

Adolf Guria - My Vocation story

My name is Adolf Guria and I am from the Archdiocese of Rabaul. I'm doing my first year theology this year 2017. This is my time in CTI especially to further my studies in regard to my priestly formation. In this paper I'm going to present my own vocation story. It is to show and see with the eyes of faith the different movements of God in my faith journey.

I was borne on the twenty-first of April, 1987. There were seven siblings in my family; 3 girls and 4 boys, and I am the second to the last in the family. My parents have both died and my first born brother has just died recently. Anyway, my father was a former catechist and my mother was just a simple house wife. However, my family is now left with 3 girls, all married, and 3 boys. Two are still yet to be engaged, and I'm the other one who is now aspiring to embrace the ministry to the priesthood.

In the year 1996 I started my formal education career. I attended Kabaira Primary School from the years 1996-2003 doing grade one (01) up to grade eight (08). During these eight years in the primary level, I had found something interesting. Our class teacher, (who was a nun from the congregation of the Daughters of Mary Immaculate) told us to choose a profession in life or who will we become in the future and unconsciously I told my teacher that I want to be like our parish priest. Then my teacher told me to study very hard. As a result from all the effort and hard work that I have tirelessly spent in class, I was selected to St. Mary's Secondary School, VUVU to continue on doing my grade nine (9) and ten (10) there.

So I did my grade 9 and 10, in the year 2004 and 2005. I was privileged to be in a Catholic run school. It is because this is where some members from different congregation come and do their vocation promotion. They really inspired me and gave me ideas and showed me how to follow the process for how to become a member of one of these congregations.

However, things didn't happened the way I am hoping to happen. After finishing my grade ten, I was accepted to do my grade 11 and 12 by a Seventh Day Adventist run school. So from 2006 to 2007 I attended Kambubu Adventist Secondary School. Without any other choice, I made up my mind to attend that school with the aim of achieving a grade twelve qualification. Even though spending two years with the SDA's, my Catholic faith was not shaken by their teaching and doctrine.

In 2008 I was at home with my family. It was because I didn't receive any offer from all the tertiary institutions around the country. For four years I remained at home with my family. In 2009 I formed up our parish youth group, and I am the youth president. This gave me the opportunity to know my Parish Priest very well, and sometimes I accompanied him in his pastoral ministry.

In 2010 I expressed to him my desire and dream of wanting to become a diocesan priest. Therefore, my parish priest recommended me to the Diocesan Vocation Director, Fr. John Rongdiat and gave an application form to fill in my personal details and a letter of interest attached to it. In 2012 I entered Lanuzel Formation Centre doing a nine month propaedeutic program. After finishing this period of discernment, we were relocated to the Sacred Heart Inter-diocesan Major Seminary, Rapolo. And this leads me to where I'm now this year.