

DONATE

rescuevocations.org/AnthonyRiley



This is my Vocation Story

Anthony Riley

Community:
Archdiocese of Detroit

Alma Mater:
Sacred Heart Major Seminary

Phone:
(248) 497-6699

Email:
AnthonyRiley@rescuevocations.org

My name is Anthony Riley. The Archdiocese of Detroit is inviting me to serve Christ and His Church as a diocesan priest. This is my story.

In the Beginning

I was raised as a Protestant on an old country road in Kentucky. Life out in the country was peaceful and prayerful. When I was very young, I remember praying to Jesus with my dad each night before bed. We would petition the Lord for what we needed, and give thanks to the Lord for our blessings. After my parents divorced, my stepfather too would read Scripture to us at our kitchen table.

As a teenager, I moved from the country to Detroit. There, my faith in God gradually eroded. I played in hard rock and heavy metal bands, and I came to derive all of my self-worth from playing the guitar. I was planning to start a business buying, selling, and repairing musical instruments.

My Faith

I first attended a Catholic Mass after being invited by a friend. I was nervous and had no idea when to sit, stand, or kneel. Then, during the Consecration, I remember watching as the priest raised the Host. As he elevated the Host and his eyes looked upwards, I felt an overwhelming sense of peace flood over me. I gazed at the white Host between the priest's hands and saw Jesus. Something within me changed forever. That was the moment in which I began being open to the faith.

In love now with the beauty of the liturgy, I started attending Mass every week. As I came to believe that the Catholic Church is the one Church that Jesus Christ established, I completed RCIA formation and received my Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil of 2014.

God gave me a new vision to grow in deeper intimacy with Himself. I wanted to learn all about God, and also to serve Him and His Church. I

"In God's perfect timing, he began using everything and everyone to get my attention. Many people spoke to me about considering the priesthood."

—Anthony Riley

LABOURE

HELP RESCUE VOCATIONS™



“I discovered something deep within myself. I possess an inner sense to radically follow the Lord with an undivided heart, to be pleasing to him.”

—Anthony Riley

completed four years of Scripture study and served as a catechist, lector, and sacristan. I also grew in devotion through the Rosary.

My Vocation

At first, I didn't believe the many people who said that they saw a priest in me. But in prayer, the Lord started to open my heart. Our Blessed Mother in the Rosary helped me to follow the will of the Lord. It gave me peace to think that I would be most fulfilled living the vocation the Lord made for me. I even came to see how the Lord has been preparing me my entire life for this calling.

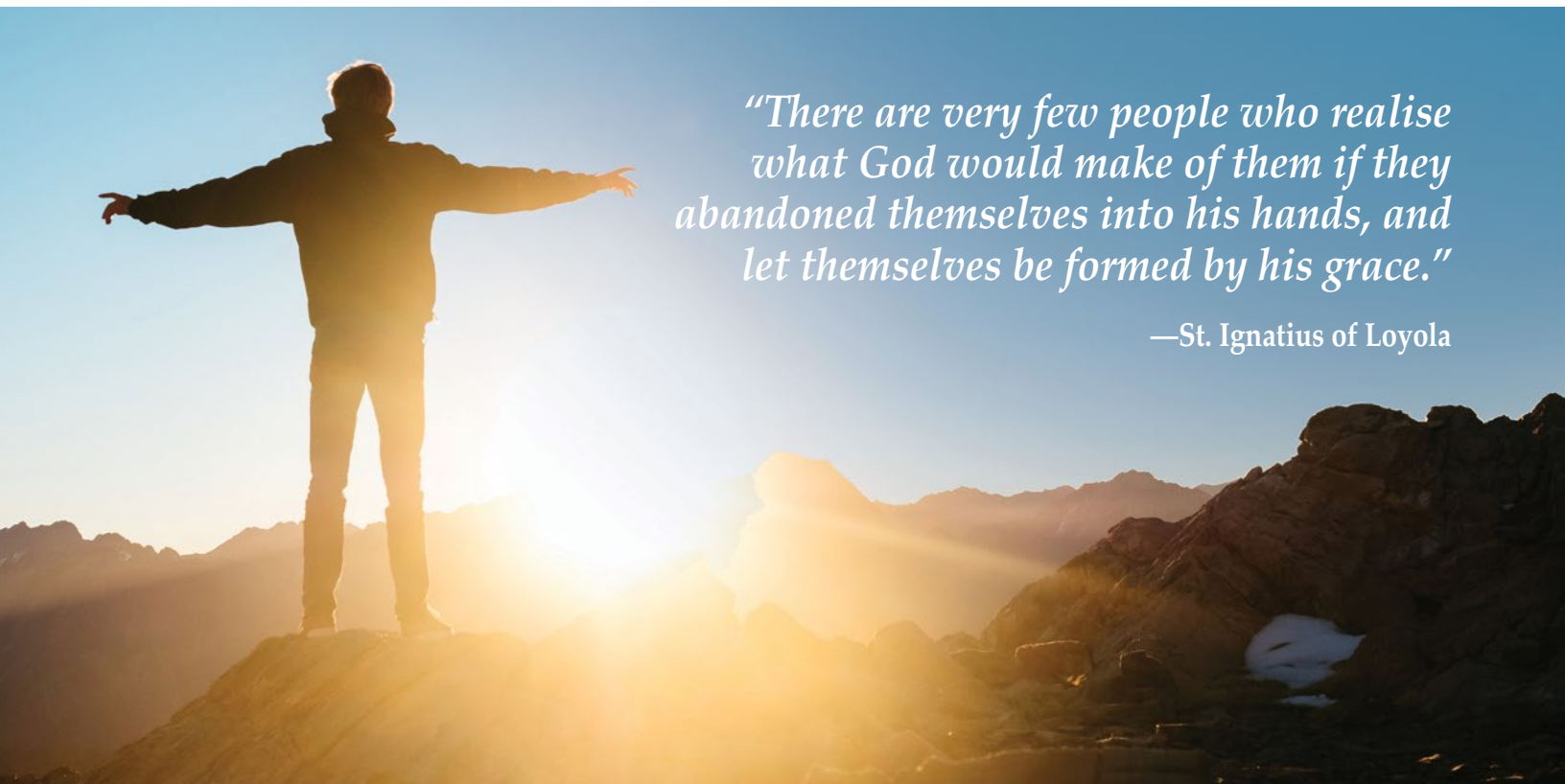
Called to Serve

I reached out to the Office of Priestly Vocations and began the process of discernment with my local Church in the Archdiocese of Detroit. As a priest, I look forward to the vocation of radically following the Lord and sharing his love with others. By consecrating the Eucharist, preaching the Gospel, and hearing Confessions, I am excited to make Jesus and Mary known so that everyone may experience Their perfect and abiding love just as I have.

Prayer & Invitation

Please pray for me and my fellow Labouré classmates as we begin the journey to formation.

Feel free to reach out with any questions you might have at: AnthonyRiley@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.

MacLean Andrews
Society of Jesus
(Jesuits West)

Jake Smith
Archdiocese of Denver

Anthony Riley
Archdiocese of Detroit

Dan Roberts
Diocese of Pittsburgh

Tyler Wisniewski
Byzantine Catholic
Metropolitan
Archeparchy of
Pittsburgh

Mary Sorteberg
Disciples of the Lord
Jesus Christ

Chrissy Tworek
Handmaids of the
Precious Blood

Isis Leslie
Our Lady of Confidence
Carmelite Monastery

Josh Parmet
Archdiocese of
Philadelphia

Eddie Huber
Diocese of Orange

Rebecca Goldberger
Apostles of the Sacred
Heart of Jesus

Nick Alescio
Diocese of Trenton

Richard Gaunt
Order of Friars Minor
(Franciscan Friars)

Julian Salas
Secular Institute of
Schoenstatt Fathers

Luis Rodarte
Diocese of El Paso

Devin Ray
St. Bernard Abbey

Ari Lima
Archdiocese of Miami

Joseph Silver
Benedictine Monks
of Our Lady of Clear
Creek Abbey

David Torres
Archdiocese of Miami

Morgan Murray
Religious Sisters
of Mercy of Alma,
Michigan

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!

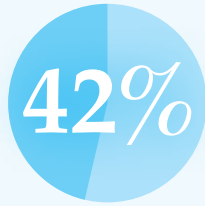
Our vocations story videos are online at: www.RescueVocations.org

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

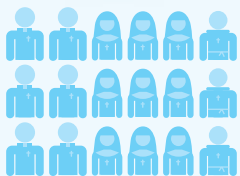
THE LABOURÉ SOCIETY



- 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?

370+



Assisted into formation to the priesthood or religious life

\$10 MILLION



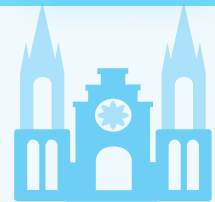
Raised by Labouré aspirants since 2003

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.