

Matthew Kensok
St. Leo's Catholic Church, Casselton, ND

I was born in Fargo and grew up in rural Wheatland, ND. After graduating from Central Cass High School in Casselton, I began studying mechanical engineering at NDSU. It was through involvement at the NDSU Newman Center – bible study, retreats, and Eucharistic adoration – that I began discerning the possibility of the priesthood before applying for seminary. In my spare time, I enjoy running, geocaching, reading and spending time with family.

Do your family and friends think it is a good idea that you're becoming a priest? They have been very supportive throughout my discernment process so far and they are excited about the possibility.

Do you ever have any fun? What do you do in your free time? I enjoy running, reading, geocaching, and watching movies.

If you were not a priest, what do you think you would be? If I did not become a priest, I would likely continue studying mechanical engineering.

How many brothers and sisters do you have? I have two younger sisters. One is a junior in high school, and the other is a sophomore at NDSU.

What is your favorite TV program? It is not really a program, but I enjoy a Twins or Vikings game every once in a while.

Who is your favorite singer or music group? It is hard to choose between Matt Maher and TobyMac.

Do you ever get bored while studying to be a priest? After being here only a week, I don't feel qualified to answer that question.

How is a seminary different than a regular school? How often do you see your family? The academics of the seminary are similar to a regular school, but the prayer and fellowship is much more uplifting.

What do you enjoy most while studying to be a priest? Again, it has only been a week, but the environment at the seminary is wonderful for both prayer and study.

Who helped you decide to become a priest? Fr. James Cheney at the Newman Center was constantly talking about the importance of the transition into adulthood and asking God what He desires of me. Asking God questions about his plan for my life ultimately led me to seminary.

What do you think the best thing will be about being a priest? I think the best thing will be celebrating the Eucharist.

What is your favorite quote or saying? The world promises you comfort, but you were not made for comfort. You were made for greatness. – Pope Benedict XVI

What is one other thing you would like to tell people about yourself? I am musically inclined and spent nearly 9 years playing the trumpet.