



## **James Connelly**

**Sophomore – Conception Seminary College**

**Parish: St. Alexander, Villa Park**

**Birthday: August 31, 1992**

I believe that God has called me to the service of the priesthood. I know it is a big commitment and a very bold thing to say that, but God has graced me so much. He has saved me from death and has placed me in a great home with loving parents in a holy wholesome environment.

I have sixteen siblings, so there were never any dull moments in our house growing up. I don't know how my parents did it raising such a big family, but they always credit it to their faith in God. We always attended Sunday Mass, prayed at home, and they taught us the importance

of Catholic values.

After attending St. Alexander's Grade School, I went to public high school, where I was known as the "religious kid". My faith was challenged in the public school, but it made me learn my faith even better. I fell in love with the teachings of the Church and her celebrated doctors and saints.

I feel my call to the priesthood has been a collection of the many events and people in my life but only by God's grace have I been able to see them pointing me in the way of serving God's people in the Catholic priesthood. My life has had many twists and turns, but I have been so blessed. I feel God is leading me to serve Him and His people as a Catholic priest.

This summer I have been a team member with the Totus Tuus program in the diocese.