



## Catholic Diocese of Memphis

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*“God will not allow you to be lost if you persist  
in your determination not to lose Him.”*

*-St. Padre Pio*

**Andrew Raffanti**

**Home Parish is Catholic Church of the Incarnation**

**Andrew will be ordained by Bishop David P. Talley into the Diaconate within the Catholic Diocese of Memphis at The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on June 3. He will be assigned as a Deacon with The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.**

John Andrew Raffanti was born in Collierville, Tenn., on May 17, 1996, and is the youngest of six siblings. He grew up as a parishioner of the Catholic Church of the Incarnation and attended school there from kindergarten until eighth grade. Andrew then went on to attend Saint Benedict at Auburndale High School where he played various sports and was involved in the Diocesan SEARCH Retreat.

Andrew first felt the call to the Priesthood when he was in elementary school. The call first made itself known when Andrew received his First Communion. As he grew in his faith and gained the opportunity to minister to others in High School, Andrew entered seminary for the Diocese of Memphis in 2014. He attended St. Joseph Seminary College for his Freshman year of college before transferring to the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. In 2018, he graduated from Tennessee with a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology.

While in Knoxville, Andrew was active in the Catholic Center and the FOCUS campus ministry. Through his ministry experience and prayer life in college, Andrew realized that God was still calling him to the Priesthood. So, after graduating from Tennessee Andrew re-entered seminary for the Diocese of Memphis, and he began his formation at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans. After two years, he graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Philosophy, and will graduate with his Master's Degree of Divinity in May of 2024.

*ANDREW nació en Collierville, Tennessee, el 17 de Mayo de 1996. Es el más chico de seis hermanos. Creció y cursó su educación básica en la Parroquia y escuela de la Encarnación. Estudio la Preparatoria en Saint Benedict, y se involucró con los retiros de BUSQUEDA y FOCUS. Sintió el llamado vocacional por primera vez al hacer su Primera Comunión. Al culminar sus estudios de psicología se incorpora a la formación por la Diócesis de Memphis en 2018. Ha realizado sus estudios en el Seminario de Notre Dame. El próximo 3 de Junio se Ordenara al Diaconado Transicional, y será asignado a hacer su pastoral en la Iglesia Catedral de la Inmaculada Concepción.*