



Diocese of Nashville  
Twelfth Annual

*Seminarian Education  
Virtual Event  
& Auction*

Tuesday, May 25, 2021

Virtual Event & Auction 6:00 p.m.

*Online auction begins May 21 at 6:00 p.m.  
and closes Tuesday, May 25 at 10:00 p.m.*

Hosted by  
The Most Reverend J. Mark Spalding  
Bishop of Nashville

Sponsored by the  
Serra Clubs of  
Williamson County  
and Nashville  
and the Knights of Columbus



**“There was a clear sense  
that what I heard  
in my heart  
was no human voice,  
nor was it just an idea  
of my own.  
Christ was calling me  
to serve Him as a priest”**

**— Saint John Paul II**



**nashvocations.org**



## A message from Bishop J. Mark Spalding

Dear Members of Serra International, the Knights of Columbus, and all the faithful in Christ,

Over this past year, we have faced many challenges. We have had to adjust to a new way of doing things. Virtual Masses, online Bible studies, and email communications were valuable tools to keep us moving forward, but we have certainly missed being together. Even through this challenging year, I do believe we are a people blessed and have many reasons to be thankful. Often, over this past year, I have had the privilege to see the “new” ways our priests served our faithful throughout the diocese. Their hard work and dedication have helped get us through the hard times we have faced. They continue to be there to love and shepherd the wonderful people throughout Middle Tennessee. I pray for them every day as well as the men that will follow them, that is why I am writing you today.



Your previous support of our seminarians is greatly appreciated. Due to your generosity, we have developed a robust seminarian program to ensure we have great priests in our parishes into the future.

Tonight, May 25, 2021 at 6pm the Serra Clubs and Knights of Columbus will host our annual Seminarian Education Event & Auction in support of Seminarian Education. The event will be virtual again this year. I think you will find it unique and exciting. The evening will include a tour of the seminaries where our seminarians attend, as well as having the seminarians give you a sneak peek into the places where they live and study as they prepare for the priesthood.

The need to form our future priests is as great as ever and I am asking you to support this event as you have in the past. Donations given to support the Virtual Event will be fully tax deductible. Our online auction will close tonight, May 25 at 10pm and is open to everyone. Your generosity helps cover the cost of \$75,000 to educate each of our seminarians. I sincerely thank you, because without your support this could not have happened.

Join Vocations Director Father Austin Gilstrap, Assistant Vocations Director Father Luke Wilgenbusch, our seminarians, as well as a message from me for this wonderful event. On the webpage at [www.dioceseofnashville.com/seda](http://www.dioceseofnashville.com/seda), you will also be able to make a gift to support our seminarians and participate in the online auction.

As we come together online to support the formation of our seminarians, I am grateful for your dedication in assisting and forming strong leaders for the future of our diocese. On behalf of our seminarians, thank you for all your support and prayers.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend J. Mark Spalding  
Bishop of Nashville



## Diocese of Nashville Seminarians 2020-2021



**Rev. Mr. Nonso Ohanaka**  
Theology 3  
Class of 2022  
St. Meinrad



**Anthony Romeo**  
Theology 3  
Class of 2022  
Notre Dame



**Rev. Mr. Brent Thayer**  
Theology 3  
Class of 2022  
St. Meinrad



**Augustine Mang**  
Theology 2  
Class of 2023  
Pontifical North American College



**Oscar Romero**  
Theology 2  
Class of 2023  
St. Meinrad



**Seth Reed**  
Theology 1  
Class of 2024  
St. Meinrad



**Justin Farr**  
Theology 1  
Class of 2024  
St. Meinrad



**David Lee**  
Theology 1  
Class of 2024  
Pontifical North American College



**Tylor Starkey**  
Pastoral Year  
Class of 2025



**Joe Hinderer**  
Pastoral Year  
Class of 2025



**Christian Hamrick**  
College 4  
Class of 2025  
Holy Trinity



**Reed Robinson**  
College 3  
Class of 2026  
Holy Trinity



**James Grossheim**  
College 3  
Class of 2026  
St. Ben's



**Will Braeuner**  
Pre-Theology 1  
Class of 2026  
Notre Dame



**John Butkevicius**  
Pre-Theology 1  
Class of 2026  
St. Meinrad



**David Herrera**  
Pre-Theology 1  
Class of 2026  
Notre Dame



**Joseph Ngo**  
Pre-Theology 1  
Class of 2026  
Notre Dame



**Juan Hernandez**  
College 2  
Class of 2027  
St. Ben's



**Christian Cimorelli**  
College 1  
Class of 2028  
Holy Trinity



**Francisco Castillo**  
Pastoral Year  
Class of 2029



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