upperclassmen, graduate students and young professionals, the opportunity to live and to participate in the community life, prayer, and mission of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart while continuing their college, their post-graduate studies or their professional careers. Individual guidance in their personal and spiritual development according to the tradition and charism of the Brothers is an integral part of this Live-In Program.

### WHO MIGHT APPLY? THE LIVE IN DISCERNMENT PROGRAM IS FOR MEN:

- who are between 19 and 40 years old and who can live and work in the Baton Rouge or the New York City areas OR who are juniors, seniors or post-graduate students enrolled in a university in the Baton Rouge or the New York City areas;
- who are discerning a religious vocation, i.e. following Jesus in his chaste, poor and obedient way of life;
- who want to experience life in an intentional Christian community where group prayer and the celebration of the Eucharist are part of daily life;
- who want to participate in some sort of ministerial experience as time permits;
- who wish to respond to the Church's evangelizing mission to young people, especially to those who are poor and without hope.



### LOCATIONS

While the Brothers have communities in 31 countries around the world, this Live-In Program is currently only available in Baton Rouge, Louisiana (near New Orleans), and in Queens, New York (part of New York City). Mission experiences to the Brothers' Navajo Indian Mission in Klageetoh, Arizona, are also possible in between the fall and spring semesters and during the summer.

### **LIVING ACCOMODATIONS & FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS:**

#### **ALL LIVE-IN DISCERNERS WILL BE PROVIDED:**

- room and board for the duration of their stay;
- a private bedroom in a community residence of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart;
- shared common areas that include bathrooms, living room, dining room, chapel, kitchen and TV room;
- use of a washer and dryer;
- access to high speed Internet and a community printer;

#### **ALL LIVE-IN DISCERNERS MUST PROVIDE FOR THEIR OWN:**

- personal items and expenses (health insurance, computer, cell phone, cell phone bill, clothing/uniforms, toilet articles, etc.)
- travel and transportation expenses to and from the Discernment Community, school and work (car, car insurance, gasoline, public transportation fares etc.); and
- college/graduate school tuition, if applicable.

*Participants are expected to participate in the daily community life and chores as well as in the community's prayer life, activities and gatherings. Due to the nature of the discernment process, all Live-In Participants are to live a celibate lifestyle and refrain from dating during the experience.*

### **LENGTH OF LIVE-IN EXPERIENCES**

The length of the program is one (1) semester, two (2) semesters or more! Live-In Discernment experiences are available for up to a year, but can be extended beyond that time. The decision to extend a Live-In Discernment experience beyond a year will be made on an individual and yearly basis. Discerners are free to leave the program at any time or may be asked to leave the program for just causes as determined by the community. All Live-In Discerners are asked to fully commit to the program while in residence.

### **APPLICATION DEADLINE**

April 15th is the preferred deadline for applying for the fall experience; November 15th is preferred for the spring experience; summer experiences available only for those who have participated in the fall or spring semester program.

### **REQUIREMENTS: ALL APPLICANTS TO THE LIVE-IN DISCERNMENT PROGRAM MUST:**

- be male college juniors or seniors, post-graduate students or young professionals (between the ages of 19 and 40);
- be single, practicing Catholics and have legal status in the U.S.
- submit an application form and a physical form indicating they have had a recent physical exam and are in good physical and mental health with no major risk factors (Discerner's expense);
- submit to a background check (Brothers' expense);
- provide a current driver's license, if driving, or some other government-issued photo I.D.;
- be interviewed;
- submit three (3) recent letters of reference (if possible, two personal and one professional; if not possible, three personal recommendations);
- be trained in and agree to abide by all child safety regulations;
- provide proof of health and car insurance (if the Live-In Discerner will be driving his own automobile); and
- be accepted by the Provincial of the Province of the United States of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

For additional information and/or to ask questions, please contact Bro. Paul Montero (225-400-4985 ; pomonero@yahoo.com); Bro. Michael Migacz (732-718-8559; mikemigacz@hotmail.com) or the Province Office (504-301-4758).