



Little Sisters of the Lamb, Courtney Chisholm PJP Class of 2006

As a Sophomore at LSU, Courtney first heard the Lord call her to be open to religious life. Though she feared giving her life to Jesus, she quickly pushed her reservations aside and continued her plans. Three and a half years later, the Lord began “knocking on the door of her heart”. Within the same year, Courtney met the Community of the Lamb and was struck by the beauty and truth of the liturgy. She received great joy seeing the rich and poor praying together in their chapel. By then, she knew the Lord was calling her to be a little sister and entered the Community in November 2012. We are proud to introduce you to Little Sister Frances of The Little Sisters of the Lamb, Courtney Chisholm.

“From the beginning, my family and friends encouraged and supported me, and I really give thanks for this gift,” says Courtney, “My vocation was a surprise to them, and it took time for all of us to let go of our ideas and realize that the Lord knows what is best.” The Chisholms are a close-knit family who overcame their daughter having to leave home and live possibly in other countries. As they discovered new sisters and brothers of the faith, the family quickly opened their hearts to learn they were “gaining a new family, rather than losing Courtney.” Her religious life is not only a spiritual path - for Courtney, but also for her family and her friends - “and this is truly a blessing!”

When asked what she finds the most happiness in as she continues her formation, Courtney answered, “Fraternal life. Learning how to love my sisters is the biggest blessing and the biggest struggle; and with that comes a great happiness!” She continued, “on the night of the Lord’s Supper, Jesus said to his disciples, ‘a new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; even as I have loved you, that you also love one another.’ Through the close knit fraternal life, I quickly learned my weaknesses and my inability to love as Jesus loves, but I also discovered that our hearts are made for unity with one another.” Courtney is discovering that to follow Jesus means making an “exodus” of herself and leaving comforts and “my own will to offer my life as Jesus offered his for me.”

As a religious, Courtney is most looking forward to how the Lord will guide her on the path to approaching the others as brothers and sisters in Christ. She has lived in and with underprivileged neighborhoods and “encounters Christ in friends on the street and in soup kitchens”. She is amazed to discover that the human heart is the same regardless of the color of

skin, ethnicity, or economic status. She looks forward to each step of her journey, where the Lord will lead her, and what He will show her.

St. Francis of Assisi, St. Therese of Lisieux, and Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos are her three favorite saints who Courtney says, “help me on my journey.” Her favorite devotion is Lectio divina: discovering more and more the Word of God each day. Now that the Lord is sending her to many countries, Courtney is learning to give thanks for the new foods she discovers, but she loves a good shrimp po-boy and enjoys crawfish! She declared, “We eat what we receive from His Providence, and He always gives in abundance!”

Other thoughts shared by Courtney: “With each day, I find more happiness on this journey. Jesus is bringing me to the depths of my heart and showing me who He is and who I am. In the Community, we pray each day with the Gospel, repeating it and singing it so that it becomes a part of us. Though this experience, we go on mission to encounter the poorest and to be their little sisters! With this communion and friendship, we share in the joy of the Gospel!”

The community of Pope John Paul II High School extends its love, support, pride and excitement for Courtney as she continues life’s journey. Thank God, Almighty ~ We are Jaguars!