

MY VOCATION STORY

My name is Amos Tiroro from the Arch diocese of Rabaul. I am a diocesan seminarian who is studying to become a priest in the future. I was born on the 6th of June 1997 in our village called Mile which was also the main parish. Currently, I am 26 years old.

I came from a very committed and Catholic family where my parents are very faithful in prayer. In our family, I have five brothers and five sisters and together we were ten members in the family. Our first born was a female and she works as an oil palm supervisor in Hargy Company in one of the plantations. I was the third last born in our family. My father and mother are both subsistence farmers and we live by agriculture.

I started my school when I was nine years old. During that time, the elementary system of education was put in place so we were the third batch to go through that system. In 2007, we went to the primary school to do grade one. The next following year 2008, I did my second grade up until 2014 when we completed grade eight. After completing grade eight exams, we went for Christmas holidays. While I was in the village, they called our names in the radio to continue to go to grade nine.

In 2015, we were selected to go to Palmalmal Secondary School. In fact when I was selected to go there, I was very happy and I really thanked God for his great blessings upon me. When I first attended the class, our class patron told us to introduce ourselves to the class. I was a bit shy but then I forced myself to introduce to the whole class. From there, I started to build up personal confidence because I was an introverted person.

When I stayed for four years there I got used to the system and have so many friends that we stayed together and we were kind of familiar to each other. And so I started to open up to other students not only in our class but also from other different classes as well, so I shifted from being an introvert to an extrovert person. In 2016, I completed grade 10 and I was selected to continue grade 11 and 12 from 2017 to 2018 at Palmalmal Secondary School.

When I was in grade 12, I had the strong desire to go to the Seminary. In fact, I think this could be the beginning of my vocation or in other words, that's when my vocation started from there and I came to realize God's call in my life. I was thinking of becoming a lawyer and this was my aim since when I was a small boy, but I got surprised when the feeling of becoming a priest came into my mind. And so I made some kind of reflection on this and I remember a small phrase or expression which says, 'you may have your own plans in your life but God makes final decisions'.

In 2019, I started my first year propaedeutic program at Sacred Heart Seminary, Rapolo in East New Britain Province, Papua New Guinea. I stayed there for two years in formation then in 2021 I did my spiritual year at Good Shepherd Seminary in Fatima, Banz Jiwaka Province. This year is my first year philosophy in CTI, Holy Spirit Seminary, Bomana PNG...Sem. Amos Tiroro Archdiocese of Rabaul.