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I grew up in Harvey, North Dakota, and graduated from Harvey High School in May 2005. I was involved with various activities and sports including, e.g. Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts, basketball, golf, and speech team. My family and I were parishioners at St. Cecilia's Parish. As a young man I attended Wednesday night CCD-catechesis classes, and helped as an altar server.

In March of 2003, I attended my first SEARCH retreat which happened to be the beginning of a new adventure. I continued attending SEARCH retreats up through my first couple years of college. After attending college for a couple of years and seeking to understand what I should do with my life, e.g. Air Force & radiology technician, etc., I began discerning a possible call to the priesthood. I attended Cardinal Muench Seminary before transferring to Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland, where I finished my Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, graduating in May of 2012. I am currently studying at the Mount.

Do your family and friends think it is a good idea that you're becoming a priest? *Yes, I believe that most of my family and friends think it is a good idea that I am hoping to become a priest.*

Do you ever have any fun? What do you do in your free time? *Yes, we do have fun and free time in seminary formation depending on the academic schedule. As for myself, I enjoy a variety of group activities, e.g. camping and hiking in the mountains, playing basketball, flag football, Ultimate Frisbee, attending an annual MLB Baltimore Orioles baseball game, watching movies (very seldom). When I am by myself, I enjoy reading, heading over to the gym to work out, shooting a basketball around, listening to music, and much more.*

If you were not a priest, what do you think you would be? *Before engaging in seminary formation, I was ready to sign up with the Air Force full time and complete a degree in radiology technician or diagnostic imaging.*

How many brothers and sisters do you have? *I have one brother who lives in North Dakota and one sister who lives in Kansas.*

What is your favorite TV program? *I watch very few TV programs, but from time-to-time guys in the seminary will begin watching a TV series around break times. One TV series that blasted off in the seminary house last year was the Sherlock Holmes---BBC series. If you have enjoyed the new Sherlock Holmes movies, then I would highly recommend this mini-TV series.*

Who is your favorite singer or music group? *It is difficult to select any one singer or music group. Switchfoot, Side Walk Prophets, and Matt Maher are among the Christian/Catholic artists I enjoy listening to. I also enjoy listening to various country and pop artists, e.g. One Republic.*

Do you ever get bored while studying to be a priest? *Studying for the priesthood provides some unique challenges, and boredom is one challenge which periodically sneaks into life. Learning how to appropriately respond to boredom is important because it reveals where the need to actively engage in deeper ways with the studies of formation rests.*

How is a seminary different than a regular school? How often do you see your family? *Seminary life offers a formation program built upon four foundation cornerstones: Human, Spiritual, Intellectual, and Pastoral formation. As seminarians we have the privilege of entering this formation process that really is designed to help each man become "the best version of himself" to quote Matthew Kelly. We live in an environment that intentionally creates an atmosphere conducive for growing in a personal relationship with God our Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.*

What do you enjoy most while studying to be a priest at Mount St. Mary's? *The fraternity or brotherhood throughout the house is what I enjoy most about studying to be a priest. Each man is unique, bringing various gifts and talents to the household allowing for some crazy fun times. Various road trips throughout the year provide extended time for life-giving conversations, e.g. talking about fatherhood, cultivating and living a virtuous life, the new evangelization, and much more.*

Who helped you decide to become a priest? *There have been various people in my life who have inspired my consideration of being a priest. Ultimately, much credit goes to God, my parents and two amazing Godparents who introduced me to the Catholic faith. Along the way, God has placed various other family, friends, and priests in my life who have been incredible witnesses to the Catholic Church*

What do you think the best thing will be about being a priest? *The best thing about being a priest, God-willing, will be receiving the opportunity to be present and serve the families, men, women, and youth of our diocese in whatever capacity necessary.*

What is your favorite quote or saying? *"Don't flutter about like a hen, when you can soar to the heights of an eagle."---José Maria Escriva, the Way, NO. 7*

What is one other thing you would like to tell people about yourself? *Conversational topics which I enjoy most include the importance of building strong marriages and family relationships, with an emphasis on the importance and gift of being a father in family life or the priesthood and what this means for men today; cultivating and living out a virtuous life; the New Evangelization and what this means for us as Catholics, and much more.*