

VINCENT MANGOGAI

Short Historical Appraisal

I was baptised with the name Vincent, and Mangogai is my surname. I come from the Catholic Archdiocese of Rabaul and remained as a Diocesan candidate. I was born on the 26th August, 1985., and was brought up in a simple subsistence family background of the Tomoip tribe, located along the southeast coast of East New Britain Province, Papua New Guinea.

Formal Education and Vocation

I began my studies of grades 1 to 6 in 1996 at Kaukum Primary School and continued on to grades 7 and 8 in upper primary at Guma Primary School. From there I passed my exams and was selected to Palmalmal High School in 2004. In the middle of 2005 we were given opportunities to apply to private schools, and there I found myself to have applied to Chanel Minor Seminary, Ulapia in Kokopo. Hence, in 2006, I was selected to Kerevat National High School with my other classmates. While in preparation to go to Kerevat, my Parish Priest had his Christmas celebrations with us and with a surprise I was given another acceptance letter from our local bishop to go to Chanel. Meanwhile, that had put me in the situation of making a choice of whether to go to national high school in Kerevat, or to Chanel Minor Seminary.

At last, I thank the good Lord that He had given me the right decision to have chosen to go to the minor seminary. In 2006 I did my Grade 11 and continued on the following year to Grade 12, and graduated on the 27th of November, 2007. In fact, it was without doubt for me in choosing to have my studies in the seminary as it was been my interest to become a priest. My family up-bringing itself was the cause of my interest in the sense that my parents, even though lacking in other areas of life to sustain the family, their spiritual life was constant. Simple as I could reflect, my family gets its nourishment by simply praying the holy rosary every morning and evening. That was, and is still part of my family's daily routine today.

Formation and Major Seminary Studies

In 2008, I had my propaedeutic year of formation in the North Baining, Lannuzel. From there, I proceeded to Chanel in 2009-2010 for my philosophical studies. In 2011 I went back to Lannuzel with my other fellow brother seminarians from Kimbe, Bougainville, Alotau and Rabaul for our Spiritual Year program. At the end of the year we graduated and also had the reception of cassocks in preparation for taking theological studies at Sacred Heart Inter-Diocesan Major Seminary, Rapolo. In 2012, I took Religious Studies One and had taken a year out in 2013. By 2014, I return to take RS2, and was sent by my bishop at the end of the year to have had my pastoral experience in one of our remote parishes at Putput. It was last year that I did my pastoral year. However, for some reasons (that I'm not too sure about) our local bishop, with the other bishops from the New Guinea Islands decided to have us seminarians complete our theological courses at the Catholic Theological Institute, Bomana in Port Moresby. Because of this shift from Rapolo to Bomana, I am currently taking my studies in theology. Next year will be my final year in the seminary formation programs. I hope and trust in the Lord for his guidance and protection through all my studies, with the intercession of our Blessed Mother Mary, Seed of Wisdom... Pray For Us All. Amen!