



Seminarian Patrick Spisak

My name is Patrick Spisak, and I was born on April 5th, 2002. I am extremely excited to be entering my first year of seminary this fall located at the Bishop Quarter House in River North, Chicago. I come from a loving and supportive family. I am the son of my mother Kelli and my late father Lance. I have a twin sister, Emily, and an older brother Matthew.

I am blessed to have been born and raised in Naperville. Saints Peter and Paul is my home parish and is where my parents got married, where I received my CCD education, and I received all of my sacraments. My faith life before college consisted of Sunday mass, prayers before bed, and sporadic reading of Scripture. I knew that I had a personal relationship with God, but, as many Catholics can possibly relate, it seemed I was simply checking boxes.

It was not until I got exposed to a Catholic community in college where I began to encounter God more intimately and personally. I attended the University of Kentucky where I found a community at the Catholic Newman Center and began experiencing fellowship with other Catholics my age. It was through the Newman Center where I learned I was pushed to grow in virtue, taught how to pray in new ways and was introduced to Eucharistic Adoration.

I wrestled with living out my faith whilst being engulfed in a secular environment in college. Upon graduating college, I found that I was unsatisfied and empty with the way I was living. I no longer wanted to be lukewarm but allow God to lead me as the greatest priority in my life. Our gracious Lord began opening doors to a happier and more virtuous life, softening my heart to the call towards the seminary. I worked in medical device sales for 2 years until a college friend of mine invited me to think about becoming a priest, leading me down my discernment journey.