

This is my Vocation Story



Tyler Wisniewski

Community:
Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh

Alma Mater:
Penn State

Phone:
(724) 691-9021

Email:
Tyler@rescuevocations.org

My name is Tyler Wisniewski and I am called to serve Christ's Church as a Byzantine Ruthenian Catholic Priest. This is my story.

In the Beginning

I grew up in Scottdale, Pennsylvania along with my brother and sister. I enjoyed singing in choir, collecting coins and playing baseball.

My Faith

I was raised in the Byzantine Ruthenian Catholic Church and attending church was always a priority in my family. I was an altar server and with many traveling priests visiting our parish, I became familiar with the new translation of the Divine Liturgy. I learned how our traditions and form of worship greatly differed from the West. My passion for the Divine Liturgy started influencing my private prayer life and as I began to spiritually mature, I yearned for more Eastern prayers.

In college, I gravitated to a public health related major which I felt would lead me to truly make a difference in others' lives. I was interested in genetic counseling where professionals provide personalized help that patients may need as they make decisions about their genetic health. However, as I learned more about the field, I learned that the few Catholic genetic counselors I interviewed could not explain how they defended the dignity of the unborn. Because of this moral issue, I decided to withdraw from pursuing this career. While this decision was difficult, the Holy Spirit was working through it and guiding me to my vocational calling to the priesthood.

"My passion for the Divine Liturgy started influencing my private prayer life and as I began to spiritually mature, I yearned for more..."

—Tyler Wisniewski

My Vocation

Family, friends, and fellow parishioners have always joked about me entering



“The Holy Trinity has given me the desire to serve in a new way — as a priest. I can think of no greater life pursuit than helping individuals in their journey to Paradise.”

—Tyler Wisniewski

the priesthood. I would play along but never gave it much thought. If I were to ever enter the seminary, it would have to be for the right reasons. It was not until after completing my bachelor’s degree that I started seriously discerning my vocation. While meeting regularly with my spiritual father and prayerfully considering the next chapter in my life, I began listening to my heart.

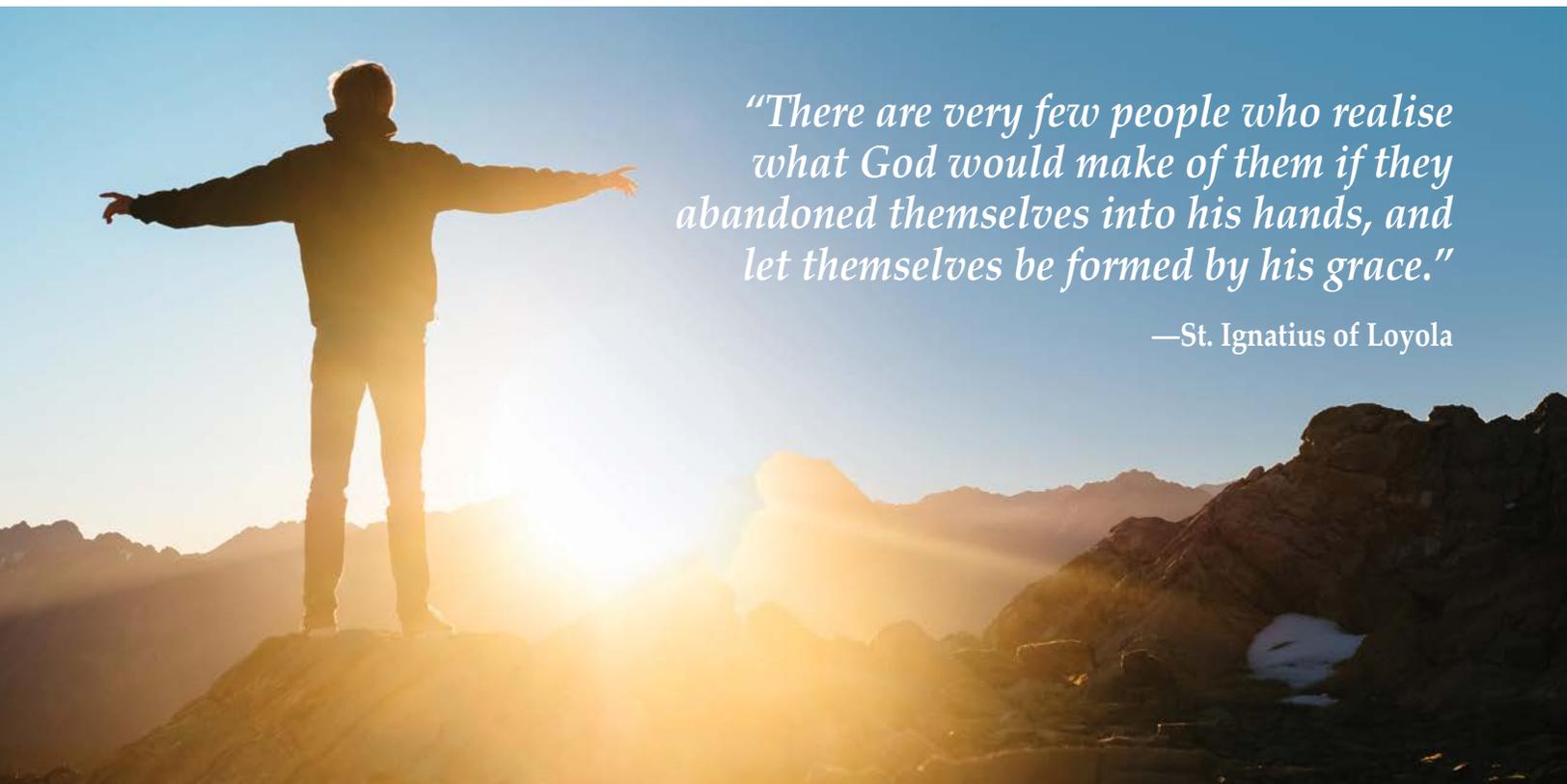
Called to Serve

It has been a privilege to assist priests and bishops in liturgical services for over 15 years and in all this time, the Holy Trinity has given me the desire to serve in a new way — as a priest. I can think of no greater life pursuit than helping individuals in their journey to Paradise. I know in my heart that this is where I am meant to be and am enthusiastic to bring back the traditions that were eliminated during the period of Latinization. In addition to serving a parish, I see myself directly involved in the fight to defend life at all stages.

Prayer & Invitation

With the presbyterate under attack in North America in recent years, courageous and passionate priests are needed now more than ever. Please pray that my fellow classmates and I can resolve the student loan debt blocking our path to religious life. 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: Tyler@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

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)

Joseph Lynch
Franciscan Friars of the Renewal

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
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

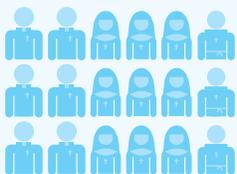
- Are discerning a vocation and have been accepted into a diocese or religious institute
- Are blocked from entering or continuing vocational formation due to student loans
- Are trained by Labouré in Catholic-based fundraising and are provided with practical tools, personal mentoring, and accountability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