



# This is my Vocation Story

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*My name is Gavin Haut. I am called to serve Christ and His Church as a priest with the Diocese of Fargo. This is my story.*

## In the Beginning

Growing up in Jamestown, North Dakota, my childhood was filled with energy: sports, duck hunting, and more. Though my family wasn't devout, my brother and I received the Sacraments. By the time I reached high school, I could feel the Lord seeking me, and I took myself to Mass every Sunday to meet Him. I attended parish youth group activities and joined the Fellowship of Christian Athletes at school. All the while, I could sense it: the priesthood was calling.

## My Vocation

Though I felt the call to the priesthood throughout high school, I was anxious about it because I thought the natural expectation for my life was to marry and have children. I carried this conflict throughout high school. Finally, the summer before starting college, I found myself in Adoration and I prayed that if God wanted me to be a priest, I would follow Him to the seminary. This seemed to be His desire.

Before entering the Seminary, though, I decided to accept a running scholarship. Seminary could surely wait a year. While at college, I met a Catholic woman and began a relationship with her that would last two years. Again, I was trying to convince myself that marriage was for me.

Yet the Holy Spirit refused to give up on me. As the relationship progressed, I felt the Spirit tugging at my heart to return to my true calling. I ended the relationship, and despite the heartbreak, I knew where I belonged.

I consecrated myself to the Blessed Virgin and began serving at Mass. Every time I stepped onto the altar, I felt a great sense of purpose, meaning, and joy that I had never felt before. I knew that God had not taken fatherhood

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away from me in this calling, but instead, had given me an opportunity for an even greater version of fatherly love.

## Called to Serve

Every desire I have ever pursued in my life will be fulfilled by the priesthood. Leading an organization, teaching others, fatherhood, and talking to people every day: all of these and so much more make up the daily life of a diocesan priest.

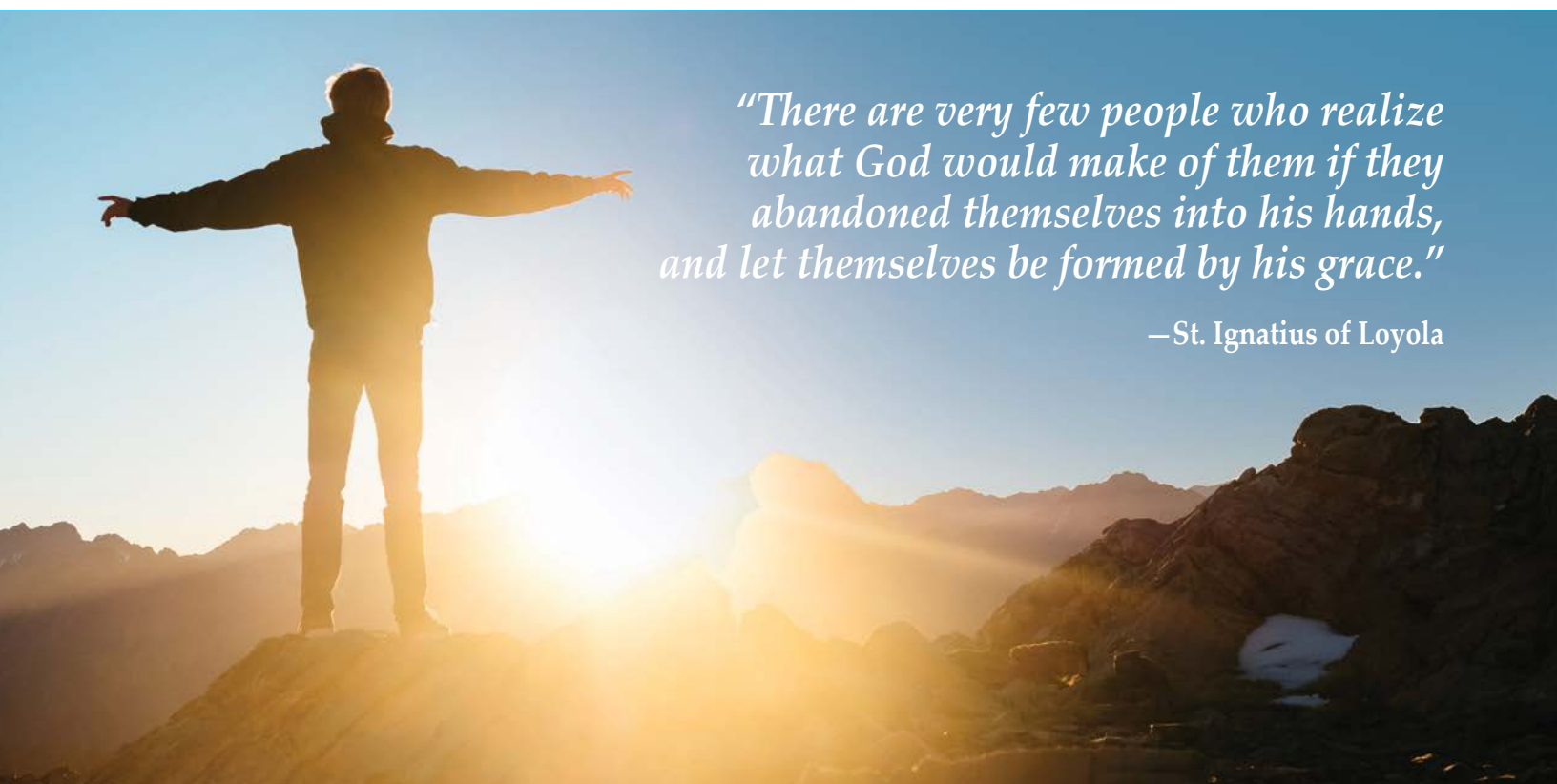
I deeply desire to serve my home state as a parish priest. Leading a parish strikes me as the most fun possible to have on Earth! As a parish priest, I'll be blessed to bring ordinary people in an ordinary way to Christ, even though there is nothing more extraordinary in the world. I'll be able to offer the sacraments to all people, while living as closely as possible to the Eucharist at all times.

I am called to encounter people where they are, and to love them in a way that only a priest can. Only by the grace of God and through the help of The Labouré Society will I be able to answer this call.

## 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:  
[Gavin@rescuevocations.org](mailto:Gavin@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.

**Danny Sanchez Garcia**  
Diocese of Yakima

**Tim Zappa**  
Diocese of Winona-Rochester

**Grant Sharstrom**  
Diocese of Duluth

**Charlie Barnick**  
Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis

**Brother Jacob Mazur-Batistoni**  
Dominican Friars of the Province of Saint Albert the Great

**Isaac Heard**  
Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest

**Basia Cđno Rozbicka**  
Monastic Family of Bethlehem of the Assumption of the Virgin and of Saint Bruno

**Abraham Barahmeh**  
Melkite Eparchy of Newton

**William Coupe**  
Melkite Eparchy of Newton

**Alexis Jodon**  
Children of Mary

**Nick Krivacs**  
Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Archeparchy of Pittsburgh

**Chad Durante**  
Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Archeparchy of Pittsburgh

**Jacob Naccash**  
Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Passaic

**Adam Marquart**  
Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Archeparchy of Pittsburgh

**Deacon Mark Le Roy**  
Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Archeparchy of Pittsburgh

**Brother Alonso Salas**  
Dominican Friars of the Province of Saint Martin de Porres

**Victoria Villanueva**  
Daughters of Mary, Help of Christians / Salesian Sisters of Saint John Bosco

**Alex Broussard**  
Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Archeparchy of Pittsburgh

**Harrison Otto**  
Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Archeparchy of Pittsburgh

**Gretchen Kleinschmit**  
School Sisters of Christ the King

**Gavin Haut**  
Diocese of Fargo

## 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](http://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?

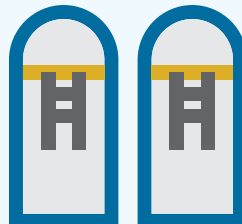
### 430+ INSTITUTIONS



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



Labouré Staff raise separate funding for overhead and general operation expenses

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

### \$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.