

## John Severing - MY VOCATION STORY

My vocation is an ongoing call from God, or it is a day-in and day-out responding to God's call. My vocation started at the very beginning in the mother's womb.

Before I was born or formed and came to see the new light of the world, God has known me and He chosen me to respond to His invitation, that He has a plan for. However, on the 5th of August, 1992, that was the period when my mother gave birth to me, in a small village named Piapia from the Tribe of Megen in Kimbe West New Britain Province. I therefore, actually grew up or was raised in a Christian family or society, because the father of mine was a Catechist who was working in the mission with the priests, brothers, and sisters especially, at St. Joseph Ulamona Parish where I am from. In regards to my early childhood, from what I saw and observed primarily, the priests who were celebrating "the Holy Eucharist" on Sundays mass, were to me like a burning fire that lightened my heart and motivated me in thinking of becoming a priest in the future.

One day, I was with friends and dramatizing of how the priests are saying the prayer; then I began to lead them with the word of prayer since I was a small boy. When I started to go for school at Noau Primary from 2000 to 2006 attending grade one ( 1) to grade eight (8), I really had that strong desire or a dream for my future education. And it is of becoming a priest.

After the completion of my primary education, I was selected to do grade nine (9) and grade ten (10) at Bialla High School in 2008 to 2009. In spite of circumstances, I was able to go for another two years of Secondary Education Studies at Faith Preliminary Secondary School in 2010 to 2011. At that moment I began to make choices in regards to my intention or my deepest desire of wanting to go for seminary studies to become a priest. So, then, I chose the vocation to the priesthood, because I would like to become a servant of God and continue the mission of Christ in evangelizing to God's people.

Furthermore, in 2012 I wrote to the Vocation Director of Kimbe Diocese, to express my interests of wanting to become a diocesan candidate. In response, I was accepted to go for seminary formation, and a propaedeutic year at St. Fidelis Seminary - in 2014 and 2015. And finally, last year, 2016, I did my spiritual year at Putput, Spiritual Formation Centre in Rabaul, East New Britain Province. Therefore, I kind appreciated my Rev. Bishop Bill Fey for the privilege that he sent me to Holy Spirit Seminary for Spiritual Formation, and Academic year in Bomana; Catholic Theological Institute, 2017. Thank you almighty God the Father for creating me and for His invitation that I am responding to achieve in the ages to come.