

# This is my Vocation Story

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Missionaries Guadalupanas of the Holy Spirit

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*My name is Elizabeth Luna. The Missionaries Guadalupanas of the Holy Spirit are inviting me to be a sister to serve Christ and humanity. This is my story.*

## In the Beginning

I was raised Catholic and always felt God was present in my life, especially during the many struggles I faced while growing up.

*“I realized I wanted to become an instrument of God...”*

—Elizabeth Luna

## My Faith

In high school I became interested in art, and one day while working on an assignment in the library I overheard a recruiter from the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising (FIDM) discussing the various programs the college offered. Shortly afterward, I did some research online about FIDM and discovered they offered a digital media program. I immediately knew that’s where I wanted to go to school and submitted my application.

## My Vocation

One day, while attending youth Mass in Los Angeles, I saw a large group of nuns wearing habits. I was intrigued by their obvious dedication and sense of joy. I prayed that God would guide me and, after a long period of meditation, an inexplicable feeling washed over me. I felt God telling me that I already had His heart and His love, and that religious life was, indeed, the path I was intended to take.

From that moment, my heart was on fire. I was wanted to pursue the Lord wholeheartedly, and wanted others to know of God’s love for each and every one of us. I grew philosophical about my past struggles, realizing we all have struggles of our own. I also realized that I wanted to become an instrument in the hands of God to help others find peace and joy in their lives.



*“I have grown to understand God is calling me to religious life with the Missionary Guadalupanas of the Holy Spirit.”*

—Elizabeth Luna

## Called to Serve

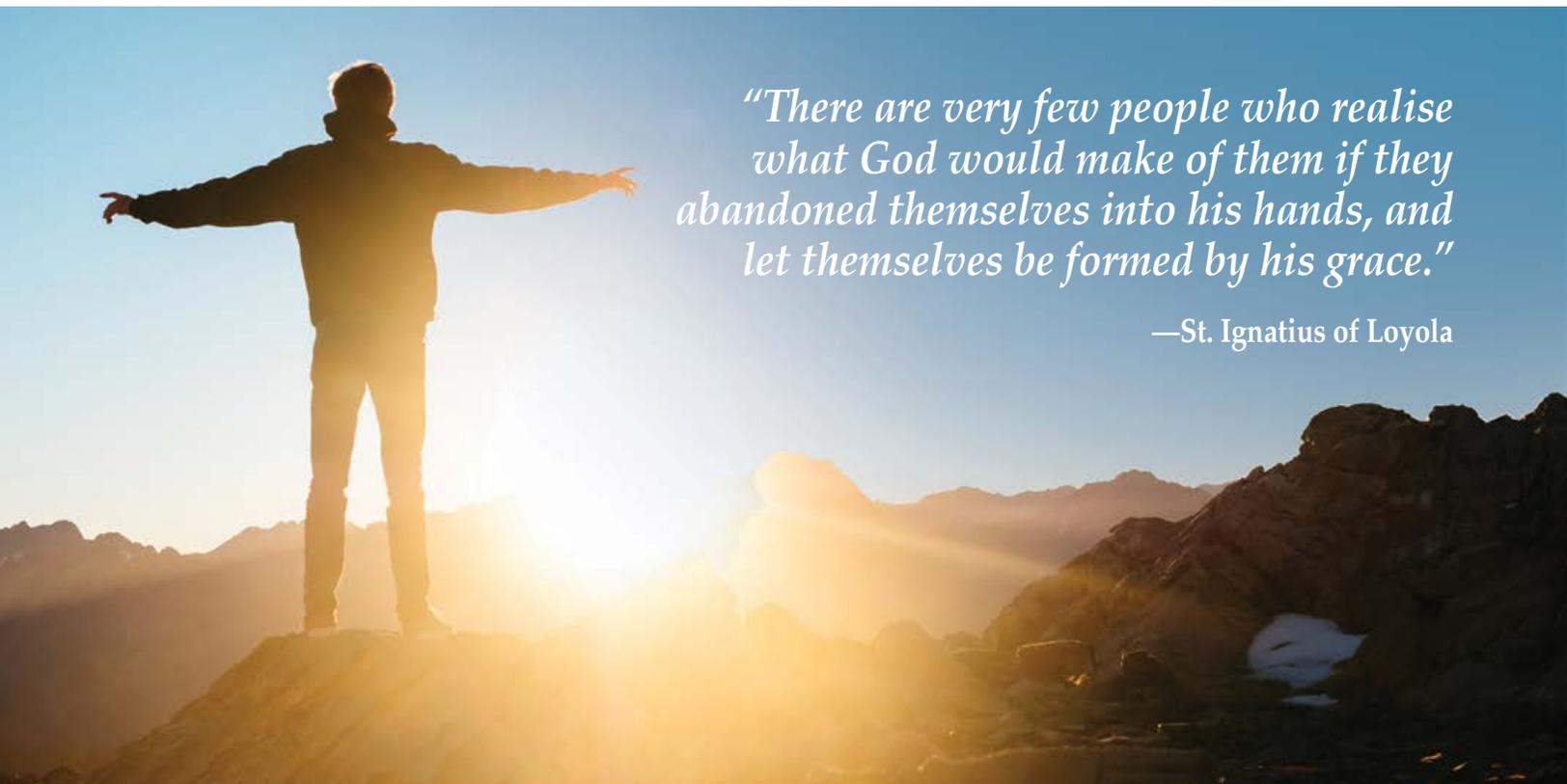
Through online research and time spent with its members and vocation director, I have grown to understand God is calling me to religious life with the Missionary Guadalupanas of the Holy Spirit. Their absolute confidence in the Holy Spirit’s guidance is still present in the community, as are the words of their sainted founder, Fr. Felix Rougier, who said, “With Mary everything, without her, nothing.”

When I read about the lives of Fr. Rougier and holy woman that inspired the community’s founding, Concepción Cabrera de Armida (also known as Conchita), I feel like I’m reading the story of my own soul. The sisters are gentle and strong and inspire my spirit. Their mission is to evangelize and promote God’s motherly love through our accompaniment and mercy in people’s lives. As I strive to enter their community, I know without doubt I have finally come home.

## Prayer & Invitation

Please pray that my fellow Labouré classmates and I can resolve the student loan debt blocking our path to religious life. As you know, the Church desperately needs new 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: [elizabethl@rescuevocations.org](mailto:elizabethl@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](http://www.RescueVocations.org)*

**LABOURÉ**<sup>SM</sup>  
HELP RESCUE VOCATIONS™

# Why is Labouré Needed?



10,000  
Individuals discerning a priestly or religious vocation in the US annually\*



42%  
Are blocked from pursuing this call due to education loans\*



\$60,000  
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



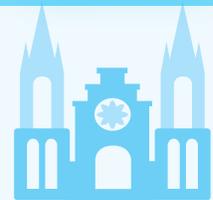
Raised by Labouré aspirants since 2003

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.