

## BRIEF HISTORY OF MYSELF

Boniface Wango is my name. I was born on May 6, 1984, the fifth born of Francis Wango and Helen Karuli. This was at Kalaken village on the remote south coast of West New Britain Province. My parish is Valanguo under the Catholic Diocese of Kimbe. The family consists of ten members, seven boys and three girls. The family life was lived out with a background of its own slowly rising social and economic status; however, on the other hand, my father was a leading chief of the village. My father was a subsistence farmer while mother was a housewife.

Life at home was based on the kind of economics to which the family had been used to, living on its blocks of cocoa, coconuts, and cultivated gardens. Hence my family is highly motivated in agriculture. In fact, the married brothers and sisters have one or two blocks of cocoa and coconuts and each of us single children has one. However, it is an existing problem in our area, since there has been no access of road to transport our cash crop to town.

Thus, at a smaller scale, the generating of income comes from garden crops and marine produce like fish, lobsters etc. to sell to the local buyers in order to get a little income to sustain our living, and to pay somewhat for my younger brothers' and sisters' school fees. I can say about my father - and this cannot be forgotten - his character and personality was by nature a respectful man who was always ready to help others, and above all he was a man of prayer. Indeed his ways thus brought a great impression to the community relating to their livelihood. This also brought a great impact on me; the thought of becoming a priest began in my early age, because it was more or less a result of the experience of growing up in a Christian atmosphere.

When I was ten years old I was sent to school. I did my primary school in Kalaken Primary School. Then I went to Kandrian High School; I completed grade 10 in 2001. By then I went to Don Bosco Agro-Technical Secondary School to do grades 11 and 12. Meanwhile, when doing grade 12, the thought of entering the seminary came into my mind again, so I applied to Jo, the bishop of Kimbe, and he accepted me to go for the formation program.

In 2007 I entered Rapolo Major Seminary. In the course of my seminary studies I encountered some problems and removed myself from the seminary, but it seems God calls me to become a priest, and I was asked to come back to the seminary. When doing my pastoral after the third year it was a crucial time for me: I was not able to continue, due to the fact that Kimbe was without a bishop, so I spent all these years in the village. In 2010 when Bishop Bill Fey became the bishop of Kimbe, I had the privilege to get in touch with him again.

As a matter of fact I had the interest and desire to become a priest in my early age; thus I had the strong conviction to continue my seminary studies. In the years spent at home I come to know and realize some of my weaknesses and reflected deep on the call towards the priesthood which is a divine call from God. Without hesitation I therefore still have that heart for becoming a priest to serve and build up the Kingdom of God by witnessing the Good News of Christ to others. I was very pleased and grateful to Bishop Bill Fey, for his kind admittance to me to do my spiritual year in St. Fidelis Seminary Madang, last year, 2015; and this year, 2016, I am in Holy Spirit Seminary Bomana. #In fact, however, I have succeeded and prospered, because the only thing I treasured has been the priestly aspect of freedom which strikes me the most. Thoughts of the priesthood are the only thing I remembered and recorded of my early school days, and still continue to aspire to today.# Therefore, I have to fulfill my call and become a priest.