

CARA (Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate)  
2024 national survey on the impact of Mary on vocations in the Catholic Church.  
Summary about the key findings:

## Key Mariology Statistics from the Survey

| Finding                                             | Percentage | Context                                                         |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Prayed Rosary privately during vocation discernment | 71%        | Respondents discerning priesthood, diaconate, or religious life |
| Conversion/reversion influenced by Marian devotion  | 71%        | Those converting or returning to Catholicism                    |
| Strong devotion to Mary                             | 58%        | All respondents surveyed                                        |
| Some devotion to Mary                               | 31%        | Combined 89% have strong or some devotion                       |
| Devotion strengthened ecclesial vocations           | 74%        | Either "strengthened" (34%) or "very much strengthened" (41%)   |
| Introduced to Marian devotion in family             | 92%        | Clergy and religious surveyed                                   |

## What These Numbers Tell Us

The 71% figure specifically relates to **private Rosary prayer during vocational discernment**. This survey indicates that Marian devotion plays a statistically significant role in:

1. **Vocational formation** - Nearly three-quarters of those pursuing priesthood or religious life incorporated private Rosary prayer
2. **Faith transitions** - The same percentage reported Mary's influence during conversions or returns to the Catholic faith
3. **Overall devotional landscape** - An overwhelming majority (89%) maintain some level of devotion to Mary

## Important Context

This data comes from U.S.-based clergy, religious, and those discerning ecclesial vocations. The survey highlights what many theologians observe: Mariology functions not just as doctrinal study but as lived spiritual practice that shapes Catholic identity and vocation discernment.

*Sources: Our Sunday Visitor/CARA survey, Catholic Culture*