



# JACOB NORMAN

Holy Name of Jesus  
House of Formation  
2589 S. Webster Ave.  
Green Bay, WI 54301-2951

Year  
Kairos Year

Parish  
St. Joseph Parish,  
Green Bay

Birthday  
July 24

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## What is the best type of ice cream?

Vanilla caramel. Best combo in culinary history, simple and delicious.

## What do you consider to be your greatest personal victory?

My greatest personal victory is the development I experienced as a person in my time working in the trades. In one simple year, I went from scared and inexperienced to being trusted to work with very expensive equipment.

## What was the first thing that you learned about Jesus?

The wound from the spear was the first thing I can remember learning about Jesus. It is actually the earliest memory I have being in a church. I was very young, maybe around five or six, and I asked my mother, "Why does he have a cut on his chest?" She explained that a soldier stabbed Him, and as I child I couldn't understand why someone would stab Jesus.

## How have you celebrated this Jubilee Year?

Prayer has been the focus for me this year, especially for people I know. Growing in this respect has really brought a lot of joy to my life. Prayer starts a snowball effect; the more you pray, the more you want to pray. Realizing that I can pray for anyone at any time, especially those who I do not particularly like or associate with, has brought much joy and even humility to my life. Despite not being able to help someone physically, I can always pray for them, and there really is no reason not to.

## What is your favorite verse from St. Paul's writings?

Colossians 3:11: "Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all and in all." A simple yet incredibly powerful thing to say. This message is a true display of the unity that is Christianity. People have always seen others as different because of race, ethnicity or upbringings, and it is up to us as Catholics to look past that and see Christ within everyone. The light of Christianity has reached all corners of the world, and the Catholic Church truly shows this in all aspects. The

many saints we venerate are an amazing example of this quote being put into action. There are saints from every continent, all parts of the world, and all different walks of life: beautiful stories of rich and prosperous people giving it all up to follow Christ or heroic stories of a poor beggar proclaiming the word of God to all they meet. They are all from different nations, different cultures, and different status in society, kneeling before Christ in the same Church. In our Church there is only Jesus Christ and his love for all of humanity.

## Which virtue exemplified by St. Paul do you most aspire to?

Humility and the ability to change. The complete turnaround of St. Paul from Saul is perhaps the most famous conversion story ever. The amount of humility it would take to go from hunting a group of people down to proclaiming their own message is inspiring. I aspire to have the humility to accept every day that I am a sinner and will always need Christ in my life to improve myself, lest he knock me off my horse. Even after converting, many people still feared St. Paul and would hide from him, and I am sure he felt out of place because of this and his past. Despite that, he still gave everything to Christ all the way to his martyrdom. Feeling odd and out of place is a common struggle that takes much humility to overcome, and we all have that at some point in our lives, but St. Paul shows us how to overcome that and to give your life to Jesus Christ even through that. St. Paul is a story of a life being changed by being humbled by Christ. In our society today, leading a humble life can be difficult, and this aspect of St. Paul is very important to focus on.

## Which saint should people invoke for your vocation?

**St Eligius.** I prayed for his intercession a lot in my time in the trades, and I'm sure he will continue to pray for me in seminary.