

Carl Baumann Bio

I was born and raised in Chantilly, Virginia with one younger sister. Growing up, I attended the parochial Catholic school attached to St. Timothy Catholic Church.

In high school, my focus was locked onto a budding desire to become a professional pilot. This dream led me to Liberty University where a healthy dosage of Protestant Christianity, a desire to find deeper meaning in life, and a chronic health condition would ultimately lead me to a much deeper exploration of my belief in God, Jesus Christ, and the teachings of the Catholic Church.

During my first year at Liberty, the local priest asked me to join him for lunch; at the end of our conversation, he asked if I'd ever considered becoming a priest. While I tried to brush off the question, deep down, the seed was planted. From that point on, the question would gently resurface anytime I pursued regular prayer or a deeper dive into the Catholic Faith. On one specific occasion, I decided to pray in the Blessed Sacrament chapel after Mass. As I sat in silence, a thought popped into my mind: "I want you to be a priest." I was quite honestly horrified but couldn't shake the thought without leaving the chapel. For the next couple years, I continued attending Sunday Mass while keeping God at arm's length.

A little under three years ago, a battle with chronic health symptoms gradually chipped away at the walls which previously shielded any degree of trust in divine providence. As I started leaning more on God, He graciously led me into a deeper conversion which finally led me to jump into a more active discernment a year ago.

Since then, I've been on an exciting faith journey! The more my relationship with Jesus grows, the more confident I am He's calling me to this vocation. I just quit my job as a flight instructor and have enjoyed being welcomed into the Holy Cross community. I'm excited to meet many of you during my journey!