

**Deacon Kyle Bell** - I was raised in the Methodist church. I was baptized as a baby and was nurtured in the faith at Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church in Tampa. Though I always believed in God, my relationship with Jesus took time to develop, and by the time I went to college at Florida State University, our Lord was starting to really work on my heart. It was at FSU that I first felt a call to ministry. Upon graduation I enrolled at Asbury Theological Seminary – a small Methodist seminary in Kentucky. However, through my studies at Asbury I began to fall in love with the Eucharist and the Roman Catholic Church. I enrolled in a local RCIA program and was received into the Church at the Easter Vigil in 2007. I left Asbury and went on to receive a Masters in Theology from the Franciscan University of Steubenville; but that original call to ministry I'd felt at FSU still tugged at my heart. Eventually, I entered the seminary for the Diocese of St Petersburg. I was ordained to the Transitional Diaconate on April 1, 2017, and God-willing I'll be ordained a priest May 19, 2018.