

Jared Horstman

Home Parish: St. Barbara Parish, Cloverdale

Age: 25

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What are your hobbies? What are your favorite sporting

teams? College? Professional? I do not keep up much with sports. However, I enjoy spending time outdoors camping, canoeing or hiking. I also like to sit down with a good book.

What are the popular spiritual writings that you would recommend to other men and women discerning their life vocation?

I would certainly read anything written by Bishop Fulton Sheen, especially "A Priest is Not His Own." Also good to read is "The Story of a Soul" by St. Therese of Lisieux and "The Imitation of Christ" by Thomas Kempis. I also recommend that men considering priesthood read "The Cure d Ars" by Abbe Trochu.

Who are your favorite saints? Why are they your favorite saints?

Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, patron of youth; St. Therese of Lisieux; St. Thomas Aquinas, patron of students; St. John Vianney, patron of parish priests and my Confirmation saint; St. Philomena, one of St. John Vianney's patrons and a wonderful intercessor; St. Gerard, my middle name.

Who are the people (priests, religious and laity) that have influenced your

vocational discernment to this point in your journey? Certainly my parents have been a strong influence with the faith they handed on to us children. I have also been blessed to have known some wonderful priests growing up who served our parish (Msgr. Vasko, Reverend Bob Kill). In high school and college my friends helped me form and deepen spiritual life and take seriously the task of discernment.

What are your hopes for the future of the Catholic Church?

I hope that more Christians will realize the dignity of their vocation and enter more fully into the faith. I pray for the success of the New Evangelization and for a transforming of culture.

What advice would you offer young people about discerning a vocation to the priesthood and religious life? Simply pray about it, especially in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Seek out a spiritual director and don't be afraid to attend vocation events and to visit a seminary or religious house.