

This is my Vocation Story



Nick Alescio

Community:
Diocese of Trenton

Alma Mater:
Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Phone:
(908) 433-2711

Email:
Nick@rescuevocations.org

My name is Nick Alescio. The Diocese of Trenton is inviting me to serve Christ and His Church. This is my story.

In the Beginning

I was raised in a middle-class family of three children in Fair Haven, a small suburban town in central New Jersey. Growing up, my siblings and I attended CCD (Confraternity of Christian Doctrine) classes and my parents made it clear that their number one priority for us was to be safe and happy. With the exception of my mother, our entire family was raised in the Catholic Church, but the faith eventually faded from our day-to-day lives, especially once my siblings and I had finished our religious education.

My Faith

While studying computer science at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), faith had very little presence in my life. However, this all changed when a very devout Catholic became my roommate. We had many long conversations in which I would challenge him on the teachings of the Church. Through these conversations I was persuaded to attend Mass on Sundays and to schedule my first reconciliation since second grade.

In time, I arrived at the understanding that God truly does exist, that Jesus died and was resurrected, and that the Bible is true. I started attending Mass more often and participated in Newman Center activities. I was introduced to adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, the rosary, and the Extraordinary Form of the Mass, among other things that inspired me to take my faith much more seriously.

My Vocation

During my sophomore year, I received an email from the Diocese of Worcester vocation director. He invited me to the annual priestly discernment retreat after receiving my name from the campus chaplain.

“I remember thinking one day, that there would be no greater honor than having the ability to dispense the sacraments to God’s people...”

—Nick Alescio



“The faith has fulfilled me and transformed me in every way possible. Truly, I feel that the passion I have to pursue our Lord is a gift from Him...”

—Nick Alescio

During the retreat I experienced a peaceful, fulfilling feeling unlike I had ever felt before. Fascinated by the prospect of becoming a diocesan priest, I decided at that moment to begin discernment.

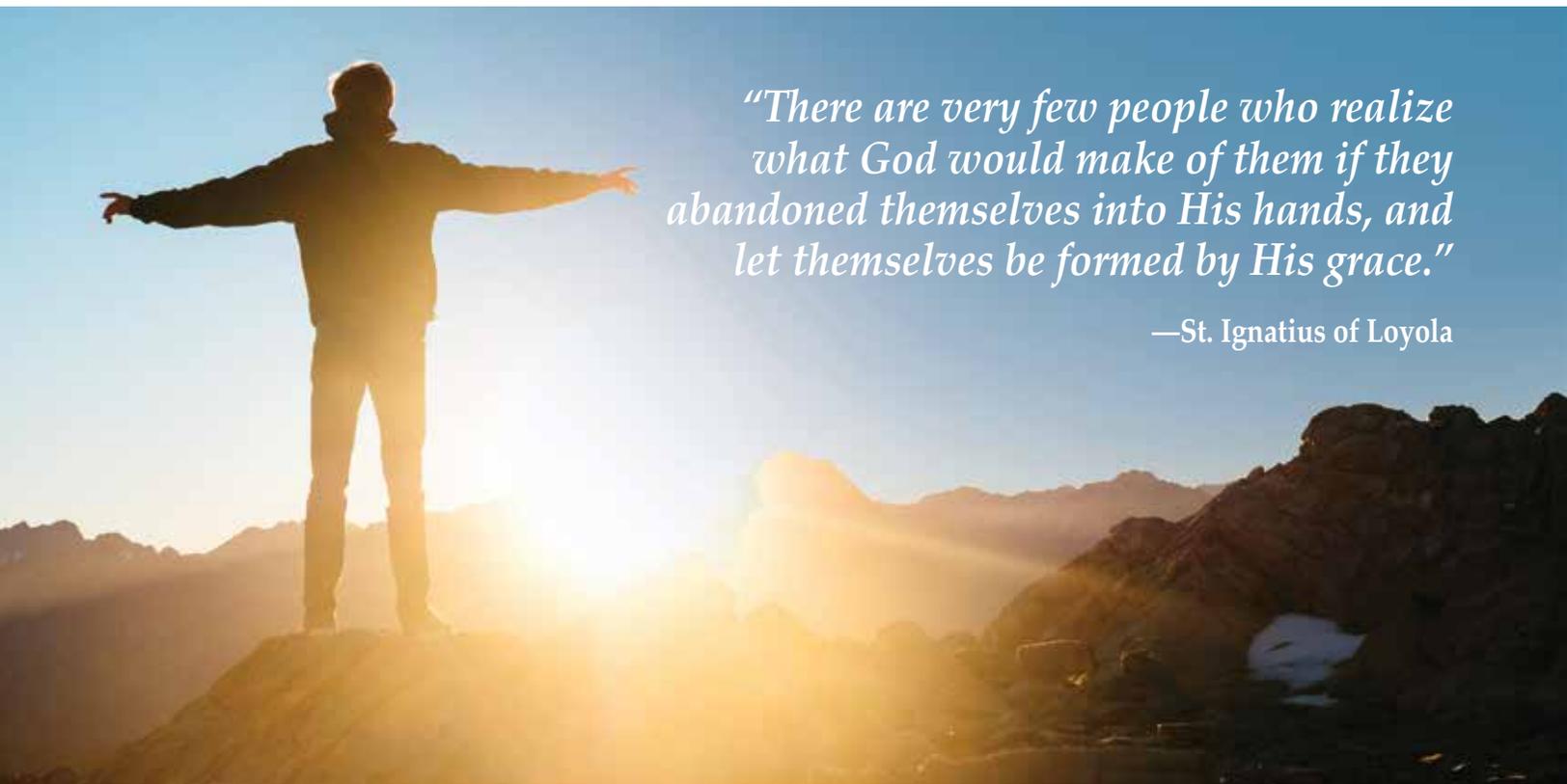
Called to Serve

I began praying on a regular basis for the Lord to reveal where He wanted me to apply for priestly formation – at the Diocese of Worcester, MA, or my home Diocese of Trenton, NJ. I spent my junior year feeling torn, but one day I realized that when I pictured myself as a priest it was always in Trenton (even during my daily rosary, I would occasionally become distracted and contemplate priestly ministry in my home diocese). I finally felt confident that the Lord was calling me to apply to the Diocese of Trenton.

Today, I am humbled by the opportunity to pursue priestly formation with the Diocese of Trenton. It is a privilege that I frequently have difficulty putting into words! It is my intention, through my ministry, to make known the love of God the Father and His desire for an intimate relationship with each and every one of us, just as he loved His Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ.

Prayer & Invitation

Please pray that my fellow Labouré 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 reach out with any questions you might have at: Nick@rescuevocations.org.

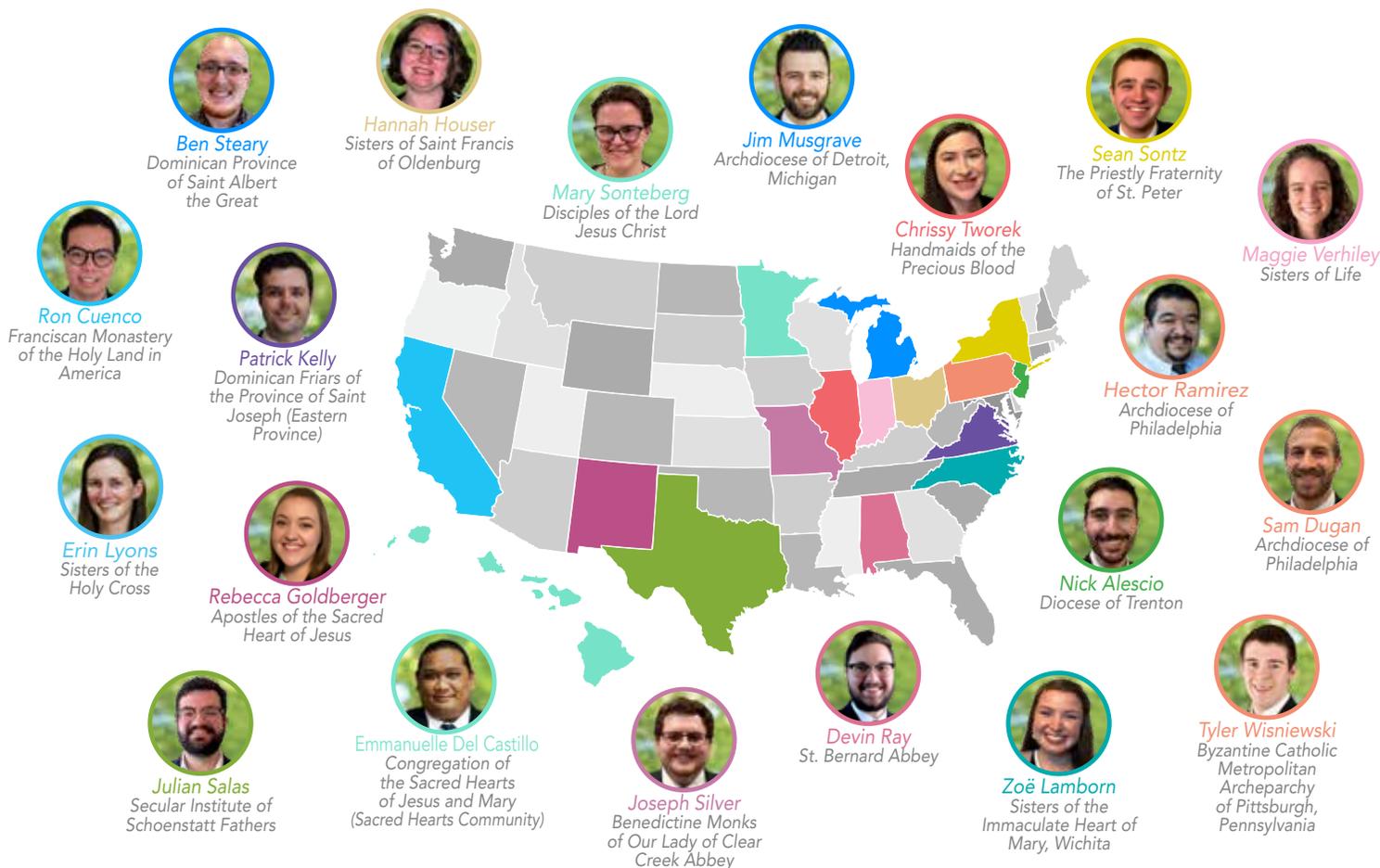


“There are very few people who realize what God would make of them if they abandoned themselves into His hands, and let themselves be formed by His grace.”

—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.



With your help, we will rebuild the Church!

My goal is to raise \$60,000 (the average student loan amount) before June 30th 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

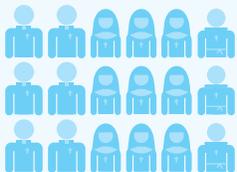
- Are discerning a vocation and have been accepted into a diocese or religious institute
- Are blocked from entering or continuing vocational formation due to student loans
- Are trained by Labouré in Catholic-based fundraising and are provided with practical tools, personal mentoring, and accountability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

THE LABOURE SOCIETY

- Works with aspirants to help them 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?

370+



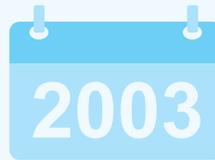
Assisted in their journey to answer God's call

\$10+ 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.