



Reverend Mr. Thomas Ojeka

Rev. Mr. Ojeka was born in 1988 and was raised in rural Alifokpa-Yache in Yala Local Government Area of Cross River State in southern Nigeria. He is an only child after the death of an infant sister. His parents are subsistence farmers. He was raised Novus Ordo. His father is still actively involved in the local Novus Ordo parish as “General Catechist” but does not object to Fr. Nkamuke’s mission visits and the celebration of Mass in their home. His mother was always active in the choir and different pious associations but left the Novus Ordo in 2018 to stay true to the unchanging Faith. Growing up, Rev. Mr. Ojeka taught catechism and was often called “Junior Catechist” after his father. This developed his interest in teaching. From his mother, he became involved in the choir and began to compose hymns using lyrics in his language, both out of necessity and out of personal devotion. After completing high school in 2006, he completed nine years at the Congregation of the Servants of Charity Seminary. This seminary was founded in 1908 but has unfortunately

gone along with the Modernist Revolution in all of its details. While there he earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Philosophy and had started his study of Theology before leaving in 2017 to join the Traditional Seminary under Fr. Nkamuke. This desire to become a priest began as a childhood dream, in his words: “I wish to become a Catholic priest if it is the will of God.” This dream was greatly influenced by the life of the founder of the Congregation of the Servants of Charity, Don Luigi Guanella, ordained in 1866. The sole wish of this Italian priest was to be “a fiery sword in the ministry,” devoting all of his gifts of grace and nature to the cause of the Cross. Rev. Mr. Ojeka comments on his own journey: “Being led sweetly by Providence to be healed of my previous total blindness concerning Vatican II and its impostor ecumenical church, and given to see clearly how my inspiring ideal is totally compromised, I resolved to flee.” He enjoys playing a variety of instruments, including the organ. Other hobbies of his are sports, reading, writing, and gardening.

Reverend Mr. Thomas Simpson



Rev. Mr. Simpson was born in April 1997 and is the second oldest of a family of eight children. He grew up in the greater Cincinnati area and has been a member of St. Gertrude the Great Church all of his life. Before entering the seminary, Rev. Mr. Simpson was homeschooled under his parents. After graduation, he interned with a mechanic for three years, worked on a dairy farm, and cut grass for neighbors and friends. In his free time, he enjoys playing the banjo and guitar with his brothers and going on bike rides. When asked what his biggest inspirations were in his decision to pursue the priesthood, he gave this response: “Father Cekada and Father McGuire were very instrumental in my entering the seminary. I didn’t think I would be able to make the studies, but by God’s grace I was able to pull through.”



Reverend Mr. John Okerulu

Rev. Mr. Okerulu was born in the mid-1990's in Port Harcourt City, Rivers State, Nigeria. This is a large city in the southern part of the country. He is the youngest of six children. His father, the late Dr. Innocent-Mary Okerulu, was a dental surgeon and his mother, Bibiana-Mario Okerulu, is an English teacher. Rev. Mr. Okerulu describes his family as "close-knit" which is "typical... with most ethnic groups in Nigeria." But he further explains that this is especially the case "when the practice of the Catholic faith is taken seriously by the parents and children." He completed his education up through high school and went to college to study Philosophy. He originally considered studying Engineering but decided on Philosophy due to his strong attraction toward the Priesthood. Because of this calling, he eventually left college to begin his seminary training. He attributes Our Beloved Mother Mary as the largest influence in his desire to become a priest. After completing St. Louis de Montfort's Total Consecration to Jesus through the Immaculate Heart of Mary in 2012, he experienced a "turning point" in his calling. As stated by Rev. Mr. Okerulu, "Not so long after making this Total Consecration, I felt a strong desire to give my whole self in the service of Our Divine Lord. This desire I owe to Our Beloved Queen whom I had consecrated my whole being to. She indeed knows how to use the weak things of this world to procure God's Greater Glory."



Reverend Mr. Anthony Brueggemann

Rev. Mr. Brueggemann was born in October 1998 and has twelve siblings. He grew up in rural Kentucky on a small farm, about an hour's drive from St. Gertrude the Great Church. His father is a mechanic and is currently employed at UPS. Rev. Mr. Brueggemann was homeschooled for most of his childhood with the exception of grades 8th-10th when he attended a private school. Before entering the seminary, he was employed at Bavarian Trucking for about three years. A few of his responsibilities included litter clean-up, truck driving, and electrical and plumbing work. Some hobbies Rev. Mr. Brueggemann enjoys are photography and shooting his gun, although as he states, "[M]y present location is not ideal for the latter." In his pastime he also enjoys sports that involve running. There were many factors that influenced his decision to become a priest, including the important influence of Father Anthony Cekada.