



David Mowry

Third Theology - Mundelein Seminary

Parish: St. Petronille, Glen Ellyn

Birthday: July 11, 1987

I was born in Elmhurst, Illinois, on July 11, 1987. I am the oldest of three children born to my parents, Keith and Joan. I began elementary school in Maryland then transferred to St. Petronille School in Glen Ellyn in second grade. St. Petronille has been my home parish ever since, and Glen Ellyn my hometown. I attended Glenbard West High School, graduating in 2005. In 2009, I finished college seminary at St. John Vianney Seminary and graduated from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota. This past year I began studying at Mundelein Seminary, finishing my first year of theology in May.

In sixth grade, I was encouraged to consider the priesthood when the associate pastor at St. Petronille told me that I would make a good priest. However, I did not seriously contemplate the priesthood until my junior year of high school, after a Jeremiah Day event at Mundelein Seminary. I heard one of the seminarians give his vocation story, and what he said was crucial in convincing me to enter the seminary. The seminarian stated, "If you're not in seminary, you're only discerning about discerning about the priesthood." Convinced that there was no other way I could be sure that God was calling me to the priesthood, I applied to the Diocese of Joliet and St. John Vianney Seminary, and was subsequently accepted.

At St. Petronille Church, I have served as cantor, choir member, and altar server, and I continue in these ministries when at seminary or home on break. I enjoy hearing and performing fine music, particularly the works of Haydn and Handel. For four years, I sang with the University of St. Thomas Concert Choir and Chamber Singers. An academic at heart, my favorite writers include G.K. Chesterton, William Shakespeare, Evelyn Waugh, Hilaire Belloc, and J.R.R. Tolkien. I am also a devoted Chicago Cubs fan, despite all the years of purgatory they have put me through.

This summer, I spent six weeks as a leader for one of the *Totus Tuus* teams in the diocese. The program, while demanding, gave me a great deal of enjoyment and proved to be an excellent complement to my experiences on pastoral internship at Holy Family parish in Shorewood. This winter, I will have the unique opportunity of going to the Holy Land for a 12 week pilgrimage with the other third year theologians of Mundelein Seminary.

I am deeply grateful to all those in the Diocese offering prayers for my vocation, and I pray for the continued vigor and well-being of the Diocese of Joliet.