



journey of
**Spiritual
Accompaniment**





journey of

Spiritual Accompaniment

- ✓ “A good formator must always have a mother’s heart and a father’s heart” - Pope Francis
- ✓ “Priests are called to form a community of mature Christians, living signs of God’s kingdom.” - PDV 12





Being Present & Available

- ✓ environment of availability and openness
- ✓ importance of priests being “men who are available to all” - PO 9.
- ✓ accessible to students in person, and appropriate digital platforms.





Updating Communication Skills

- ✓ develop and enhance their communication skills
- ✓ engage effectively with students in the digital space
- ✓ “Those who are responsible for teaching... must continuously improve their ability to communicate” - OT 4.



Present and Available

Updating Skills

Role Models

Approachable



Role Model Human and Spiritual Realm

- ✓ to be living examples of Christ
- ✓ virtues of patience, humility, and compassion
- ✓ “priests are called to be living images of Jesus” - PDV 13.



Present and Available

Updating Skills

Role Models

Approachable



Be Open and Approachable

- ✓ Creating an atmosphere of trust
- ✓ evoke confidence in students to feel comfortable coming forward with their personal struggles
- ✓ foster “an environment of charity and openness” - PC 14.



Updating Skills

Role Models

Approachable

Allow Space for Mistakes



Allow Spaces for Mistakes

- ✓ process that involves growth through mistakes
- ✓ must “encourage and accompany with patience” - OT 9.
- ✓ allowing room to learn and be pruned



Role Models

Approachable

Allow Space for Mistakes

Promote Maturity



Emotional and Spiritual Maturity

- ✓ integration of emotional maturity with spiritual growth
- ✓ “Emotional maturity is a requirement for priestly formation, closely linked with a sound spiritual life” - PDV 43.



Approachable

Allow Space for Mistakes

Promote Maturity

Encourage Discipline



Encourage Digital Discipline

- ✓ guide students in developing digital discipline
- ✓ ensure that technology serves their spiritual growth rather than detracts from it
- ✓ need for “discipline and control over one’s use of media” - RF 92



Allow Space for Mistakes

Promote Maturity

Encourage Discipline

Authentic Relationship



Authentic Relationship

- ✓ not just about individual growth but about building authentic relationships
- ✓ ensure that technology does not replace real human interaction.
- ✓ priests to “live in brotherhood” and foster true communion. - PO 8



Promote Maturity

Encourage Discipline

Authentic Relationship

Accompany with Empathy



Accompany with Empathy

- ✔ approach students with empathy and a non-judgmental attitude.
- ✔ must accompany with compassion and understanding.
- ✔ priests to be “shepherds who smell like their sheep” - EG 24



Encourage Discipline

Authentic Relationship

Accompany with Empathy

Fostering Discernment



Fostering Discernment

- ✓ guidance on how to discern their vocations in a world of information overload.
- ✓ need to help them to be deeply rooted in an intimate relationship with Christ.
- ✓ “seeking Christ in... the Word of God, in active participation in the sacred mysteries of the Church... in the Eucharist and the divine office.” - PDV 38



Encourage Discipline

Authentic Relationship

Accompany with Empathy

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Thank You

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