



Seminarian: Juan Salas

Seminary: Conception Seminary College
P.O. Box 502
Conception MO 64433

Year in Seminary: College Year

Home Parish: Our Lady of Guadalupe, México

High School: Colegio Portugal, Seminary of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Aguascalientes City (diocesan minor seminary)

Birthday: December 19

Where were you born? Aguascalientes City, Aguascalientes, Mexico

Where did you grow up? I grew up in Villa Garcia, Zacatecas, Mexico.

How many brothers and sisters do you have? I have only one sister. She is older than I.

Favorite Saint: Miguel Agustin Pro and Sn. Pio da Pietrelcina

What are your hobbies and interests? I like to read, play soccer. Sometimes I like to play musical instruments.

When did you first hear God's call to enter the seminary? I first heard God's call when I was a child especially because I was an altar boy.

How does seminary differ and how is it similar to what you thought it would be?

Before I went to the seminary, I did not know very much about the seminary. I wanted to know what the seminary was like, how the seminarians lived, and other things. I discovered that seminary is a totally complete place where we could entirely form ourselves in our studies, in our human formation, in our spirituality, and in our service to others. I discovered that the seminary is not boring, it is a place full of values that can help us throughout our life.

What does the priesthood mean to you? The Priesthood is a gift. The Priesthood is made up of men who have been taken from among men and have been made representatives of God. In this way, if the priest is a man of God, the Priest is "another Christ", it means that he has been called and chosen to a particular mercy and love of the Lord. On the other hand, the priesthood is a total gift of self, it is life lived in total oblation. The priesthood requires the courage to turn life into a sacrifice, like Jesus, for others, for all, a sacrifice that gives peace and happiness.

What would you say to anyone considering the priesthood? The seed of the vocation is born deeply in our hearts. One of the first signs of this vocation is to feel an interest in the priesthood. Once this happens, you should give yourself the opportunity to discover what the priesthood is about. Do not throw away this option without trying, without considering the priesthood as an option for your life. Take off your fear. God is calling you because God needs men of value like you.

What do you think the best thing will be about being a priest? I think that one of the best things about being a priest is to be chosen by God as "another Christ" for the people. And when the priest realizes this, I think many great feelings seize his own being. It is really great that the people can find a man who always is there to listen, talk, or give some advice, no matter what the situation, in happiness or sadness. This is a beautiful thing.

