

Joseph Littlefield

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Brief Biography: I was born on November 28, 1995 at Grand Forks AFB. I grew up in Hatton, ND and went to school there K-12. I had started discerning priesthood from the age of 14 and after my junior year I knew that I was going to discern my vocation further with the intent of going to seminary. However, God had another path for me to take first. After I graduated from high school, I attended the University of Mary in Bismarck, ND where I began to major in Philosophy. During my sophomore year at U of Mary, I felt the calling to apply for seminary. After my sophomore year, I was officially accepted on June 7, 2016 as a seminarian for the Diocese of Fargo. In my free time, I enjoy listening to music, watching YouTube videos, playing basketball and ultimate Frisbee, and attending car shows with my family. I am currently studying my 3rd year of Philosophy at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit, Michigan.

Do your family and friends think it is a good idea that you're becoming a priest? All my family and friends have always been really supportive of my vocation and my decision to discern the priesthood at seminary. I think they all really like the idea of having a priest in the family and as a friend.

Do you ever have any fun? What do you do in your free time? Yes, seminarians have a ton of fun. I like to play basketball and ultimate Frisbee. I also like to listen to music and watch YouTube videos. On top of this, I really enjoy anything classic car related.

If you were not a priest, what do you think you would be? I think that I would be an Air Craft Maintenance Officer in the Air Force like my Dad was.

How many brothers and sisters do you have? I have 1 older sister and 2 older brothers.

What is your favorite TV program? American Pickers

Who is your favorite singer or music group? Skillet

Do you ever get bored while studying to be a priest? Yes, some classes are way less interesting than others! =)

How is a seminary different than a regular school? How often do you see your family? Seminary for me is way different than both my high school and college experience. The biggest difference for me is having to dress up in a collared shirt and dress pants everyday versus being able to wear whatever I wanted every day at UMary like trucker hats, a flannels, blue jeans, and Nike basketball shoes. Also, my class periods at seminary are quite a bit longer than they were in college and high school. I only get to see my family at longer breaks like Thanksgiving and Christmas break but I do keep in contact with them on a weekly basis.

What do you enjoy most while studying to be a priest? I really enjoy distributing Holy Communion to a couple of people at the local nursing home here in Detroit through my Apostolic Experience Program.

Who helped you decide to become a priest? A big influence on my decision to become a priest was one of my old parish priests, Father Matthew Attansey. I really admired his joy in serving the people of my parish through the sacraments. I also really liked how he incorporated his Nigerian culture into his homilies and his interactions with me and his other parishioners.

What do you think the best thing will be about being a priest? I think the best part about being a priest will be being able to play an intimate part in bringing people closer to Jesus through the sacraments.

What is your favorite quote or saying? “With God, all things are possible!” Mark 10:27

What is one other thing you would like to tell people about yourself? I’m not your average Joe!