

I am William Bai from Silanga Parish under Kimbe Diocese. West New Britain Province. This will be a brief story of my vocation. Before I proceed on, I would like to thank our Heavenly Father for the gift of life and the gift of my parents.

I was born on the 13th of January, 1989, at Silanga Health center. This is what my mother told me; she said when I was born at about three months old, I was badly affected by this contagious skin disease which is the scabies mite. It took my parents to suffer for almost seven months but they said how I survived is through faith. When I grew up I learnt many things from them, a lot of advice, and basic catechism was taught to me while being at home.

I began my education in the year 1997. I became an observer first then to grade one and then the following year I did my grade two. I completed my primary level in 2006 and secondary 2012. Though, within that period of time there are certain events that happened in my life where it became a memory to me. Here are some of them; I was pushed by my friend from the guava tree, but I did not get injured. The other one was during the month of the rosary in 2000. We were processing along the highway as a kid, I was curious with some of my friends carrying candles and flowers in front with the statue of mother Mary. When we were approaching the corner, suddenly a truck came along and I was the one who was hit by that vehicle, but somehow I was saved. At that time, for myself I really experienced the miracle in my life.

In addition to my vocation, how I developed the desire of becoming a priest I could honestly say that it began when I was in grade six. During that time my parents were executives of the Rosa Mystica devotion. I had this desire but I Told no one about it. One day my class teacher asked me whom do you want to become in the future? I gave a silence and I answered her, I want to become a priest. This desire grew stronger when it happened that I became an altar server during the time when Fr. Peter Silong was assigned to our parish. I continuously did this when I reached secondary school. From secondary I withdrew two times just because of the work of youth ministry in my community. Then I went back to school again and ended 2012.

After I completed my grade 12 examination, I went home just about two weeks, and the company of New Britain Palm Oil under the department of small holders were looking for someone who had completed grade 12 to do palm census and statistics, so I applied. They accepted me and I worked for them as a field officer at the first class. I worked for about one and a half years. While in the field I began to experience reflection and it came to my mind that I made decision to leave, though I had gained good salary, but I left. At home I discussed my desire to my parents and they both agreed. The next day the information reached my relatives, and they all agreed. With these supports I was free to write my application and I was accepted. For the remaining six months I was advised to stay with my parish priest, so I did it. This was in the middle of 2014. However in 2015 I went to Sacred Heart Seminary, in East Nast New Britain Province to do my first year propaedeutic and in 2016 propaedeutic two (2). Last year I did my spirituality year at Putput Spiritual Formation Center, and this year 2018 I am in Holy Spirit Seminary doing my religious studies at Catholic Theology Institute Bomana.