

ROCHUS PIAKAI

Vocation story

I am Rochus Piakai, last born in the family. We are five, one sister and four brothers. Out of five members, four are married but not me. I completed my grade 12 in 2010 in West New Britain Business College (Kimble). At the time I was in grade 12 I wrote to Lemakot Nursing College asking for to be admitted for 2011. While I was waiting for the reply, I had a dream that my sister said, "You are the one are chosen not to be married, but to live a single life." When I heard this dream, at the same time I received the reply from Lemakot Nursing College that I was accepted, but I could not make any attempt to make my way to the college. I did not want to go because I had changed my mind strongly, thinking very much to follow the good dream that was told by my sister.

At the moment I went to see the vocation director to go to seminary. He said to me, "You are interested to go to seminary?"

"Yes off course," I said to him, "I had a dream. Therefore I came to see you, to share my dream," because for myself I did not understand it. He explained it clearly and meaningfully with inspiring words and thoughts. While I heard this, I felt a most grateful desire to go to the seminary. So I went to the seminary to do the first year formation at Lannuzel, St. Paul, North Baining, East New Britain (Rabaul) in 2012. And after formation I went to Rapolo Sacred Heart Major Seminary to do two years of philosophy.

One morning I went to the class, and I received a bad message that my elder brother had died. It left me very deeply worried, and I was about to leave the seminary and come back home, but I prayed for God help. So I could not make any attempt to leave the seminary. I stayed in the seminary and completed my study successfully, because my desire to be studying for the priesthood is very strong in my life. However, year after year in my personal life in seminary I have faced/experienced some difficulties, but I never have taken it seriously. I never give up; instead, I try to love and do it as best as I can.

Lastly I greatly thank you my Bishop that all my needs and wants are provided in the seminary to keep me alive, safe and progressing, and also my good Rectors and formators in each seminary I left, and those where I am now living in the Holy Spirit Seminary for doing Religious study. I hope that I will complete the next three years to become a priest successfully.