

ST CHARLES SEMINARY

2024

WELCOME



GOD HAS CREATED ME

God has created me to do Him some
definite service.

He has committed some work to me
which He has not committed to another.

I have a mission.

I may never know it in this life,
but I shall be told it in the next.

I have a part in a great work;

I am a link in a chain,
a bond of connection between persons.

I shall do good.

I shall do His works;

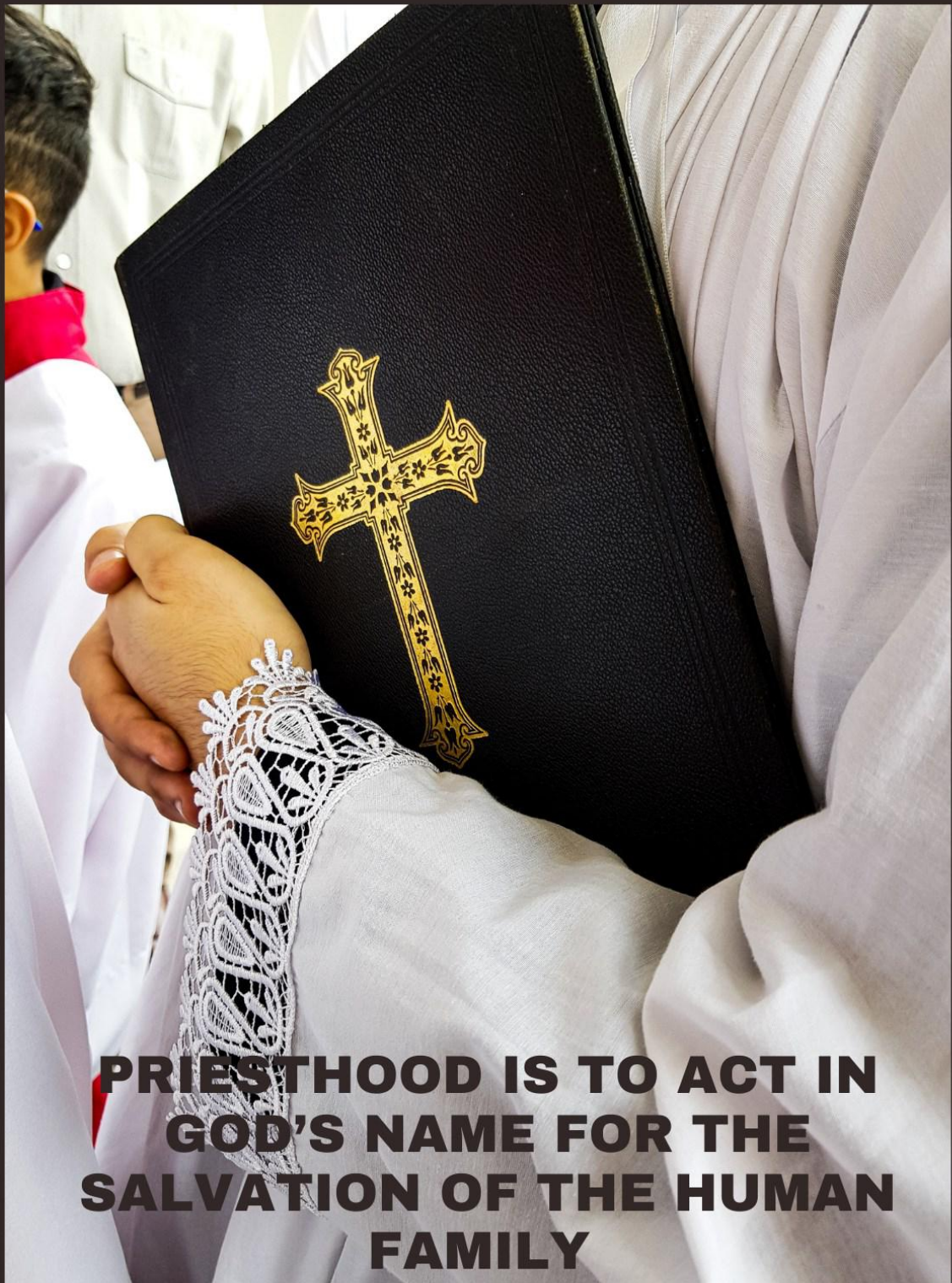
I shall be an instrument of peace.

John Henry Cardinal Newman

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**PRIESTHOOD IS TO ACT IN
GOD'S NAME FOR THE
SALVATION OF THE HUMAN
FAMILY**

WHY CHOOSE TO BECOME A PRIEST



**ERROL & JASON ORDINATION
2024**

PRIESTHOOD: *catholic definition-*
*The priesthood is **the office of the ministers of religion, who have been commissioned ("ordained") with the Holy orders of the Catholic Church.***

A Roman Catholic priest, is a man called by God to serve Christ and the Church through the reception of the sacrament of Holy Orders.

Priests have a critical mission: to bring people to Jesus and Jesus to the people. They are spiritual fathers of thousands of Catholics around the world. Priests are living witnesses of Christ in the world - men of strong character who stand out in our secular culture.

A man called to priesthood must be open to be molded or formed by the Church into a man of virtue, prayer, integrity and holiness.

The best way to know if you are called to the priesthood is by first building up a habit of daily prayer, set time aside each day to listen to God and regular attendance to the Eucharist (Mass). Pray that you are open to your vocation and doing His will. Secondly, find a Spiritual Director who can help you understand what God is calling you to do.

OUR MISSION AND VISION



WE TRAIN OUR STUDENTS TO REACH THEIR MAXIMUM POTENTIAL.

Guided by the teachings of the Ratio Fundamentalibus Institutionis Sacerdotalis and the Ratio Nationalis Institutionis Sacerdotalis, St Charles' Seminary strives to live and grow fully into its vision and spirit, and to become an ecclesial educational community.

As an ecclesial community, it is a community of faith filled with expectant hope and built on deep friendship and charity so that it can be considered a true family living in joy. (PDV 60).

As an educational community the Seminary seeks to accompany seminarians through a process of human, spiritual, intellectual and pastoral formation for the mission of disciple priests.

It is both a supportive and directive environment where seminarians may be discerning their call to be configured to Christ, the head, shepherd and servant and be...enabled and committed to share the mission of salvation in the Church and in the world. (PDV 61).

The Seminary provides a comprehensive SEVEN-year course in human, spiritual, pastoral and academic formation. The University of Notre Dame assists the Seminary in the academic formation program.

Seminarians are called to commit themselves to a dynamic process of integrated formation that they might be configured more closely to Christ.

OUR PROGRAMS

01 SPIRITUAL FORMATION

"Spiritual formation is directed at nourishing and sustaining communion with God and with our brothers and sisters, in the friendship of Jesus the Good Shepherd, and with an attitude of docility to the Holy Spirit." (The Gift of the Priestly Vocation, 101)



03 INTELLECTUAL FORMATION

"Intellectual formation is aimed at achieving for seminarians a solid competence in philosophy and theology, along with a more general educational preparation, enough to allow them to proclaim the Gospel message to the people of our own day in a way that is credible and can be understood." (The Gift of the Priestly Vocation, 116)

Each seminarian will have obtained, by the end of his time here, a Bachelor's Degree in Theology with a Philosophy Major from the University. It is the aim of the seminary to foster educational excellence and provide to the Church in Western Australia men truly competent in the intellectual aspects of the Christian faith.

02 HUMAN FORMATION

"Human formation, being the foundation of all priestly formation, promotes the integral growth of the person and allows the integration of all its dimensions." (The Gift of the Priestly Vocation, 94)

The formation programme at St. Charles is designed to help the seminarian become a man of sound and authentic character, able to commit himself to the Church and a life of ministry. It is here that he, with the help of his formators, equips himself with the necessary qualities and virtues for a life of celibate chastity, simplicity and obedience.

04 PASTORAL FORMATION

"Priestly formation must be permeated by a pastoral spirit. It will make them able to demonstrate that same compassion, generosity, love for all, especially for the poor, and zeal for the Kingdom that characterised the public ministry of the Son of God." (The Gift of the Priestly Vocation, 119)

As required of any Catholic seminary, the whole of the formation at St. Charles ultimately has a pastoral character - everything is oriented towards priestly ministry.



OUR FACULTY

FR FRANCIS NGUYEN

Rector of St Charles Seminary

Fr Francis took on the role of Rector of the Seminary in 2023. He was previously Parish Priest of Port Kennedy Catholic Church for 3 1/2 years. He was ordained in 2000. His first parish was Willetton for 2 years, then the Goldfields for 2 years, Wheatbelt for 1 1/2 years, Royal Perth Hospital Chaplain for 5 years and Ellenbrook parish for 8 years.



FR JOSEPH LAUNDY

Vice Rector of St Charles Seminary

Fr Joseph joined the Seminary as Vice Rector, this year. He was the Chaplain to the University of Notre Dame prior to joining the Seminary and is currently the Chaplain to the Catholic Youth Ministry. Fr Joseph was ordained into the Priesthood in 2017. His first placement was as Assistant Parish Priest at Mater Christi, Yangebup for 3 years. Fr Joe loves water sports, fishing and attending to his house plants. He also competed and successfully crossed the Rottneest Channel in 2024

MRS COLLEEN GELDENHUYS

Finance Manager & Secretary

Colleen joined the Seminary in 2019 as the Finance Manger and Secretary to the Rector and Vice Rector. As of the beginning of this year, has also taken on the role as Assistant Dean of Studies. Colleen was the Secretary of St Benedict's Church, Applecross for 20 years.



OUR SEMINARIANS

JHEE BAGUINAT

5th Year



CHRISTOPHER DE FREITAS

4th Year



THOMAS LAI

3rd Year



MATTHEW PURT

2nd Year



MARCELINO SEVERINO III

2nd Year



VIVEK TOM

1st Year



YOUR DISCERNMENT



QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF

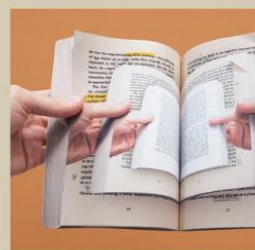
- Why do I want to become a priest?
- When and how did I receive my call to become a priest?
- What are the life experiences that have led me to feel that this is the path God wants for me?
- What is God asking me to say “YES” to?
- Does the idea of becoming a priest keep coming back time and time again?
- Do I desire to courageously and selflessly give all to Christ and to follow HIM to wherever He calls me?
- How has my faith journey led me to want to become a priest?
- What is my prayer life like?
- Am I afraid of telling my friends and family that I am thinking about priesthood?
- What does my family think of my decision to become a priest?
- If I weren't to become a priest, what else would I do?
- Have others encouraged me to become a priest?
- What are my hobbies and interests?
- What do I know of the life of a priest and what it entails to be a priest?
- What do I think about celibacy and can I commit?

RECOMMENDED

BOOKS & ARTICLES

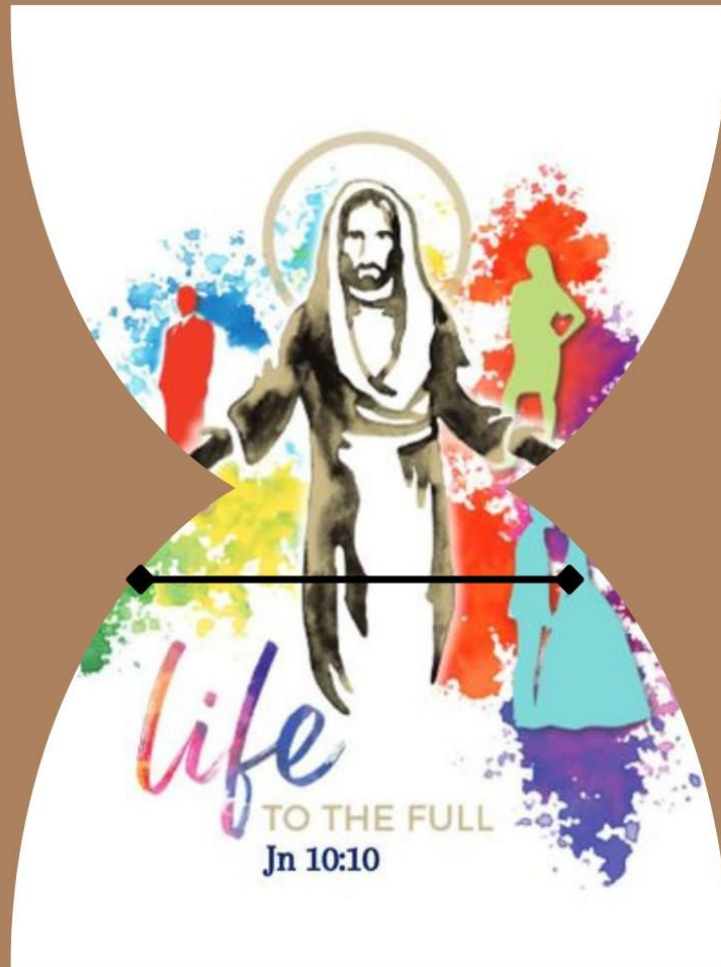
Along with other discernment exercises, the following list of books and articles are highly recommended.

- 01 *Priesthood in the Third Millennium: Addresses of Pope John Paul II, 1993*
Compiled by Rev James Socias
- 02 *Priests for the Third Millennium* - By Cardinal Timothy Dolan
- 03 *Many Are Called: Rediscovering the Glory of Priesthood* - By Scott Hann
- 04 *The Joy of Priesthood* - By Fr Stephen Rossetti
- 05 *Following Jesus* - By Fr Henri Nouwen
- 06 *Never Alone: A Personal Way to God* - By Joseph Girzone
- 07 *The Spirituality of the Second Vatican Council* - By Gerald O'Collins, SJ
- 08 *Wounded Shepherd* - By Austen Ivereigh
- 09 *I Will Give You Shepherds* - Pastores Dabo Vobis: Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation of John Paul II
- 10 *The Apostles* - By Pope Benedict XVI
- 11 *Evangelii Guidium The Joy of the Gospel* - By Pope Francis
- 12 *Letters to Priests for Holy Thursday* - By the Pope under different Pontificates
(Please visit the Holy See - website: www.vatican.va)
- 13 *Twelve Ordinary Men: How the Master Shape His Disciples for Greatness and What He Wants to Do With You* - By John MacArthur
- 14 *A Life of Daring Simplicity: Daily Meditations on Priesthood* - Edited By Michael A Becker
- 15 *The Spirituality of Diocesan Priests: Bearers of the Incarnate Face of God, A 'Reall' Spirituality* - By Frank Devoy





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