

Gaten Armstrong

My name is Gaten Armstrong, and I am the second youngest of five kids. I am going into my junior year at St. Joseph Seminary College in Louisiana, and my home parish is Holy Spirit in Montgomery. I enjoy playing football, basketball, fishing, and spending time with my friends outside. My favorite saint is Padre Pio, and my favorite spiritual reading is either The Power of Silence by Cardinal Sarah or In Sinu Jesu by A Benedictine Monk.

School: Saint Joseph Seminary College

Year: Third Philosophy

Birthday: January 20th

Hometown: Montgomery, AL

Favorite saint: Padre Pio

Favorite spiritual reading: Either The Power of Silence by Cardinal Sarah or In Sinu Jesu by A Benedictine Monk.

Hobbies: playing football, basketball, golf, fishing, and relaxing outside with my friends.

Michael Barber

My name is Michael Barber and I am from Montgomery, AL. I went to Lamp high school for one year before transferring to Montgomery Catholic. I played Left Back for the soccer team and participated in Science Olympiad and Robotics there too. I first started considering the priesthood in high school after experiencing the witness of my parish priest. I will be a senior this year at St John Vianney seminary in St Paul, MN.

School St John Vianney

Year 4th College

Birthday October 28th

Hometown Montgomery

Favorite Saint St Maximillion Kolbe

Favorite Spiritual Reading Any book by Jacques Phillippe

Hobbies Soccer, camping, building stuff, fixing stuff

Blake Bradley

My name is Blake Bradley and I am from Spanish Fort, AL. I grew up on the Eastern Shore and attended Spanish Fort High School. I was confirmed when in college at Auburn University at St. Micheal the Archangel Parish. I felt called to discern a vocation to the priesthood my Junior year at Auburn as I began grow in my Faith and in prayer. Since entering seminary, St. Lawrence in Fairhope, AL has become my home parish and has played a huge part in my formation. This fall I will be going into my last year of Philosophy at St. Joseph Seminary College. My favorite spiritual book is: *Unless You Become Like This Child* by Hans Urs Von Balthasar.

School: St. Joseph Seminary College

Year: 4th Philosophy

Birthday: October 2nd

Hometown: Spanish Fort, AL

Favorite Saint: St. Augustine of Hippo

Favorite Spiritual Read: *Unless You Become Like This Child* by Hans Urs Von Balthasar

Cooking, team sports, and Reading

Drew Buschmann

My name is Drew Buschmann. I am from Mobile, AL. I grew up in St. Dominic's Parish. I am one of five children in my house. I have two older brothers, an older sister, and a younger sister. My oldest brother is a registered nurse and my other brother is a senior at Auburn University. My older sister is a radiologic technician and my younger sister is in sixth grade at St. Dominic's. I graduated from McGill-Toolen Catholic High School in 2018 where I was on the baseball team. I was very involved in the Campus Ministry program at McGill. I felt a call to the priesthood after the first mission trip I went on down to Guatemala, but I was certain of my call after the third mission trip I went on to Guatemala. Going to Guatemala for three summers in a row transformed my life in more ways than I can count. I went on a Come and See trip after my third mission trip and after that trip I was certain God was calling me to join the seminary. My favorite spiritual read is *The Joyful Spirit of Padre Pio* by Patricia Treece.

School: St. Joseph Seminary College

Year: 2nd College

Birthday: March 30

Hometown: Mobile, AL

Favorite Saint: St. Padre Pio

Favorite Spiritual Reading: *The Joyful Spirit of Padre Pio*

Hobbies: Basketball, running, soccer and football

Ruben Castaneda

My name is Ruben Castaneda I am from Tallassee Alabama at Saint Vincent de Paul Parish. I am originated from Guatemala, I am the youngest of five sisters and three brothers except one younger sister.

I graduated with honors at Tallassee High School in 2019 where I left my marks there ; playing soccer, arts competitions, member of Pro-life, (choir and altar server in Spanish Mass Service) I grew up knowing about God however since I graduated I was worried what I am going to do in life but God showed me through retreats, especially when I got back after "Come and See trip at Saint Joseph during my time there I felt peace, and I open my Bible in Matthew 9: 36-38 The Harvest is plenty and the workers are few. My Favorite Saint is Padre Pío because he got his grace of God. Also my favorite spiritual reading is the Holy Bible.

Seminary Attending: Saint Joseph Abbey Seminary College

Year: 1st college

Birthday: May 15

Hometown: Montgomery Alabama

Favorite Saint: Padre Pío Pietrecina

Favorite Spiritual Reading: Holy Bible

Hobbies: Guitar, soccer, singing, drawing, explore new experience, travel historical place.

Edward Charnock

My name is Edward Charnock, I am from St. Dominic Parish in Mobile, and I am entering my second year of seminary at St. Joseph's in Louisiana. I graduated from McGill-Toolen Catholic High School in 2019 and decided to enter seminary after slowly realizing that I would only find joy and fulfillment following God's plan for me. My favorite saint is Pope Saint John Paul II. I love to spend quality time, have fun, and relax with my friends. I also enjoying cooking, volleyball, frisbee, relaxing, and leather working.

School: Saint Joseph Seminary College

Year: 2nd Philosophy

Birthday: March 1st

Hometown: Mobile, AL

Favorite Saint: John Paul II

Favorite Spiritual Reading: *Saint John Paul the Great: His Five Loves* by Jason Evert

Hobbies: Cooking, playing volleyball and frisbee, leather working, and spending time with friends

Ethan Croft

My name is Ethan Croft. I am from Daphne, AL. I'm the third of four boys. I graduated from Daphne High School in 2020. While in high school, I was in AFJROTC and played lacrosse for the Bayhawks. I felt a calling to either the priesthood or the religious life four years ago when I first started converting to Catholicism. I ruled out the religious life after I was unable to go on a retreat to the monastery twice and my mother told me that the priesthood would be a better fit for me. So, I prayed for months about what God wanted me to do when I went into the church an hour before confession and prayed. During the confession, I felt my heart burning and I knew this was the path God wanted me to go on. I will start my first year of seminary at St. Joseph Seminary College in the Fall of 2020. My favorite spiritual read is *Confessions* by St. Augustine

Seminary attending: Saint Joseph Seminary College

Year in College: 1st College

Birthday: June 15

Hometown: Daphne, Alabama

Favorite Saint: Saint Augustine

Favorite spiritual reading: *Confessions* by St. Augustine

Hobbies: Working with my hands, reading, technology

Alex Crow

My Name is Alex Crow, and I am finishing my last year at Saint Meinrad. My home parish is Saint Ignatius. I grew up in Semmes, AL and graduated from McGill Toolen in 2011. I also spent one year at Spring Hill College. I played music for a few years before entering seminary. I enjoy soccer, guitar, reading and cooking. I felt called to the priesthood upon returning to the Catholic Church 7 years ago. I am very excited to serve as a priest in our Archdiocese. My favorite saint is St. Gemma Galgani. My favorite spiritual read is *The Writings of Louis Bouyer*.

School: Saint Meinrad

Year: 4th Theology

Birthday: November 13

Hometown: Semmes, AL

Favorite Saint: Saint Gemma Galgani

Favorite Spiritual Reading: The Writings of Louis Bouyer

Hobbies: Soccer, guitar, reading, cooking

Lucas Doyle

My name is Lucas Doyle and I am from Enterprise, AL. My home parish is St. John the Evangelist. I am the second of four children. I graduated from homeschooling in May 2019. Some of my hobbies include playing basketball, ultimate frisbee, hanging out with friends, and reading books. My favorite saint is St. Faustina and my favorite spiritual reading is The Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska.

School: Saint John Vianney College Seminary

Year: Second Philosophy

Birthday: September 15th

Hometown: Enterprise, AL

Favorite saint: St. Faustina

Favorite spiritual reading: The Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska

Hobbies: playing basketball, ultimate frisbee, hanging out with friends, and reading books.

Zachary Halloran

My name is Zachary Halloran, and I am in my second year of theology at St. Meinrad Seminary in Indiana. I was born in upstate New York, but my family moved to Marbury, AL, a small town about 30 minutes north of Montgomery, when I was only three years old, and I've lived there ever since. I attended Marbury High School where I enjoyed playing soccer and being involved in the student government and Spanish Club among various others. I first began to feel called to seminary while in middle school, and this desire resurfaced at the close of my junior year. Consequently, I entered seminary just a few months after graduating and have enjoyed every moment since. My favorite saint is St. John Vianney, and my favorite novels growing up are the Lord of the Rings books. My favorite spiritual read is The Priest Is Not His Own by Ven. Fulton Sheen.

School: St. Meinrad

Year: 2nd Theology

Birthday: January 11th

Hometown: Prattville, AL

Favorite saint: St. John Vianney

Favorite spiritual read: The Priest Is Not His Own

Hobbies: Working out, playing the organ, woodworking

Noah Klusek

My name is Noah Klusek. I am entering my second year of college seminary at Saint John Vianney. My home parish is St. Bede the Venerable in Montgomery. I'm the youngest in my family, and my only sibling is my older brother. I enjoy writing and working on my Subaru WRX. I come from a military family and moved around until 2013 when I moved to Wetumpka. I have attended public and Catholic schools, but was homeschooled for high school and graduated in 2019. I felt a slow and quiet call to enter the seminary since middle school, finally joining last year after high school. I look forward to seeing the future God has planned for me.

School: Saint John Vianney College Seminary

Year: Second Philosophy

Birthday: June 19

Hometown:

Wetumpka, AL

Favorite Saint: St. Raymond Nonnatus

Favorite Spiritual Reading: "*With God In Russia*" -Fr. Walter Ciszek

Hobbies: Driving/Working on Cars, Writing, Hiking

Thomas LaPointe

My name is Thomas LaPointe, I am from Montgomery Alabama. I grew up attending Mass at St. Peter Catholic Church and St. Bede with my family. Now my family lives in Auburn. I went to the elementary school at St. Bede. I attended Montgomery Catholic Prep and graduated in 2007. I started working at Publix while in high school. I went to the University of Alabama and graduated with a bachelor's degree in Operations Management. I spent a few semesters on the men's club rowing team at Alabama. A year later, I moved to Florida to work for Publix in the Facilities Purchasing department. I purchased vehicles and equipment for Publix for four years before entering seminary. I have two favorite saints: St. Philip Neri and Pope St. John Paul II. My favorite spiritual reading is Sacred Scripture; specifically: *Bear: The Hard Life and Good Times of Alabama's Coach Bryant*. My hobbies include shooting, kayaking, hiking, and fishing.

School: St. Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology

Year: 2nd Theology

Birthday: May 25th

Hometown: Montgomery

Favorite Saint: St. Philip Neri & Pope St. John Paul II

Favorite Spiritual Reading: Sacred Scripture; specifically; *Bear: The Hard Life and Good Times of Alabama's Coach Bryant*

Hobbies: Shooting, kayaking, hiking fishing

Donald Paul Maddox

My name is Donald Paul Maddox. I am from Mobile, AL. My home parish is St. Dominic. I attended McGill-Toolen Catholic High School. I am starting my third year of seminary. I am entering 1st Theology at St. Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in Indiana. My favorite saint is St. John Henry Newman. My favorite spiritual book is *A Severe Mercy* by Sheldon Vanauken. I enjoy golfing, playing soccer and basketball, reading, and spending time with my family.

School: St. Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology

Year: 1st Theology

Birthday: December 29th

Hometown: Mobile, AL

Favorite Saint: St. John Henry Newman

Favorite Spiritual Reading: *A Severe Mercy* by Sheldon Vanauken

Hobbies: Golfing, playing Soccer and Basketball, reading, and spending time with my family

Griffin Mahoney

My name is Griffin Mahoney, and I went to McGill-Toolen Catholic High School for one year before transferring to the St. Michael Catholic High School. I played football just my sophomore and basketball all three years at St. Michael. I first felt the call to the priesthood when I was in 8th grade. I will be a sophomore at St. John Vianney Seminary at St. Paul, Minnesota. I enjoy reading, swimming and basketball. My favorite saint is St. Joseph. My favorite spiritual read is *The Return of the Prodigal Son* by Henri Nouwen.

School: St. John Vianney College Seminary

Year: 2nd Year

Birthday: September 14

Hometown: Daphne

Favorite Saint: St. Joseph

Favorite Spiritual Read: *The Return of the Prodigal Son* by Henri Nouwen

Hobbies: Reading, Swimming, Basketball

Rich Perkins

My name is Rich Perkins and I am from Auburn, AL. I grew up in Birmingham and Atlanta before moving to Auburn and joining St. Michael Parish. I am the third of four children, and the only boy! I graduated from Auburn University in 1998 with a BA in Political Science, after spending four years in the Navy. I heard the call later in life, in the middle of a professional career, after an encounter with a priest in confession. I am currently in my second year (2nd Pre-Theology) at St. Meinrad School of Theology in southern Indiana. My favorite saint is St. Joseph, true husband to our Holy mother, foster father to our Lord, Jesus Christ, and the patron saint of fathers. My favorite spiritual read is *Crossing The Threshold Of Hope* by St. John Paul II. It is a very personal conversation with the Holy Father and a book that speaks to me personally about the human condition of suffering.

School: St. Meinrad

Year: 2nd year Pre-Theology

Birthday: March 5th

Hometown: Auburn

Favorite Saint: St. Joseph

Favorite Spiritual Read: *Crossing The Threshold Of Hope* by St. John Paul II

Hobbies: Movies, cooking, reading.

Sam Rehm

My name is Sam Rehm. I am from Mobile, AL. I grew up going to Saint Dominic parish. I am the youngest of 8 kids, 5 older brothers and 2 older sisters. I graduated McGill-Toolen in 2019. There I was captain of the varsity soccer team, in chambers and Pro-Life club. I attended one year at Troy University where I was in Freshman Forum, Recruitment Chair for my fraternity ATO and active in the Newman Center Catholic Ministry. I have always felt called to the seminary since a young age. I finally decided to answer the calling after an experience at mass. My favorite spiritual read is *Men, Women and the Mystery of Love* by Edward P. Sri

School: St. Joseph Seminary College

Year: 2nd College

Birthday: June 21th

Hometown: Mobile, AL

Favorite Saint: Saint Aloysius

Favorite Spiritual Reading: *Men, Women, and the Mystery of Love* by Edward P. Sri

Hobbies: Pickup soccer, basketball, Hanging with friends and listening to music

Joseph Schultz

I'm Joseph Schultz, native of Auburn and member of St. Michael Parish. This year I'll be entering I Theology at St. Meinrad in Indiana. I graduated from Auburn University in 2017 and afterwards was a missionary for a year with FOCUS at Georgia Tech before discerning the call to leave for the seminary. The recognition of the gift and reality of the fatherhood of priests in my life is what got me to take the call seriously. My favorite Saint right now is Saint Joan of Arc. You'll probably find me with friends, cooking, programming, reading, and/or drinking coffee.

School: St. Meinrad Seminary

Year: 1st Theology

Birthday: June 17th

Hometown: Auburn, AL

Favorite Saint: Joan of Arc

Favorite Spiritual Reading: Searching for and Maintaining Peace

Hobbies: Spending time with friends, meandering, cooking, programming, reading, trying new things.

Andrew Thompson

My name is Andrew Thompson and I am from Mobile, AL. I am from St. Mary Parish. I am the oldest of three children. I graduated from McGill Toolen Catholic High School in May of 2019. I enjoy playing soccer and getting to spend time with friends and family. My favorite saint is John Paul II, and my favorite spiritual read is *Maurice and Thérèse: The Story of a Love* by Patrick Ahern.

School: St. Joseph Seminary College

Year: Second Philosophy

Birthday: January 18th

Hometown: Mobile, AL

Favorite Saint: John Paul II

Favorite Spiritual Reading: Maurice and Thérèse: The Story of a Love

Hobbies: Playing soccer, spending time with friends and family

Andrew Wentworth

My name is Andrew Wentworth and I am from Mobile, AL. I grew up in and attended school at Corpus Christi. I am the third of six children. I graduated from McGill-Toolen Catholic High School in the Spring of 2018. Throughout my four years at McGill, I ran cross-country and track, was a member of the Chamber Singers, and actively participated in Campus Ministry. In the summer after my Sophomore year, I started working at Foosackly's, a delicious chicken finger restaurant that began in Mobile, and worked throughout my final two years of school. I first thought of priesthood early in middle-school, as an altar server, but I put it off until highschool. Then, I began to take my faith seriously, and gradually felt a call to discern my vocation at seminary. I will be returning, this Fall, as a Junior to St. Joseph Seminary College in Covington, Louisiana. My favorite saint is St. Maximilian Kolbe. My favorite spiritual reading is *The Autobiography of St. Teresa of Avila*.

School: St. Joseph Seminary College

Year: Third College

Birthday: May 22

Hometown: Mobile, Alabama

Favorite Saint: St. Maximilian Kolbe

Favorite Spiritual Reading: *St. Teresa of Avila's Autobiography*

Hobbies: Running, playing cards and board games, playing piano and guitar.

Drew Williams

My name is Drew Williams and I am from Daphne, AL. I grew up at Christ the King Parish and School and went to McGill-Toolen for high school, where I graduated in 2013. I studied Psychology and Spanish at Auburn University, where I graduated in 2017. This year I will be entering 2nd Theology at St. Meinrad in Indiana. I've always enjoyed playing and listening to music, and I especially enjoyed my time in the marching bands at McGill-Toolen and Auburn. My go-to saintly intercessor is Fr. Solanus Casey, and my favorite spiritual reading of late has been *The Return of the Prodigal Son*, by Fr. Henri Nouwen. When I'm not studying, I'm usually out on a run, watching Auburn sports, or making coffee at Jack's in the Commons, our little coffee shop at St. Meinrad.

School: St. Meinrad Seminary

Year: 2nd Theology

Birthday: May 25th

Hometown: Daphne, AL

Favorite Saint: Fr. Solanus Casey

Favorite Spiritual Reading: *Return of the Prodigal Son*, by Fr. Henri Nouwen

Hobbies: Running, watching Auburn Sports, drinking coffee, playing & listening to music

Hunter Williams

My name is Hunter Williams and I am from Spanish Fort, AL. I went to Spanish Fort High School for a year before going to St. Michael Catholic High School. I was on the bowling team and played center attacking midfield for the soccer team. I was in the pro-life club and apart of the technology student association team. I first heard the call to the priesthood after talking to a friend of mine. I will be a sophomore at St. John Vianney college seminary in Minnesota.

School: St. John Vianney

Year: 2nd college

Birthday: March 13

Hometown: Spanish Fort

Favorite Saint: St. Gemma Galgani

Favorite spiritual reading: The Story of a Soul

Hobbies: Soccer, Flips, Bowling, and Singing

Javier Zavala

My name is Javier Zavala, and I am originally from Honduras. My home parish is Saint Patrick in Robertsdale; I am going to my second year of college at Saint Joseph in Covington, Louisiana. I like to play soccer and volleyball; my favorite Saint is St. San Francis of Assisi.

School: Saint Joseph Seminary College

Year: 2nd Philosophy

Birthday: June 17th

Hometown: Robertsdale

Favorite Saint: Saint Francis of Assisi

Favorite Spiritual Reading: The Power of Silent by Robert Cardinal Sarah

Hobbies: playing volleyball and soccer, cooking, and watch movies.