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I was born in Bismarck in 1991. I grew up in Napoleon doing what most small town boys do, playing a lot of sports like football, basketball, track, and baseball. I did this through most of my high school years. I graduated in 2010 and headed off to Dakota State University in Madison, SD. I was pursuing degrees in Computer Graphics Design switching to Computer Ed then switching again to Phy. Ed. I then transferred to Black Hills State University in Spearfish, SD in 2012 to pursue a relationship and also continue my degree in Phy. Ed. After a short 2 months there I had decided to come home and figure out what I wanted with my life. I had not really thought of what I wanted my future to hold. So after a few months at home I then transferred to the University of Mary in the spring of 2013. Here I pursued a degree in Athletic Training and later switched to Exercise Science due to a full program.

The summer of 2013 I had done Young Disciples and it was one of the best summers of my life. I grew a lot in my faith and knowledge of myself and really found out what I really wanted my life to look like, and not just my career, but who I was as a person. After that summer I went back to UMary and joined the Track team that year. I had a full class load plus Track, and it was another great year learning how to balance everything and how to push myself even when I felt like I could not keep it up. I grew deeper in my faith and prayer as well as maturing as a man of God. Then in May of 2014 I had went to an Operation Andrew Supper in Napoleon. Here I had supper with the Bishop and a few other priests in the area with men who were curious about the priesthood and seminary. I really felt a pull to seminary while I was here. I got the application, but did not fill it out because I felt like the time was not right. I then did a year on NET. While on NET I was placed on a team of 8 and we served at Providence Academy, which is a private Catholic college prep school in Plymouth, MN. What we did was walked with the students throughout their days going to classes and lunches and providing Bible studies and leading retreats for them for 8 months. Doing this really helped me to grow in love for everyone around me. It has really changed my life. While serving on NET I had heard the Lord say, "You will never find your true vocation until you enter seminary." And so I felt that it was time and I applied for seminary and it has been a great adventure thus far and cannot wait to see what is next!

Do your family and friends think it is a good idea that you're becoming a priest?

They all think it is pretty great to see someone follow the Lord's will and step out in faith.

Do you ever have any fun? What do you do in your free time?

I have fun all the time! I usually enjoy running, playing ultimate Frisbee or any sports, playing guitar, and exploring wherever I can.

If you were not a priest, what do you think you would be?

I would continue to pursue Exercise Science and then go after a Physical Therapy Doctorate.

How many brothers and sisters do you have?

I have an older brother, older sister, and a younger brother.

What is your favorite TV program?

I don't usually watch a lot of TV, but I love watching *Fresh Prince of Bel Air* or *Friends*.

Who is your favorite singer or music group?

I like most music. Usually it is Christian rock, like Skillet or Thousand Foot Krutch, but I like all music.

Do you ever get bored while studying to be a priest?

Like doing anything else over and over again sometimes it does get boring, but when that happens I get up and pick on a fellow seminarian and then get back to studying.

How is a seminary different than a regular school? How often do you see your family?

Seminary focuses on the growth of the man. Coming to seminary really drives you to be formed into a better man of God through the formation techniques offered by the seminary. As I am in Detroit for these years I probably will not get to see my family very much. I hope to Skype and call often.

What do you enjoy most while studying to be a priest?

The great times with the other seminarians here, being able to enjoy this time with other men doing the same thing you are doing.

Who helped you decide to become a priest?

Meeting all of the seminarians in the diocese really helped me understand that to be in seminary you do not have to be a certain way or perfect, but to desire the Lord and His will for your life if His will is the Priesthood.

What do you think the best thing will be about being a priest?

Being present to those around me for any of their needs, to be able to give myself completely to my parish or wherever I would be.

What is your favorite quote or saying?

“Courage therefore, and with the souls eye fixed on the goal of eternity, struggle on!” – Venerable Solanus Casey

What is one other thing you would like to tell people about yourself?

I love to beat box while walking from class to class or just play little tricks on people like, “what’s that on your shirt?” then sliding my finger to their nose. Simple humor is my favorite! Tell me a pun if you have one!