

Alexander O. Elfreich

Home Parish: Toledo, St. Joan of Arc
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Level: I Theology
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What are your hobbies? What are your favorite sporting teams? College? Professional? I enjoy playing music, especially with other people, and writing. My favorite sports team is the Detroit Tigers.

What are the popular spiritual writings that you would recommend to other men and women discerning their life vocations? "Introduction to the Devout Life" by St. Francis de Sales; "Be A Man" by Father Larry Richards.

Who are your favorite saints? Why are they your favorite saints? St. Paul, my patron saint. St. Francis de Sales, he gives me solid advice for my spiritual life. St. Therese of Lisieux, her intercession has helped me greatly in the past few years. St. Thomas More, the patron of my college parish. He has an inspiring martyrdom. St. John Paul II, I love reading what he says about everything from messages to world youth to catechesis on marriage and the family.

Who are the people (priests, religious and laity) that have influenced your vocational discernment to this point in your journey? Father Jason Kahle, Father Jeff Walker, Father Adam Hertzfeld, Father Tony Stephen CPM, my parents and grandparents and my friends from St. Thomas More University Parish.

What are your hopes for the future of the Catholic Church? A renewal of Eucharistic devotion, especially public devotions such as processions.

What advice would you offer young people about discerning a vocation to the priesthood and religious life? The world is busy and noisy. Take time to sit quietly with the Lord. Some great times for that are before or after Mass, or in an adoration chapel.