

# Answering the Call to Vocations in the Diocese of Saginaw



Seminarian  
Charles Warner

Charles Warner, a Mid-Michigan native, had a successful career working for the Federal Drug Administration in Washington, DC for several years. But he had a lingering feeling that something was missing in his life and that he was being called to something more. “That ‘more’ led me on a path towards God,” Charles recounts.

As a life-long Catholic, Charles has deep-rooted memories of growing up in a faith-based family, including a father who is a permanent Deacon and numerous aunts and uncles with religious vocations. Despite a strong upbringing in the Catholic Church and an ongoing commitment to prayer and daily Mass, Charles didn’t seriously consider the priesthood until he let go of his pre-conceived notions of what his life *should* look like. He opened his heart to what God might have in store for him.

Charles began his journey of discernment in 2020 at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit. He said that it was during this process that he came to understand that what he was longing for was God himself, and true fulfillment has come from answering God’s call.

Currently, Charles is studying theology in Rome, Italy, and has just finished his second year at the Pontifical North American College. The strong Catholic identity in Italy has inspired him to “see [his] life in the grander scale of salvation history.” Charles notes that continuing his discernment journey in Italy has led to profound spiritual growth.

**“My encouragement would be for young men to open their hearts to the option of the priesthood.”**

*Charles Warner*



Fr. Andy  
LaFramboise

Fr. Andy LaFramboise just recently celebrated his ten-year anniversary of the priesthood, and currently serves as the pastor at St. Elizabeth of Hungary in Reese and St. Frances Cabrini in Vassar.

Fr. Andy initially began discerning his vocation during his teenage years, and credits World Youth Day 2002 in Toronto as a major point of inspiration. Seeing young believers from around the world come together, as well as being in the presence of St. John Paul II “moved me to put the Lord first in my life,” recounts Fr. Andy.

When John Paul II died in 2005, Fr. Andy felt further moved to investigate his own vocation. “One person’s ‘yes’ can cause ripples throughout the world,” he said.

After studying at Sacred Heart Seminary, Fr. Andy was ordained in 2014. However, he notes that there is still a great need for vocations in the Diocese of Saginaw. “It can be hard to respond to God’s call in our busy world,” Fr. Andy states, “but God has placed a unique call in everyone’s life.”

As Vocation Director for the Diocese of Saginaw, Fr. Andy is helping to implement a three-step call to action to increase vocations: beg, form, call. This initiative brings parishes together in prayer while investing in faith formation and youth vocation teams, creating a community of support and discernment for those questioning their own callings.

“We all have a role in this as Catholics,” Fr. Andy states. “It’s not something you have to do on your own.”

**“Be not afraid to seriously discern. Don’t be afraid to surrender your life to Jesus.”**

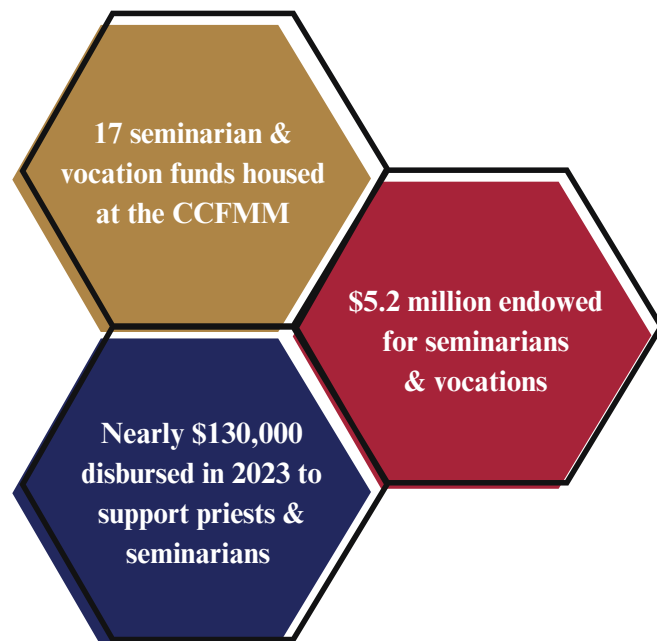
*Fr. Andy LaFramboise*

# Seminarian & Vocation Endowments

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Numerous funds and endowments housed at the CCFMM help to provide financial support and empowerment to priests, seminarians, and others pursuing vocations within the Diocese of Saginaw. Learn more at [ccfmm.org/priest-and-seminarian-endowment-funds](https://ccfmm.org/priest-and-seminarian-endowment-funds)

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