

Rev. Fr. Lambert Bakourebe

My name is Rev. Lambert Bakourebe. I am one of ten siblings five boys and five girls. I am a Catholic priest of the Archdiocese of Tamale, Ghana, and I consider my life journey a testimony of God's grace, providence, and faithful guidance. I am deeply committed to priestly ministry, academic excellence, and the service of humanity through the mission of the Catholic Church. Over the years, I have had the privilege of serving in pastoral and academic roles across Ghana, Italy, the United Kingdom, and the United States, experiences that have greatly enriched my vocation and broadened my understanding of the universal Church. This year the 4th July, 2026 by the Grace of God I will be 11 years as a priest.

I was born on 9th December 1984 in Duayaw-Nkwanta, in the then Brong Ahafo Region of Ghana, and I hail from Babile in the Upper West Region of Ghana. From my early years, I was nurtured in values of discipline, faith, hard work, and service. These values became the foundation upon which my priestly vocation and personal life were built.

I began my formal education at Duayaw-Nkwanta Roman Catholic School, where I completed my basic education. I later proceeded to St. James Minor Seminary and Secondary School, Abesim, where I pursued my secondary education. It was during these formative years in the seminary that I began to discern more clearly God's call to the priesthood and developed a deeper desire to dedicate my life to His service. After my minor seminary formation, I joined the Monastic Life where I spent six years in prayer and desert experience seeking the face of God. After my first profession as a monk with the Benedictine Abbey of Monte Oliveto Maggiore, I requested to leave the monastic life and become a Diocesan priest.

In pursuit of both spiritual and intellectual formation, I undertook higher studies in Rome. I obtained a Bachelor of Philosophy from the Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum), Rome. Subsequently, I earned a Bachelor of Theology from St. Mary's University, Twickenham, London. My passion for learning and scholarship led me to further studies, and I later completed a Licentiate in Philosophy at the Pontifical Lateran University in Rome.

My journey toward priesthood reached an important milestone on 18th June 2014, when I was ordained to the Diaconate by His Eminence Cardinal James Harvey, Archpriest of the Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls in Rome. On 4th July 2015, I was ordained to the Sacred Priesthood for the Archdiocese of Tamale by Most Rev. Philip Naameh at the Our Lady of Annunciation Cathedral, Tamale. My

ordination remains one of the most profound and grace-filled moments of my life.

Since my ordination, I have been blessed with opportunities to serve in various pastoral assignments. I began as Assistant Priest and Youth Chaplain at Christ the King Parish, Jamboi, where I worked closely with young people and supported parish growth. I later served as Rector and Parish Priest of St. Isidore's Rectorate, Kabonwule, where I gained valuable leadership and administrative experience. I served as Assistant Priest and Youth Chaplain at St. Kizito Parish and Our Lady of Fatima in Kpandai and Salaga, ministering to diverse communities and helping strengthen youth formation.

My pastoral journey has also extended beyond Ghana. During my years in Italy, both as a seminarian and priest, I had the privilege of serving in several parishes, including San Vitale and Agricola in Bologna, San Rocco in Bergamo, San Alessandro in Colonna, St. George and Mary Immaculate in Carimate, and Ss. Pietro, Erasmo e Marcellino in Besana in Brianza. These experiences deepened my appreciation for the diversity and universality of the Catholic Church.

I have also been privileged to serve in the United States. In 2023, I assisted in pastoral ministry in several parishes within the Diocese of Pensacola, including St. Eugene Catholic Church, Good Shepherd Parish, St. Louis Parish, and St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Quincy. In 2024, 2025 and 2026 I served at St. Mary Catholic Church in the Diocese of San Diego under the guidance of Rev. Scott Herrera, where I continued pastoral ministry through sacramental service, spiritual direction, and support for parish activities.

Throughout my ministry, I have been involved in the celebration of the sacraments, retreat facilitation, pastoral counseling, spiritual direction, hospital ministry, youth mentorship, and Catholic educational support. I strongly believe that priestly ministry goes beyond preaching and administering the sacraments. For me, priesthood is about creating opportunities for people to encounter Christ personally and allowing that encounter to transform lives, families, and society.

Currently, I serve as a Lecturer and Formator at St. Augustine Millennium Major Seminary, Tamale, Ghana. In this role, I am involved in the intellectual, spiritual, human, and pastoral formation of seminarians preparing for the priesthood. This responsibility is particularly meaningful to me because it allows me to contribute directly to shaping future priests who will serve the Church with competence, integrity, and holiness. I consider formation work both a privilege and a sacred responsibility.

I speak English, Italian, and I also have working knowledge of French, Spanish and German. Additionally, I speak Dagare, Frafra, Fante, Dagbani and Twi, which enables me to connect with people from different cultural and linguistic backgrounds.

Outside ministry and academics, I enjoy reading books, listening to music, storytelling, singing, traveling, playing football and volleyball, and meeting people from diverse cultures. These interests help me remain balanced, relational, and open to new experiences and perspectives.

As I continue my priestly and academic journey, my prayer and commitment remain centered on serving God and His people with humility, dedication, and love. I strive to be an instrument of hope, faith, and transformation wherever I am called to serve. My life continues to be guided by the conviction that true fulfillment lies in knowing Christ, making Him known, and helping others grow in faith and purpose.

I want to thank and appreciate all those who have been part of my priestly journey especially my first seminary that is my family, my first formators that is my parents Joseph and Elizabeth of blessed memories. I appreciate the love from my abbots, novice masters, my bishop, friends and loved ones who have supported me and continues to support me in my life. The Pastor Rev. Scott and the parish community.

Thank you.