IN THE SPOTLIGHT

**JON FINCHER ADMITTED TO CANDIDACY FOR HOLY ORDERS**

On June 3, 2016, Jon Fincher stood before the congregants at St. Pius X parish and was admitted to Candidacy for Holy Orders by Father Elkin Gonzalez, Director of the Office of Vocations. How did Jon get to this point in his life?

Here’s Jon’s story in his own words:

“I grew up in Tulsa attending church and school at St. Pius X in Tulsa. I later attended Bishop Kelley High School. After graduating, I attended Benedictine College in Atchison, KS, where I intended to double major in Theology and Elementary Education; I never intended or even wanted to be a priest. Every time I would come before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, I knew that he was calling me to go to the seminary. During adoration, I felt God’s call more strongly than ever. I knew that I had to talk to a priest. I went to confession and the priest said, “Are you thinking about becoming a priest?” And I responded, “Yes, but I don’t want to!” The priest gave me his testimony, telling me that he had been addicted to drugs and sex before he became a priest and if he hadn’t become a Catholic priest, he would be dead. From that point on, I knew that I had to be open to the possibility of priesthood. As I moved forward I became more at peace with God’s plan. However, I still had my doubts, so I prayed for a sign, hoping that God would not respond. That summer I taught Totus Tuus; I prayed that I would find a sign of Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati and only then would I go to seminary. Over the summer I found a CD of Pier Giorgio’s life, I received five Pier Giorgio holy cards in the mail, a friend gave me a Pier Giorgio biography and poster for my birthday, and the Diocese of Tulsa began the Frassati club for men discerning the priesthood. At that point, I finally trusted God and realized that I had to go to seminary! Even if I am never ordained a priest, God willing that never happens, I am the happiest person alive, even without the bishop’s hands being placed on my head or without ever having celebrated the Sacraments, which is the one thing I long for most. It is only because I am doing God’s will; it is only because I am doing what He has asked me to do that I have this great joy. It was never my plan, and it humbles me to say that, but it is true. It is nothing that I have done; it is only doing what He has asked me to do.”

Jon became a seminarian for the Diocese of Tulsa in August 2013. He just graduated from the University of Dallas (Holy Trinity Seminary) where he has studied for the last three years.

**2016-17 SERRA CLUB OF TULSA OFFICERS INSTALLED**

June 3 at St. Pius X Parish

- President: Joe Fincher
- V.P. Vocations: Beverly and Vince Zardus
- V.P. Programs: Don Hanisch
- Immediate Past President: Meg Hays
- V.P. Membership: Karen Woldum
- Secretary: Cathleen Hanisch
- Treasurer: Fred Klein
- Ass’t. Treasurer: Vince Zardus
- Newsletter Editor: Beverly Bryan
- Historian: Linda Merle

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