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This is my Vocation Story



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My name is Victoria Clarizio. I am called to share the love of Christ by keeping alive the Memory of His Passion and interceding for the Church as a Passionist Nun. This is my story.

In the Beginning

Thanks to my parents, my younger brother and I had a solid Catholic formation. We attended Mass and were involved in many parish ministries. I loved reading, writing, playing with my cousins, and studying the Faith.

My Faith

At age thirteen I became tangibly aware of God's presence and could not deny His existence. It was a life-changing development, and the closer I came to Christ, the more my desire to do something great for Him grew.

"...the closer I came to Christ, the more my desire to do something great for Him grew."

—Victoria Clarizio

My Vocation

While in high school, I attended a Steubenville conference and during adoration I asked God what he wanted from me. He simply answered, "everything." The next morning, those who felt called to discern religious life were invited to stand before the crowd and receive a blessing. In my mind's eye, I saw myself joining them, which was a complete shock. Yet, when we were called, I went — and my life has never been the same.

In college I was surrounded by Catholic friends, met religious sisters, and started learning how to discern a vocation. At that time I was considering becoming a missionary. While spending a summer in Tanzania with a group of missionary sisters I had the opportunity to serve hundreds of people. I also spent a good deal of time praying for them; that's when I felt God clearly asking me to be a cloistered nun, but I was not ready to say yes.

After a period of searching, I re-committed myself to God and was filled with a deeper faith. I desired to be fully consecrated to Him and saw my calling as a true gift. After everything, He still wanted me for His bride!

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Called to Serve

I entered a community whose spirituality was centered on accompanying Mary at the Foot of the Cross. While I was not called to this particular community, consoling Jesus in His Passion became part of my personal charism.

While on a pilgrimage to Medjugorje, I visited a Carmelite Monastery on the Feast of Saint Therese. In prayer I had the sense Saint Therese was leading me to the foot of the cross. She pointed to the wound in Jesus's side and told me I belonged there — that I was to hide myself there. I immediately remembered God's invitation to cloistered life while I was serving as a missionary in Tanzania. This time I said yes! By God's providence, I shared my story with a Passionist priest and he pointed out that being at the foot of the cross is the Passionist charism.

"She pointed to the wound in Jesus's side and told me I belonged there — that I was to hide myself there."

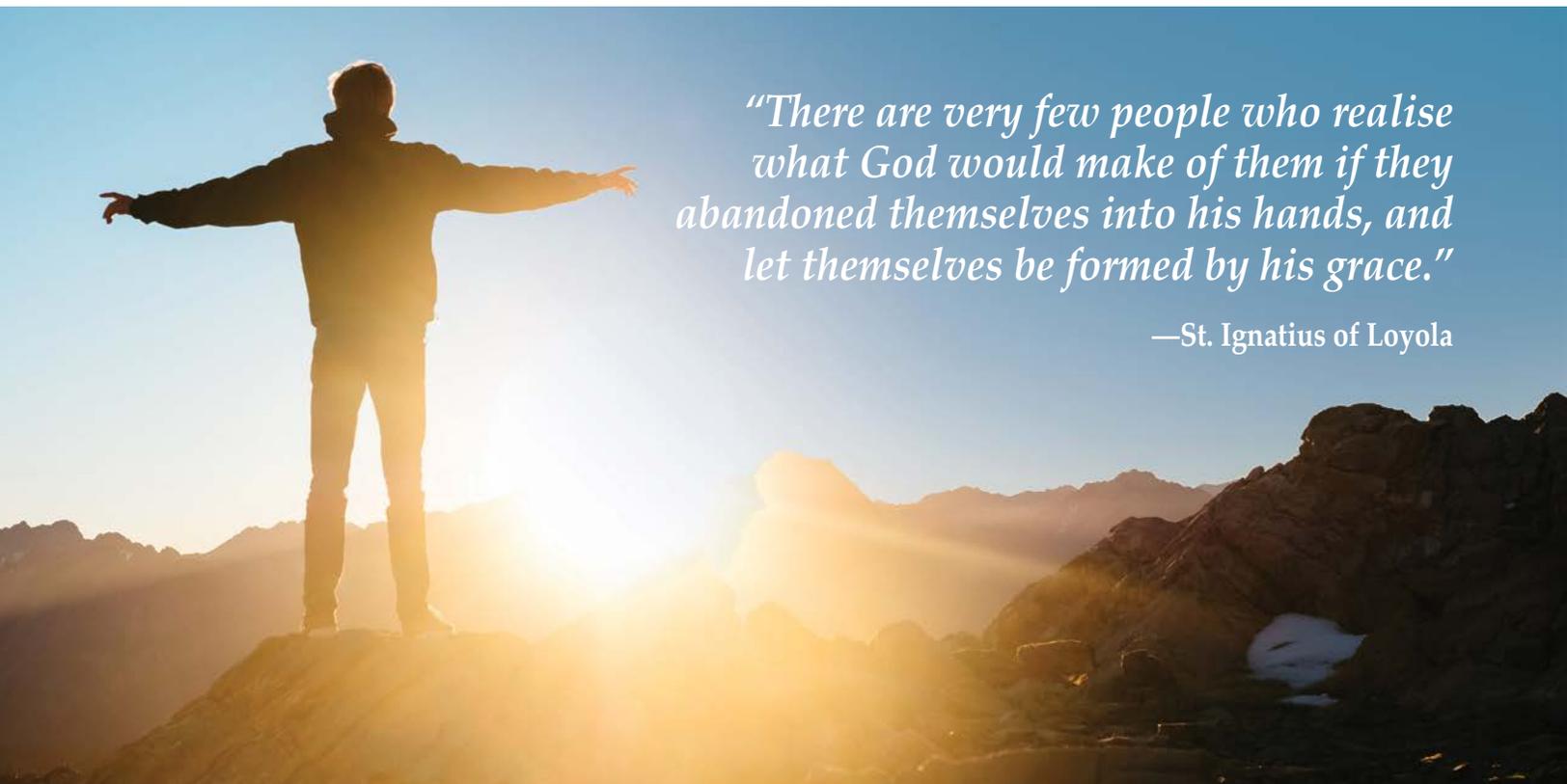
—Victoria Clarizio

Soon I visited the Passionist Nuns, and felt very much at home. I read how Jesus had appeared to the foundress and invited her to enter into his own heart. He said to her, "Come, my love, and hide in the cleft of the rocks." She understood this to be the wound in his pierced heart. This is exactly what Jesus was inviting me to do! The Passionists strive to share this love of the heart of Christ by keeping alive the memory of His Passion — the greatest work of love.

Prayer & Invitation

Please pray that my fellow classmates and I can resolve the student loan debt blocking our path to religious life. As you know, the Church desperately needs priests, sisters, and brothers. With your help, our class will soon reach its goal of serving Christ and humanity.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions you might have at: Victoria@rescuevocations.org.



"There are very few people who realise what God would make of them if they abandoned themselves into his hands, and let themselves be formed by his grace."

—St. Ignatius of Loyola

I am an aspirant of Labouré

I am also a fundraiser for a class of aspiring priests, sisters and brothers. A recent study confirmed that nearly 1 of every 2 aspirants is blocked from entering seminaries and religious communities due to student loan debt. It is the only thing that prevents many from entering formation to become a priest, sister or brother. My classmates are discerning all over the country.

Ron Cuenco
Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land

Hannah Houser
Sisters of Saint Francis, Oldenburg

Jim Musgrave
Archdiocese of Detroit, Michigan

Peyton Kerkman
Marian Sisters of the Diocese of Lincoln, NE

Gretchen Erlichman
Dominican Nuns of the Monastery of Our Lady of Grace

Richard McAlister
Diocese of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Joseph Lynch
Franciscan Friars of the Renewal

Patrick Kelly
Dominican Friars of the Province of Saint Joseph (Eastern Province)

Brittany Behrens
Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods

Thomas Conroy
Dominican Friars of the Province of Saint Joseph (Eastern Province)

Erin Lyons
Sisters of the Holy Cross

Elizabeth Luna
Missionaries Guadalupanas of the Holy Spirit

Hector Ramirez
Archdiocese of Philadelphia

Jean Clumson-Eklu
Congregation of Saint John

Fran Masawi
The Benedictine Sisters of St. Walburg

Emmanuelle Del Castillo
Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary (Sacred Hearts Community)

Joseph Silver
Benedictine Monks of Our Lady of Clear Creek Abbey

Sarah Huckins
Discalced Carmelite Nuns in San Diego

Victoria Clarizio
Passionist Nuns, Pittsburgh, PA

Tyler Wisniewski
Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh

With your help, we will rebuild the Church!

My goal is to raise \$60,000 (the average student loan amount) before December 31st of this year for The Labouré Society, a Catholic non-profit that helps aspirants like me to answer God's call.

Every aspirant has been accepted by a diocese or community and is required to work to liquidate their assets in order to make their own maximum loan payments. Through Labouré, my fellow aspirants and I work together as a class, raising donations which will be divided amongst the class and ultimately applied to our remaining student loans.

We are blessed to have this opportunity to share our love for God, our vocation stories, and to invite hundreds of individuals to support vocations like ours by financially investing in our future and the future of the Church.

Will you join our vocational journeys?

Please partner with us and be part of our vocation team so we can answer God's call together!

Our vocations story videos are online at: www.RescueVocations.org

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Why is Labouré Needed?



Individuals discerning a priestly or religious vocation in the US annually*



Are blocked from pursuing this call due to education loans*



The average amount our vocational aspirants in Labouré owe in educational loans

How does the Mission Work?

OUR ASPIRANTS

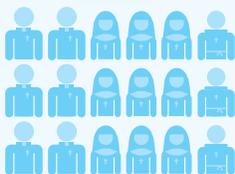
- Are discerning a vocation and have been accepted into a diocese or religious institute
- Are blocked from entering or continuing vocational formation due to student loans
- Are trained by Labouré in Catholic-based fundraising and are provided with practical tools, personal mentoring, and accountability
- Share their vocation stories with thousands of Catholic donors, thereby building a culture of vocations and evangelization
- As a class of 20-25 aspirants raise funds collectively and receive awards from those funds to be applied to their debt

THE LABOURE SOCIETY

- Works with aspirants to utilize all personal means to mitigate their loan amount prior to acceptance into the program
- Trains each aspirant in Catholic-based philanthropy
- Mentors each aspirant to build a unified team; each individual works toward the collective goal
- Provides ongoing accountability and personal guidance to ensure proper preparation and completion of the individual fundraising plans of each aspirant
- Equips each aspirant with an online fundraising platform and multi-media fundraising tools
- Facilitates ongoing aspirant/donor communication and updates after aspirant enters formation

What Has Labouré Accomplished?

325+



Assisted into formation to the priesthood or religious life

\$8.6 MILLION



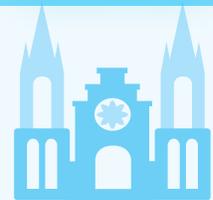
Raised by Labouré aspirants since 2003

PROVEN



In operation since 2003

TRUSTED



Listed in the Official Catholic Directory

* NRVC, Vision Study, 2010

The Labouré Society is a recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit, and is listed in the Official Catholic Directory. All donations are tax deductible. Gifts solicited by our aspirants belong to Labouré and are dispersed upon board approved guidelines to ensure full compliance with IRS rulings. All gifts made to Labouré are non-refundable. Aspirants who leave Labouré are not required to repay any funds disbursed but are strongly encouraged to support Labouré however possible. Funds granted but not dispersed to a former aspirant are made available to other Labouré needs.