

Kyle Kaufman

Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Detroit, MI

St. Rose of Lima Parish, Hillsboro, ND

Brief Biography: I grew up in Hillsboro, North Dakota, and I graduated from Hillsboro High School in May of 2014. I was involved in various activities and sports including cross country, track, drama, math track, science olympiad, student council, SADD, National Honor Society, FBLA, FFA, and Hillsboro Business Association. My family and I are parishioners at St. Rose of Lima. I was involved in CCD-catechesis classes, CYO, and helped as an alter server.

After graduating from high school, I attended the University of Mary majoring in accounting with a pre-law concentration. After my fall semester of my freshman year, the Lord invited me to discern a possible calling to the priesthood. I joined a discernment group on campus that winter. I then went to Rome with the University of Mary the fall semester of my sophomore year where I continued to discern. Upon returning from my semester of studying abroad, I began the seminarian application process for the Diocese of Fargo. I am currently attending Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit, MI, working on my Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy degree.

Do your family and friends think it is a good idea that you're becoming a priest? My family and friends do think it is a good idea that I am hoping to become a priest, and they have been very supportive.

Do you ever have any fun? What do you do in your free time? Yes, I have fun and find that we have plenty of free time in seminary. Our free time varies week to week depending on our schedule for the seminary, but there is always enough free time to have fun. I enjoy spending my free time playing soccer, ultimate frisbee, watching movies, and just hanging out with the guys. I also enjoy reading, listening to music, and other various activities when I am by myself.

If you were not a priest, what do you think you would be? If I were not in seminary, I would finish my accounting degree at the University of Mary and attend law school in order to become a lawyer.

How many brothers and sisters do you have? I have two older brothers. One lives in Grand Forks and works as a CPA. My other brother lives in Bismarck is an assistant manager of a bank branch.

What is your favorite TV program? I do not watch a lot of TV at seminary, but from time-to-time, guys in the seminary will start a series. One of the favorites is *Man in the High Castle* which is an Amazon original.

Who is your favorite singer or music group? I do not have a favorite singer or music group, but I enjoy listening to various genres of music. Among Christian/Catholic artists, I enjoy Matt Maher and Switchfoot. I also enjoy listening to classical music.

Do you ever get bored while studying to be a priest? There are occasions that I become bored, but there is always something going on at the seminary or friends that I can hang out with to keep me busy.

How is a seminary different than a regular school? How often do you see your family? I call my family regularly and have been able to see them during long breaks. Seminary is much different than a regular university because of one's daily schedule. In seminary, your schedule is structured and filled with formation, daily mass, prayer, classes, meals, etc., but at a regular university, this is not the case. This structured schedule is necessary so that you are able to be attentive to your obligations and maintain a prayerful life.

What do you enjoy most while studying to be a priest? I really enjoy the fraternity of the house. Each man has his own skills, talents, and dispositions, yet we are all on the same path striving for holiness. This fraternity offers a lot of support for cultivating and living a virtuous life.

Who helped you decide to become a priest? There have been numerous people in my life who have contributed to my desire to be a priest. Ultimately, my parents, my grandmother, and the priests in my life have been very influential. These people have passed on the faith, been great witnesses of the faith, and ultimately, wonderful examples in my life.

What do you think the best thing will be about being a priest? There are a lot of great things about being a priest, that I constantly contemplate. The top three things about being a priest would be giving myself completely to Jesus, celebrating the sacraments, and serving the faithful of the Diocese of Fargo.

What is your favorite quote or saying? “Do not be afraid. Open wide the doors for Christ.” ---St. John Paul II, Homily of His Holiness John Paul II for the Inauguration of His Pontificate

What is one other things you would like to tell people about yourself? I enjoy spending time with my family, especially with my niece and nephews. Also, please pray for me and know of my prayers for all of you. I am extremely excited to be on this journey.