



This is my Vocation Story

Kiana Nava

Community:
Benedictines of Mary, Queen of Apostles

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My name is Kiana Nava. I am called to emulate the hidden life of Mary as love in the heart of the Church as a nun with the Benedictines of Mary, Queen of Apostles. This is my story.

In the Beginning

Being of Mexican descent, my family had deep roots in the Catholic religion well before I was born. I was raised in a Catholic household, received the sacraments, and attended Mass with my family every Sunday. I grew up blessed with the gift of faith, and devoted to Holy Mother Mary. As the oldest sibling, I saw it as my responsibility to set a good example.

I had the desire to be more involved in the Church and wanted to participate in youth groups or other classes at our parish, but those were unavailable. My Confirmation teacher inspired me with her deep belief and sense of peace, prompting me to want to grow in my own faith. I knew that my beliefs would be challenged when I began college, so I made it my mission to learn more about the tenets of Catholicism in order to remain firmly rooted in the Church and share my faith well.

“Generosity towards our Lord is all that I am pursuing; I want to give Him my life.”

—Kiana Nava

Once I began college, I became heavily involved in our Newman Center and at our local parish. The opportunity arose for me to begin a youth group at the parish, and I went on to serve as the youth minister.

My Vocation

During these college years, as I was actively growing in my faith, I also began discerning religious life. By the time I graduated, I had made up my mind to pursue religious life wholeheartedly. The initial prompting to consider this call came from the witness of a visiting Sister. Seeing her made my heart flutter, and I realized that God was asking me to be open to that state in life. I brought this desire to my pastor, who helped me see religious life as an attainable way of living. He asked me the simple question, “How generous are you willing to be for our Lord?” It was scary to give up my own plans, but as I focused on pursuing God’s will, that fear began to melt away and be replaced with peace.



“Religious life discernment has simply been a series of me saying “yes” to our Lord.”

—Kiana Nava

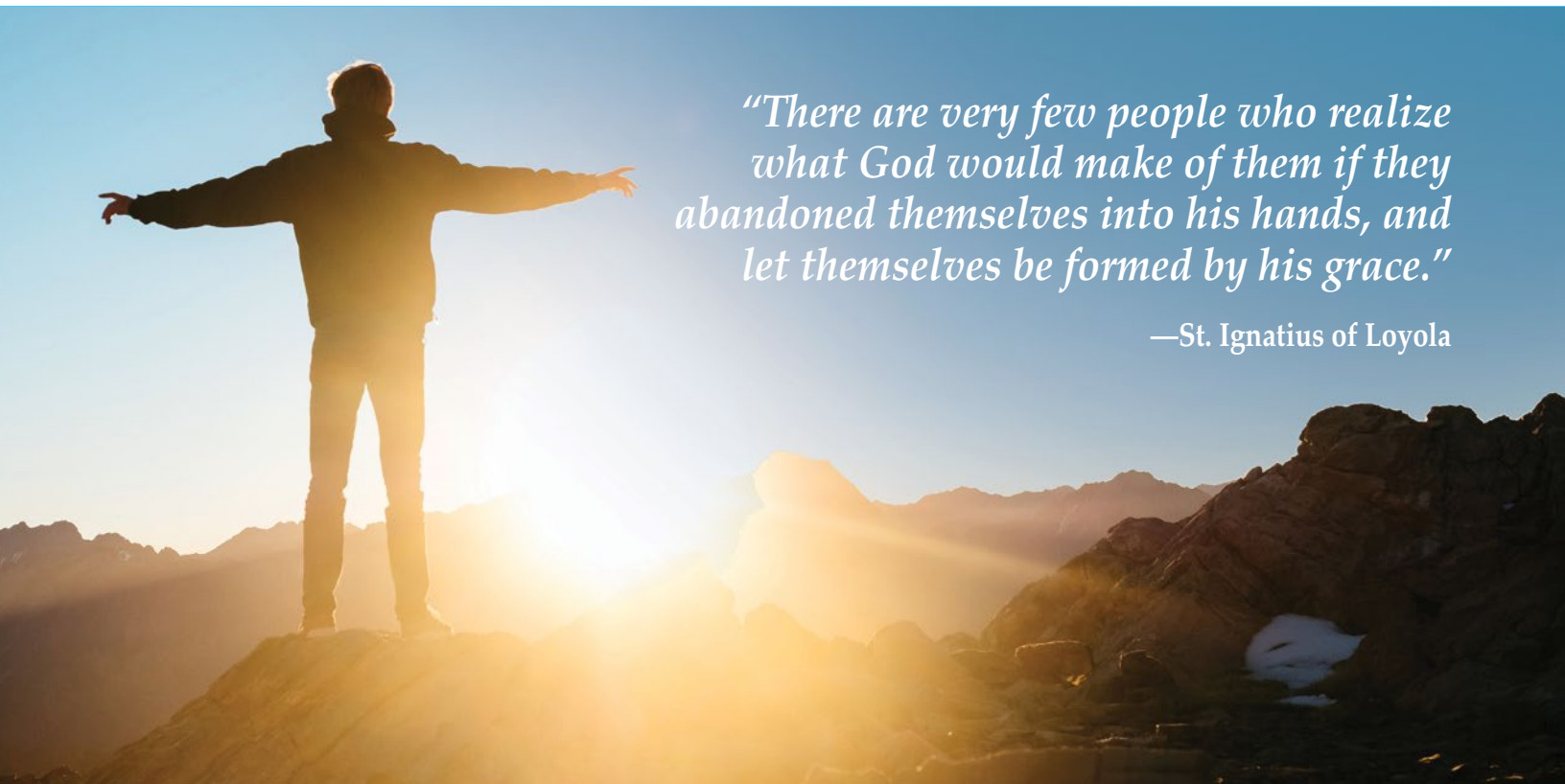
Called to Serve

I discovered my community through a simple online search. I was drawn to the Benedictines of Mary the moment I clicked on their webpage. I found in them all of the aspects of the life that I loved and wanted to continue to cultivate. In particular, I had been blessed to befriend many priests and had a desire to lighten the load of these faithful fathers. The goal of my community is to live the life that Mary did once Jesus died, serving the apostles, the first priests. The opportunity to provide graces for God’s priests is truly a gift in which I look forward to participating. The work of a cloistered religious is hidden, like the heart pumping blood through the veins in the body. Through their sacrifice and prayer, cloistered religious convey supernatural graces to people all over the world. The Benedictines strive to maintain reverence in the liturgy and the prayers that surround it. Not only do they pursue that for themselves, but joined with their charism of hospitality, they provide an opportunity for the laity to embrace that as well.

Prayer & Invitation

Please pray for me and for my fellow Labouré classmates on our vocation journeys.

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

This means that I am a fundraiser for a class of aspiring priests, sisters and brothers. A recent study confirmed that nearly one out of every two 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 nation.

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 via The Labouré Society, a Catholic non-profit that helps aspirants like me to answer God's call.

Every aspirant is in serious discernment with a diocese or community and is required to work to liquidate his/her assets in order to make his/her 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 that we can answer God's call together!

Our class video, once available, may be viewed online at www.rescue vocations.org. **LABOURÉ®** HELP RESCUE VOCATIONS®

Why is Labouré Needed?



The average amount of educational loans blocking aspirants in Labouré from answering God's call*



Many religious communities cannot afford to assume their aspirants' loan debts



Most dioceses will allow some debt but have a limited threshold for acceptance



Supported by 80+ bishops & 250+ religious institutions to help deliver their aspirants debt-free

How does the Mission Work?

OUR ASPIRANTS

Are discerning a vocation and have been selected 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, 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 upon joining the program

Trains each aspirant in Catholic-based philanthropy

Mentors each aspirant to build a unified class; each individual works toward the collective goal

Accompanies each aspirant through ongoing accountability and guidance to ensure successful completion of individual and class fundraising plans

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?

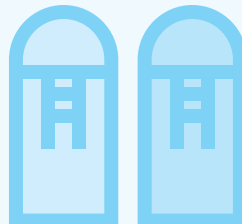
400+



Assisted into formation for the priesthood or religious life

SEPARATE FUNDING SOURCES

100% of aspirant-raised funds go to the direct benefit of aspirants in the program



One organization - two separate silos of funds. Labouré supports vocations at no cost to the aspirant or their institution.

Labouré Staff raise separate funding for overhead and general operation expenses

\$12 MILLION



Raised by Labouré aspirants since 2003

*According to 2022 Forbes Magazine, the national average education loan debt can be as high as \$40k. For aspirants in the Labouré program the average debt is \$60k-80k. 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.