

DONATE

rescuevocations.org/aspirant/William-Coupe



This is my Vocation Story

William Coupe

Community:
Melkite Eparchy of Newton

Alma Mater:
Pepperdine University

Phone:
(203) 945-9551

Email:
William@rescuevocations.org

My name is William Coupe. I am called to serve Christ and His Church as a priest with the Melkite Eparchy of Newton. This is my story.

In the Beginning

I grew up in Wilton, Connecticut, and spent much of my free time playing sports. Though my family wasn't particularly devout, we did attend Mass regularly. Upon reaching high school, I began to explore the Scriptures on my own for the first time. There, I read the apostle Paul describe his own struggle with sin, and I found hope in knowing that the answer for Paul, as for all of us, is Jesus.

I attended a Protestant university and spent most of my college years away from the Catholic Church. At one point, though, I encountered the words of Bishop Robert Barron. He captivated my mind and explained the Catholic Faith more clearly than I had ever heard before. This intrigued me and drew me deeper into Catholicism. By my senior year of college, I was back to frequenting the sacraments.

"As I accompanied others on their own spiritual journeys, I felt an inner openness to the priesthood."

—William Coupe

My Vocation

After graduating college, I embraced opportunities to travel the globe while serving others. From teaching English and working with youth in Morocco to serving in Australia as a missionary with a Catholic community and ministering to college students in Tasmania, I experienced a diversity of cultures while encountering the universal beauty of God in neighbor. My faith life grew by leaps and bounds. As I accompanied others on their own spiritual journeys, I felt an inner openness to the priesthood.

When Covid hit, I returned to the States and decided to pursue graduate studies in theology. A friend shared with me about the Melkite Catholic Church, and I began to attend there. I was drawn in by its beauty and the community's welcome. Over time, I began to love the liturgy and chant, and my heart was lit on fire.



*"...all I want is
to empty myself
as Christ did and
to be as close to Him
as possible."*

—William Coupe

During my graduate program, I taught in Iraq for a year and developed a great love for sharing the Catholic faith with our Muslim brothers and sisters in particular. Upon returning home, a friend suggested that the Melkite Catholic Church might help me to build a bridge of faith with Muslims, as the Rite is so deeply rooted in the Middle East. The flame in my heart for the Melkite Rite was further fanned, and it is in this setting that I anticipate deep joy in serving as a priest.

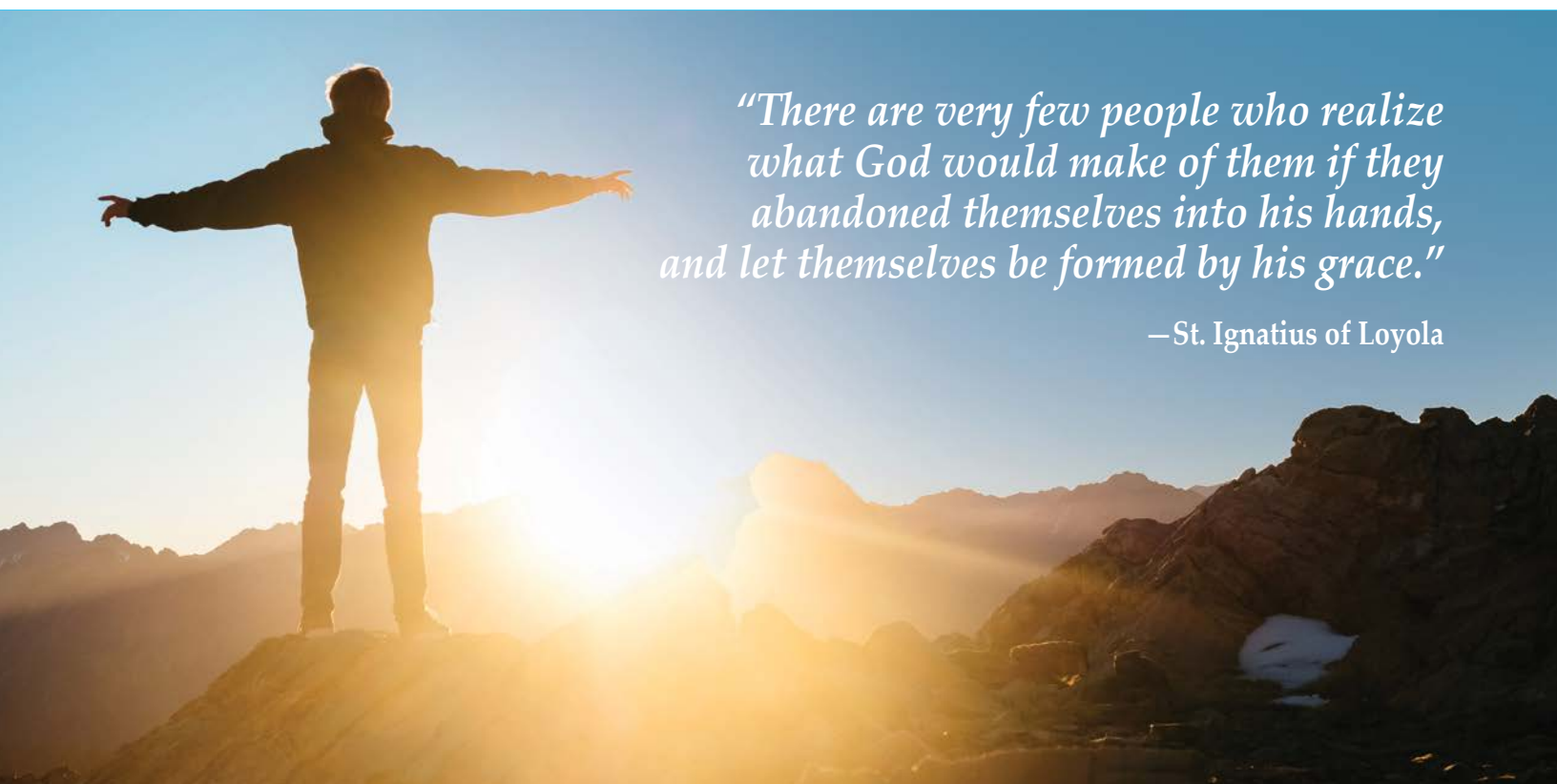
Called to Serve

Through the years, my love for Christ has grown and I have felt Him inviting me into the mystery of His priesthood. God has truly been so attentive to even the smallest details of my heart, and all I want is to empty myself as Christ did and to be as close to Him as possible. I see the priesthood as a beautiful way for me to draw closer to God and to offer my life in service to Him and His people.

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:
William@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. Many discerners are blocked from pursuing seminary / religious formation due to student loan debt - and that's not the only obstacle. Many of our religious institutions struggle to pay for candidates' seminary / formation. My classmates are discerning all over the nation.

With your help, we will rebuild the Church!

My goal is to raise \$40,000 during this current class of 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 / eparchy 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 debt blocking aspirants in Labouré from answering God's call*



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



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



Rising formation costs often limit missionary activities and care of aging priests and religious.

How does the Mission Work?



Are discerning a vocation and have been selected into a diocese / eparchy or religious institute

Are blocked from entering or continuing vocational formation due to student loans and/or formation expenses

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 educational debt



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?

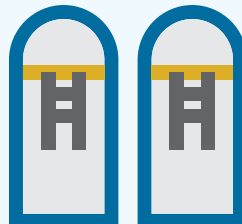
430+ INSTITUTIONS



Supported by 350+ religious institutions & 80+ bishops to help deliver their aspirants debt-free

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 425 Labouré aspirants assisted into formation for the priesthood or religious life 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 \$80k-100k. 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 program needs.