

Douglas Peter (A Brief story of my call)

I am very glad that now I am doing my first year of philosophical studies in CTI. Residing in the Holy Spirit Seminary is a great privilege for me as a diocesan candidate aspiring to become a priest in the future.

I was born on the 12 of April, 1990, at the St. Paul's Lavongai Health Centre. I am the ninth born out of ten members in the family: four boys and six girls. When I was doing my spiritual year in Good Shepherd Seminary, my mother died on the 15th of April 2021. My father is still alive. My parents are both from New Ireland Province and are both Catholics.

During my early ages when I was growing up, I already learned how to make the sign of the cross and the basic prayers of the church in my tok ples. In 1999 I entered formal education. I did my grades one to eight at St. Paul's Lavongai Primary School from 1999 to 2006. I then did my grade nine at St. Jude Mongop High School. In 2007 I lost my interest in going to school, so I ran away and stayed at home. In 2008 to 2010, I did my grades ten to twelve in Utu Secondary School. In 2011 I went to St. Benedict's Kaindi Teachers College in East Sepik Province. I did not complete my studies at the college due to financial difficulties.

In 2012 I went back home and stayed with my parents for another two years. I then did a two years diploma in business studies management at Kaindi at Port Moresby Business College- Kavieng Branch. After my studies I did not find a job. I stayed at home with my parents. It was all the time when I was at home that I have seen what really is the suffering of the people for God in their lives. I led the youths in liturgical celebrations and other church activities in the parish and the faithful people were longing for someone who could lead them properly in the church - not someone who is addicted to alcohol and womanizing, which is the main problem in my parish. This problem is sure to be my strong motivation to study in the seminary.

Therefore, since 2019