



Seminarian: Tylan Ricketts



Seminary: St. John Vianney Theological Seminary
1300 South Steele Street
Denver, CO 80210

Year in Seminary: First Theology

Home Parish: St. Alphonsus, Satanta, KS

High School: Homeschooled

University: Benedictine College, Atchison, KS

Birthday: August 9

Where were you born? Garden City

Where did you grow up? Sublette, Kansas

How many brothers and sisters do you have? 5 brothers

Favorite Saint: St. Thomas Aquinas

What are your hobbies and interests? Any sport (though I'm not too good at it), reading, philosophy, building or fixing things

When did you first hear God's call to enter the seminary? I at first thought that I might be called to be a priest when I was 5, but as I grew older, I kind of lost the interest in it. Just recently, after having run into thousands of brick walls, God took pity on me and helped me to make the first step. At the Easter Vigil of 2010, I decided that I'd go for it and enter the seminary.

How does seminary differ and how is it similar to what you thought it would be? I decided to answer this question with my expectations of seminary. I expect seminary to be similar to Benedictine College, in the academic aspect. But, I expect it to differ because seminary will not only allow us to learn academically, but also to learn about ourselves and try to better ourselves in order to serve the Diocese of Dodge City.

What does the priesthood mean to you? The priesthood is a lifestyle, not just a job. This in one of the reasons why priestly celibacy is so important. The priesthood is a marriage to the Church, and the priest must care for his bride by devoting his entire life to her. It is a sacrifice, which at times can seem to be a daunting picture. But, if you think about it, the priest every day lays down his life in the same way that Christ laid down His life for His Bride, the Church.

What would you say to anyone considering the priesthood? Discerning a vocation to the priesthood, or even marriage is like steer wrestling (thought I'd throw in a Dodge City analogy). It can seem like a daunting task, until you grab the bull by the horns. If you think you are called to be a priest, just go for it. It can never be a waste of time. God will reward you for truly looking for His Will.

What do you think the best thing will be about being a priest? Being able to provide the means to sanctify the people of my parish.