



AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Please complete in narrative format (i.e., don't just answer the questions).

FAMILY

- 1) Describe your relationship with your family (parents, siblings, extended family) when growing up. Include significant life events (divorce, death, abuse, drug usage, neglect) and how these events impacted you.
- 2) Are both of your parents Roman Catholic? In addition to Sunday Mass, did your family have any consistent devotional practices (e.g., family rosary, meal prayers, etc.)?
- 3) From the time you were born until you graduated from high school, did your family live in the same home or move from place to place? In that same time, did your family experience any significant difficulties or problems?
- 4) Describe your current relationship with your mother and father. Include your parents' attitudes toward education, religion, and priestly ministry.

EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

- 1) During high school, in what extracurricular activities did you participate? Did you receive any honors or awards?
- 2) What were the most difficult courses for you in high school/college? What do you anticipate will be the difficult courses for you if accepted into the seminary?
- 3) What were the significant employment positions you have held? Have you ever been disciplined or fired from a job? If so, please explain.
- 4) Considering your employment thus far, what has been your experience in dealing with those placed in authority over you and in your exercise of authority and responsibility?

PERSONAL AND SOCIAL HEALTH

- 1) Do you routinely experience any health problems? Do you regularly participate in any type of athletics or leisure sports?
- 2) Do people look upon you as a person of general emotional stability? What are the most significant positive and negative qualities of your personality?
- 3) Describe your usage of the Internet, social media, cell phones, and video gaming. Are you able to be detached from technology? Would you describe your attachment to electronic devices as an addiction?

PERSONAL FAITH AND RELIGION

- 1) Have you participated in any concentrated religious program such as TEC, Cursillo, extended retreat, etc.?

- 2) Describe the prayer experience you find most meaningful (*e.g.*, reciting written prayers, meditating, *Lectio divina*, rosary, *etc.*). How much of the Liturgy of the Hours do you pray?
- 3) What is your experience of Church at the parish level (parish activities, ministries in your home parish)?
- 4) In addition to the sacramental dimension of religion, what role do you feel the Church should play in the world?

VOCATION AND PASTORAL ABILITIES

- 1) For how long have you thought about being a priest?
- 2) Please describe a priest who has been a role model for you.
- 3) Priests must be leaders. How do you see yourself exercising authority?
- 4) Priests are called upon to be good communicators. Do you possess skills such as being a good listener or a motivator of others?
- 5) Priests are called upon to be leaders of the total community. Is there any group with whom you would find difficulty working? What groups with whom are you most comfortable working?
- 6) Priests are called upon to be self-disciplined. Can you stick to a project until it is completed and forego personal pleasure to accomplish a task for the common good of others?
- 7) Priests must be courageous. Are you a person of conviction able to challenge others?
- 8) What attracts you the most to the priesthood?
- 9) What do you anticipate might be the most challenging experience in the seminary formation program?
- 10) Describe what celibacy means to you. Describe why you feel the Lord may be giving you the gift of chaste celibacy.

CONCLUSION

Reflect on why you are answering the call to seminary studies. How do you see yourself growing within a community of men who are preparing for the priesthood? How do you see yourself contributing to the seminary? If there is any other important area or personal information you would like to include in your autobiography that would be beneficial for your formator to know about you, please feel free to do so.