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This is my Vocation Story

Brendan Devine

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My name is Brendan Devine. I am called to serve Christ and humanity as priest in France. This is my story:

In the Beginning

I grew up in a loving home where my parents gave me the Catholic faith and a Catholic education. At my parochial school, in my home state of Connecticut, I learned that I was created in God's image and called to Him by Christ's redemptive work on the cross. Looking back, I realized I received the gift of service from my school. From an early age I served at the altar and volunteered, especially with the elderly.

My Faith

While in high school, I read the Confessions of St. Augustine and was inspired by the saint's deep thirst for truth, although at that time I couldn't fully appreciate his conversion and repentance. While earning a degree in economics and history from Cornell University, I made several lasting friendships.

I found inspiration in the examples of St. Philip Neri and St. Augustine to dedicate my life to the service of God and neighbor. I came to understand that while the path of marriage was natural and compelling, my desire to serve Christ and the Church was supernatural and more completely fulfilling.

My Vocation

I wanted to enter priestly formation immediately after college, but through counsel of loved ones, I was advised to wait and establish a career for five years while continuing to discern my calling. When I was not at my corporate finance job in Texas, I was blessed by the Divine Liturgy and

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—Brendan Devine

sense of community at a small Eastern rite parish. Through this time, I began to deepen my faith and found myself desiring to serve as I once did as a child.

For the past two years I volunteered at a shelter for children coming out of abusive or dangerous situations. Here the Lord put on my heart the desire to return to them some of their dignity just as He gives to us. Serving at this local shelter gave me the grace to continue to foster my vocation.

After a few years in Texas, I knew I still desired to serve Christ and the Church in a more substantial way, so I began researching places to live out this life.

Called to Serve

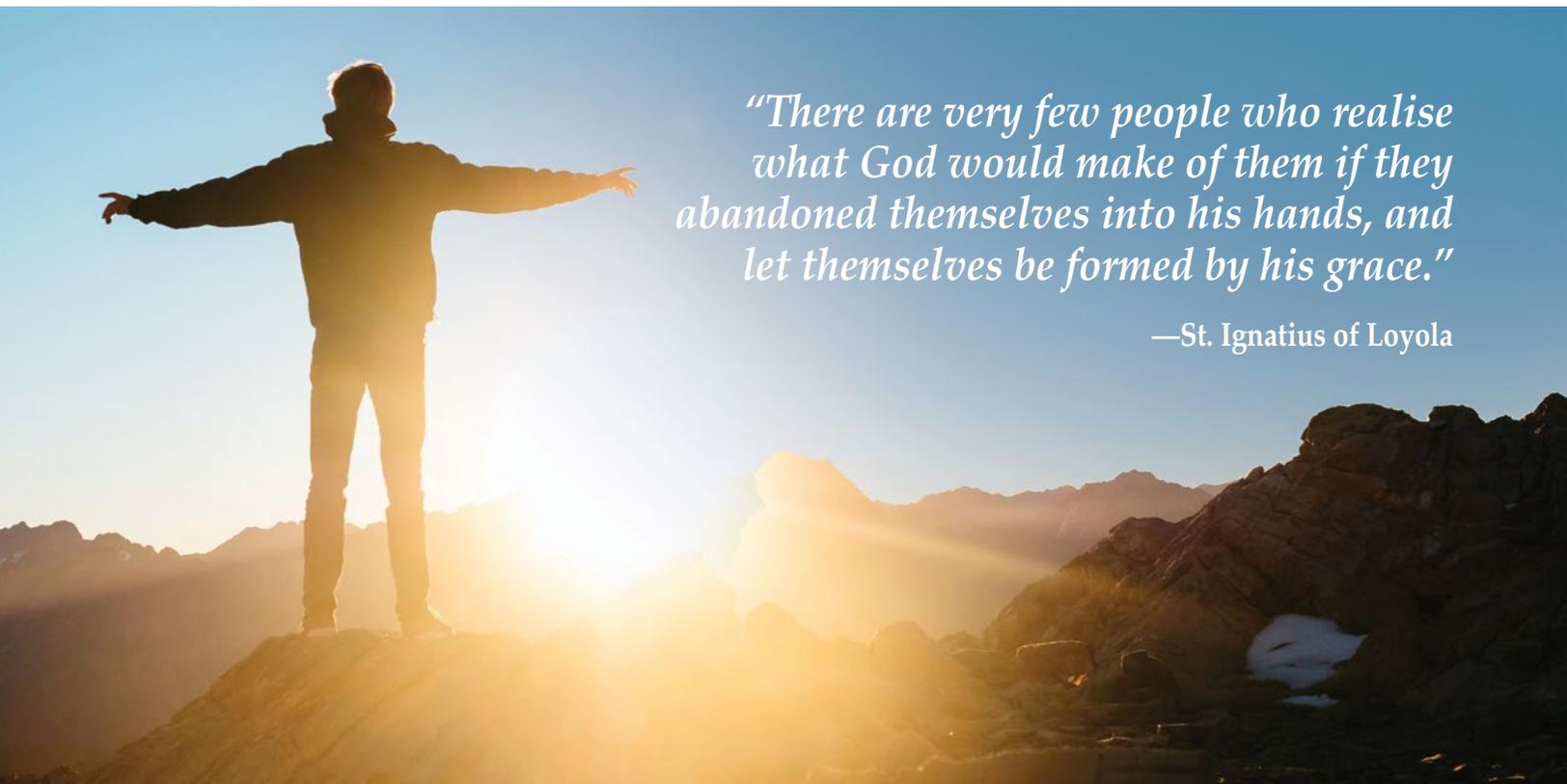
After long prayerful discernment and seeking a diocese to serve, I followed the advice and guidance of a priest friend. He directed me to a diocese that is actively seeking to live out Pope St. John Paul II’s model for the New Evangelization. The more he shared and I researched, the more this diocese felt like a great fit.

I look forward to this journey and hope to soon live out St. Augustine’s “blessed life” as a priest who loves the Mass and desires to make a gift of myself.

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: Brendan@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.

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

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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

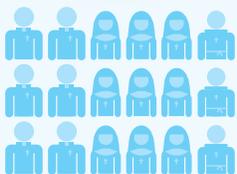
THE LABOURE SOCIETY



- 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?

370+



Assisted into formation to the priesthood or religious life

\$10 MILLION



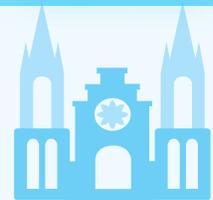
Raised by Labouré aspirants since 2003

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.