

This is my Vocation Story



Dan Roberts

Community:
Diocese of Pittsburgh

Alma Mater:
Grove City College

Phone:
(818) 331-1194

Email:
Dan@rescuevocations.org

My name is Dan Roberts. The Diocese of Pittsburgh is inviting me to serve Christ and His Church as a diocesan priest. This is my story.

In the Beginning

I was raised Catholic in suburban Pittsburgh and attended Mass weekly with my mother and three sisters. My father, who was then a Protestant, sometimes joined us for Mass. While studying in Catholic grade school I gained an understanding of the Church's moral teachings.

My Faith

I remained involved in my Catholic faith as I pursued my passion for acting in undergrad and later went on to earn my Master's. However, in this time, I hadn't thought much about having a personal relationship with Jesus until talking with Protestant friends. For several years I attended a non-denominational church until I was invited by a friend to attend their Catholic parish and immediately felt drawn back to the beauty of the liturgy. At this Dominican parish, I realized that I had been missing the Eucharist and I came to a deeper understanding and appreciation of the sacrament of confession.

"In 2007, I felt God was calling me to L.A. to pursue acting. But after a decade, He surprised me with an even deeper call."

—Dan Roberts

My Vocation

I sensed God calling me to pursue acting on a greater scale, which I did by working in plays, films, TV, commercials, and teaching in and around Los Angeles.

Though I enjoyed my work, I found myself in prayer saying, "God if there is something else you want me to do – show me." Through the guidance of priests, friends and mentors, God directed me to think seriously about a call to the priesthood. I considered becoming a Dominican but felt drawn to diocesan



life. An unexpected meeting with the Pittsburgh diocese's vocations director gave an answer to the question of which diocese—the one where I was born and raised.

I stayed in Los Angeles another year to complete a work commitment while also meeting with a spiritual director and discerning my next steps.

Called to Serve

In 2018 I entered the Pittsburgh Diocese's priestly formation program. Eleven years earlier, I had felt God was calling me to L.A. – but since discerning priesthood, I have experienced a deeper call, a flame from within which has brought new focus to my years in L.A. and beyond. I had had my dream of pursuing acting, but I was beginning to see that God was using that as a step on the journey of His greater vision for my life.

After three years of seminary, I have already sensed how God has worked patiently to bring me back east and, more importantly, to draw me closer to Him through prayer. As a priest, I hope to help the youth and young adults establish a firm foundation in Christ with compassion as they face the great challenges of our world today. I look forward to sharing how God has worked in my life and showing how God is still very much at work in this world.

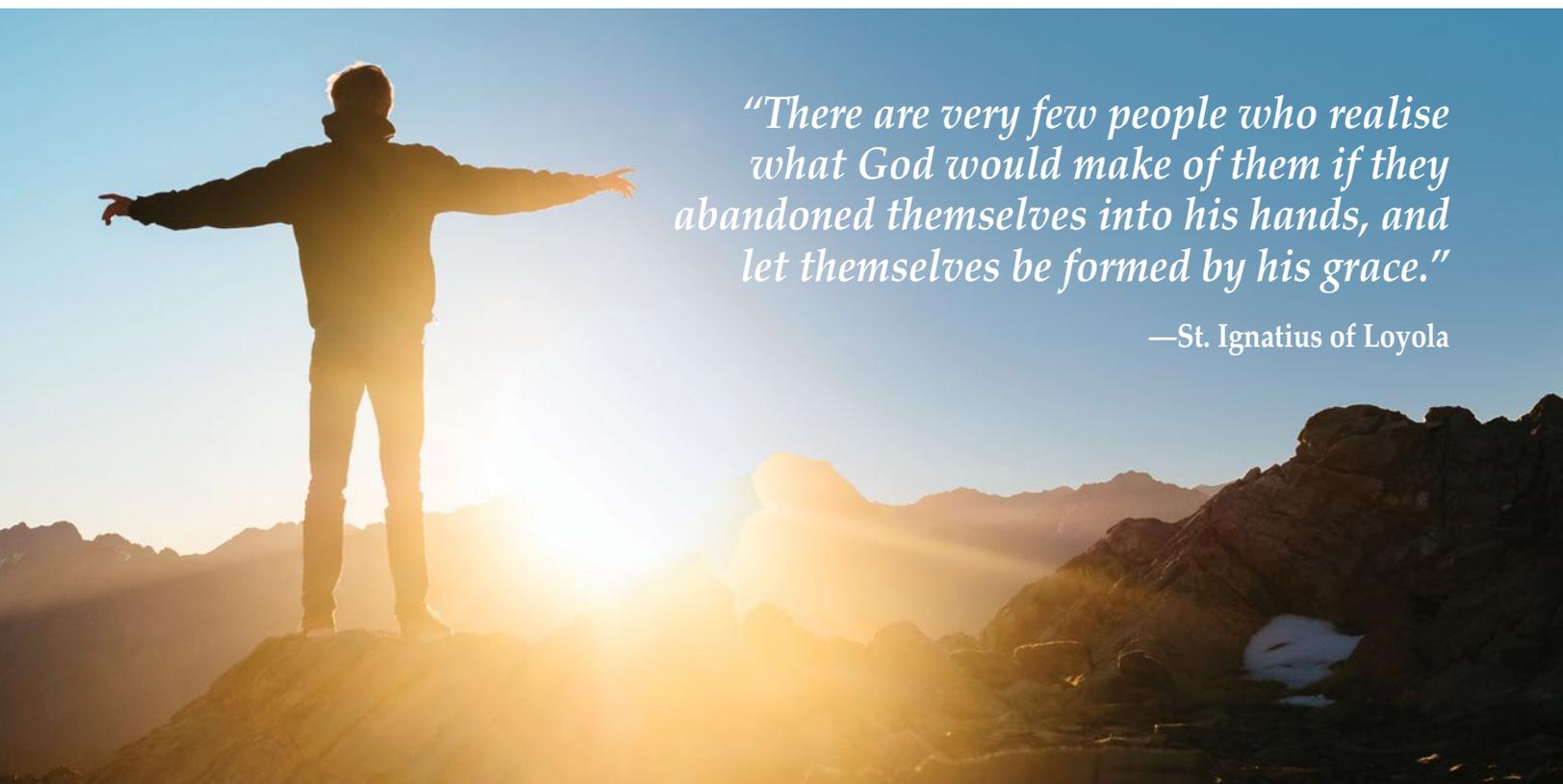
“For years, I told stories as an actor. Now I believe God's calling me to share in an even greater story.”

—Dan Roberts

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: Dan@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.

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

David Torres
Archdiocese of Miami

Morgan Murray
Religious Sisters
of Mercy of Alma,
Michigan

Joseph Silver
Benedictine Monks
of Our Lady of Clear
Creek Abbey

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

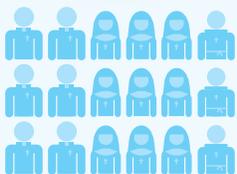
THE LABOURÉ SOCIETY



- 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.