

This is my Vocation Story



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My name is Jim Musgrave. I am called to serve Christ and humanity as a priest in the Archdiocese of Detroit. This is my story:

In the Beginning

I was raised in a fairly secular household in metro Detroit. Although we would be considered a family of believers, I was not baptized and we only attended church on Christmas and Easter.

My Faith

My parents enrolled me in a Catholic high school where I developed a deeper understanding of sacred scripture, who Jesus was, and what His teachings meant. It all made sense to me; I accepted it as the truth, but in my immaturity that's where it ended.

In college I attended a variety of Christian worship services, including the Catholic Mass. I could sense God's presence most fully in the Eucharist; however, when I learned that RCIA was required to become Catholic, I said, "forget it!"

I focused on academics and was eventually accepted into medical school. Although I was thriving in academics, I was struggling mentally and emotionally. I decided to leave medical school with no idea what to do next, but I started to find direction as I gravitated back to Mass. That's when I experienced my first real encounter with Jesus. I was at peace, and I instinctively knew I was going to be alright if I kept following His path. This experience led to my being baptized and confirmed in 2012.

At this point, I was "sacramentalized, but not evangelized." I loved the Lord, but it wasn't until I met an incredible group of young adults who were authentic witnesses to the faith, that I truly entered into a deep and meaningful relationship with Jesus. My life was forever changed the day I was prayed over for the first time. By giving the Holy Spirit full access to my heart, I went from fitting Jesus into pockets of my life to revolving my whole life around him.

"I started to find direction as I gravitated back to Mass. That's when I experienced my first real encounter with Jesus."

—Jim Musgrave



My Vocation

As I became more involved at my parish, I sensed a call to radically serve the Lord. Several parishioners took notice, and I was often asked if I had ever considered the priesthood. I hadn't, but their questions prompted me to discern what His will was for my life. As I grew deeper in love with Jesus, my desire for the priesthood grew — a desire born out of prayer, rooted in love, and driven by mission.

I knew that my student loan debt would be an impediment to entering seminary, so I gave away most of my possessions, sold my home, and applied the proceeds towards debt reduction. By embracing a simpler way of life, I now find myself more free to pursue my vocation.

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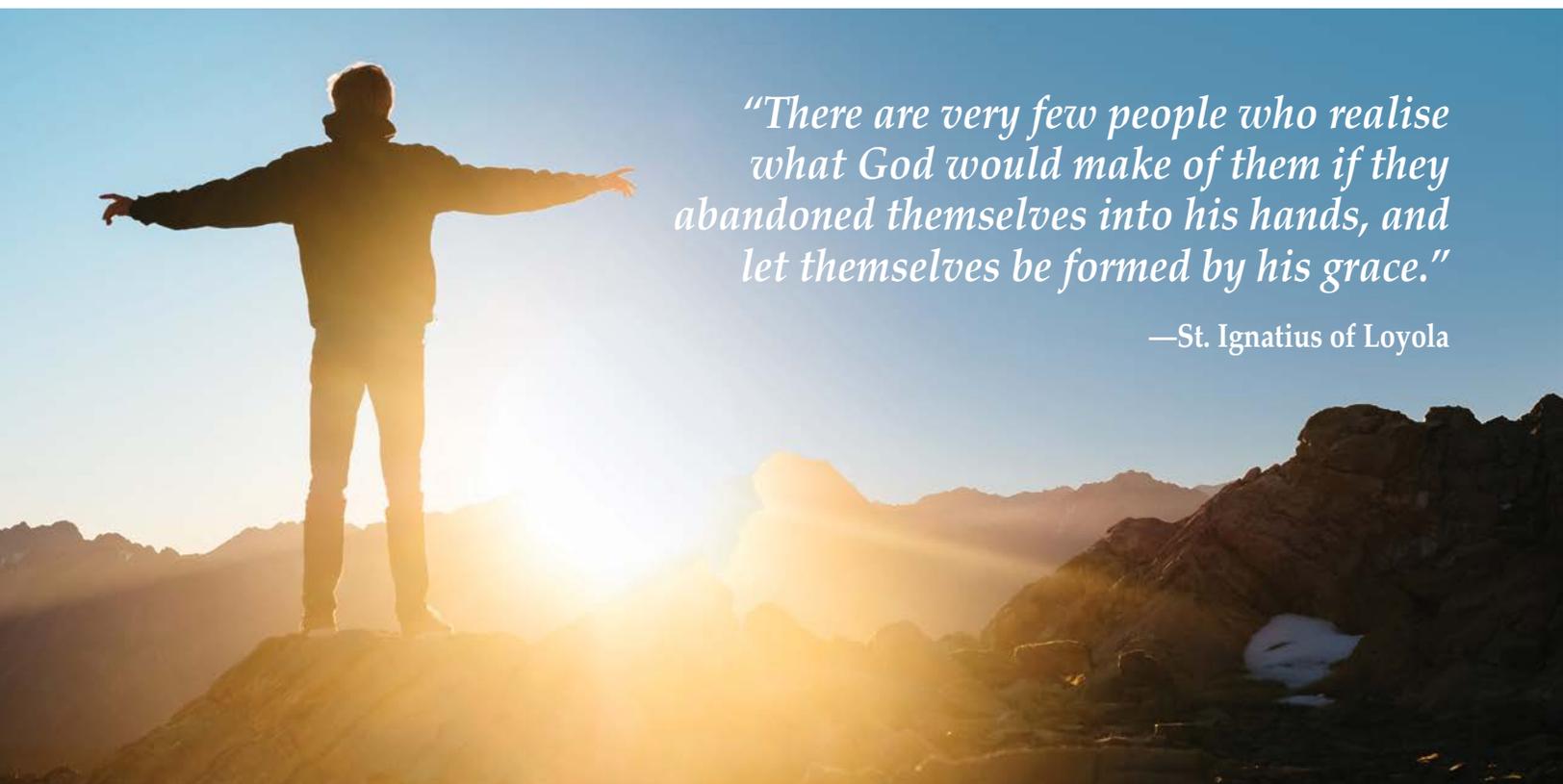
Called to Serve

Jesus is calling me to priesthood in the Archdiocese of Detroit, and I am excited to serve alongside this joyful band of missionary disciples. With our eyes fixed on Jesus, we will help people surrender their lives to Him, grow as disciples by praying, loving, and honoring God in every aspect of life, and witness to God's everlasting mercy.

Prayer & Invitation

The Church, this country, and the world are begging for truth, for justice, and for love. This is only achievable through Christ. He needs men who will go to battle against sin and bring healing and purification through the sacraments. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, and with the intercession of our Blessed Mother, I look forward to joining Him on mission to win His world back. “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word” (Luke 1:38).

Please feel free to reach out with any questions you might have at: Jim@rescue vocations.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

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

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

Joseph Lynch
Franciscan Friars of the Renewal

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

Jean Clumson-Eklu
Congregation of Saint John

Erin Lyons
Sisters of the Holy Cross

Elizabeth Luna
Missionaries Guadalupanas of the Holy Spirit

Hector Ramirez
Archdiocese of Philadelphia

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
Disalced 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

LABOURÉSM
HELP RESCUE VOCATIONS™

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

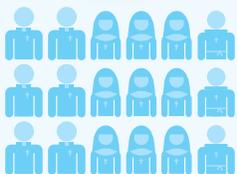
- Are discerning a vocation and have been accepted into a diocese or religious institute
- Are blocked from entering or continuing vocational formation due to student loans
- Are trained by Labouré in Catholic-based fundraising and are provided with practical tools, personal mentoring, and accountability
- 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.