



## **Shaun Cieslik**

**Senior – Conception Seminary College**

**Parish: St. John the Baptist, Winfield**

**Birthday: July 24, 1978**

My name is Shaun Cieslik. I have four brothers and one sister. I belong to St. John the Baptist Parish in Winfield, Illinois. I am currently completing my last semester at Conception Seminary in Missouri.

While I was in high school and college, I studied the automotive industry and always had a desire to pursue a career as an automotive technician. After college, I worked at a dealership for a short time; after that, I worked for three years in the automotive manufacturing field for a small private firm as their purchasing manager.

During my early to mid-twenties, I began to experience a deeper and more intimate relationship with Jesus Christ. The more I read and studied about my Catholic faith, the more it began to transform me, which led to a deeper prayer life and a desire to work in ministry.

I began to inquire about involvement within various ministries in my parish. For three years, I was a catechist in the R.C.I.A Adult Education Program, I taught 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Religious Education, and I taught in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Prep Programs. I joined the Eucharistic Adoration ministry team. I participated in retreats throughout the Joliet Diocese and attended workshops and speaker conferences that were of interest to me. Just prior to making my decision to enter seminary in spring 2007, I co-founded a high school youth ministry group with the Parish's Confirmation Lead.

I enjoy learning about my faith and sharing that knowledge with others. Eventually, my love of God led me to the possibility of serving others as a priest. Many close friends and family continue to support me in discerning the Priesthood. I thank God every day for the many blessings he provides to me. My deepest desire is that all may come to know Jesus Christ more fully.

This past summer I took a biology class, worked in my parish, and I helped out with the summer Confirmation program.