



My name is Angel Tarango, and I am 33 years old. I was born in the City of Chihuahua, Mexico. I grew up there for many years in a humble neighborhood and my parents inculcated Christian values in me. I have two brothers and one sister, and my parents have been married for almost 40 years. I have two beautiful nieces as well. My family has always been very Catholic, especially my mother. My childhood was happy and peaceful. My father has always worked hard to provide for his family. And my mother has always been a homemaker who took care of my siblings and me.

When I was in high school, I sometimes asked myself if I would like to be a priest, but I did not pay much attention to this question. Indeed, I preferred to go to college rather than enter the seminary. I focused mainly on studying while I was in college, but my curiosity about the priesthood prevailed. God would continue to knock on the door of my heart.

Before I graduated from college, I experienced a period during which I worked and practiced under supervision. At college, I studied engineering in Electronics. Afterward, I found a job at the company where I practiced before my graduation. I stayed there for six months more and later I got another job at an aerospace company. At the same time, I was working as a teacher at the high school level. During that season, I still wanted to see what priesthood was about. At this point, what started as a transitory question, became a permanent thought. I think that God was preparing my heart to give me the gift of seminary formation.

I found a binational (Mexico-France) master's degree in Interactive Design and Manufacturing. I applied for it and got accepted. I studied in Mexico for one year and studied in France for almost one year as well. Before attending seminary, I obtained a master's degree in Interactive Design and Manufacturing and worked in Chihuahua. God allowed me to do all of this before joining the seminary, but the permanent thought about becoming a priest became a strong call I could not resist anymore.

I decided to go to a two-week retreat where men can discern the call to the priesthood in Chihuahua. At the end of this retreat, I decided to quit my job and attend the seminary in Chihuahua. Later, I left the seminary in Chihuahua and entered the seminary in El Paso.

I did my propaedeutic phase at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in El Paso. I studied English there for one year at the University of El Paso Texas (UTEP). After finishing the propaedeutic year, my bishop and vocational director decided to send me to Mundelein. I just finished the pre-theology program there. I got my master's degree in Philosophy and Religion. It has been a great experience to study there.

After finishing the pre-theology program, I embarked on my theological studies. I finished the second year of theology and worked as a chaplain in summer 2021. After that, I began my pastoral year at a parish in El Paso. The diocese of El Paso usually asks its seminarians to do a full pastoral year at a parish, so that they can be involved in the life and ministry of a priest as much as possible. I recently finished my pastoral year and returned to Mundelein Seminary to continue my formation as a third-year theologian. Next year, I may be ordained as a deacon.

I feel called to accept what the Lord wants me to experience to become his priest and follow him wherever He leads me. Priesthood is an unmerited gift from God. The formation process at seminary is necessary to let God mold the heart of each seminarian according to his divine will. I am happy to be assigned at St. Joseph's parish and share this experience with other three seminarians, Nick, Vicente, and J.C. Thanks for your prayers and support!