

PATRICK TARORO

In my childhood, I had never been thinking of becoming a priest, but I was very much interested in going to church because our parish priest, a German Priest, Fr. Norbet Birkman MSC, usually give us lollies every Sunday after the Eucharistic celebration.

In 1997, I was a growing up boy and entered Papatava Primary school where I begin to have that interest, but I never told anyone about it. What really motivated me was my Parish priest himself. He was growing old, and every time he prayed for vocations and challenged the students about his situation as an old man, and who was going to take his place when he died. Also he was very helpful to the people, and so committed in his pastoral duties, and that was how it came that I admired him and wanted to become like him.

In 2004, I completed primary school and was selected to continue my grade 9 at St Mary's Vuvu Secondary school, and with that hidden thought I begin to grow much interest.

In 2006, I was doing my grade 10, and many thoughts again were coming to my mind because I was afraid to tell someone about my interest.

Even my parents too, I never told them of my interest because they know me, I am their very bighead son, and in my thought, I was thinking that good people only are able to enter the seminary.

It was 5 weeks before the grade 10 national examination; I came home for the weekend when I could not hold back. I walked directly to the parish to see the priest and told him about my interest. After chatting with my parish priest, he told me just to pray over it. He did not tell me anything more on what I must do.

From 2007 to 2008, I attended St. Peter Chanel minor seminary and 2009, I entered Lanuzel Diocesan Formation Centre.

From 2010 to 2011, I did Philosophy and Religious Studies at Rapolo Seminary. Then in 2012 I went for a Spiritual formation year.

In 2013 to 2014, I came back to Rapolo Seminary to do theology, and in 2015 I went for my Pastoral year. At the beginning of 2016 I was to come to Holy Spirit Seminary Bomana but I was held back by my Bishop and suspended because of alcohol consumption. I was sent back to the Seminary Rapolo and assisted the Vocation Director, Fr. John Cabrido to go out to the schools and parishes for Vocation Promotion.

In 2017, I came back and attended Spiritual formation at Putput (Rabaul), and now, in 2018 I am at Holy Spirit Seminary attending Catholic Theological Institute doing Theology Two (2).