

# DONATE

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# This is my Vocation Story



Alexis Jodon

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*My name is Alexis Jodon. I am called to serve in the heart of the Church as a sister with the Discalced Carmelites of St. Therese of Lisieux. This is my story.*

## In the Beginning

I was raised Catholic in Pittsburgh. Though our family attended Mass each Sunday and followed Church observances, I didn't really know what it meant to live a life of faith. I loved learning and the arts, and was a dreamer at heart.

In college, I saw myself as a woman whose career would be her life. I felt driven to commit my life to something important; I longed to help people, to serve a higher cause, to sacrifice everything in order to serve some greater purpose...though I didn't know what. I became involved in cause after cause, but nothing satisfied my desire for fulfillment. Deeply depressed, I remembered my childhood and decided to give Jesus a try.

*"God showed me that  
He was the Truth and  
the Light I had always  
sought."*

—Alexis Jodon

## My Vocation

I recalled some praise and worship music from a retreat I'd attended growing up, and gave it a listen. Immediately, the Lord pierced my soul and tears streamed down my face. I sought out Christian podcasts and Catholic testimonial videos online and continued to encounter the truth of God. In a moment of great grace, it felt as though a veil was removed from my eyes. God showed me that He was the Truth and the Light I had always sought. I realized that if that was so, I needed to live entirely for Him.

I started attending Mass, making a Holy Hour, and praying the rosary daily. Soon, I sensed a call to enter religious life. I had finally discovered the One to Whom I was to give myself: Jesus Christ. My Lord and Savior was worth my all, and I longed to be entirely His.



## Called to Serve

From the start of my journey with Jesus, I was drawn to the Carmelite saints / spirituality. When I read St. Thérèse's autobiography, I was struck by how much her desires matched my own. Like her, I long to give my whole heart to God in little sacrifices, to be "the heart of the Church", and to be available to all Her members.

After some winding paths, the Lord led me to discern with the Carmel of St. Thérèse of Lisieux in Loretto, Pennsylvania. The Discalced Carmelite Nuns dedicate their lives to prayer, especially prayer for priests and missionaries; to manual labor; and to Our Lady. My deepest desire is to live a life of prayer and sacrifice, offering my life for the larger Church in union with our Eucharistic Lord.

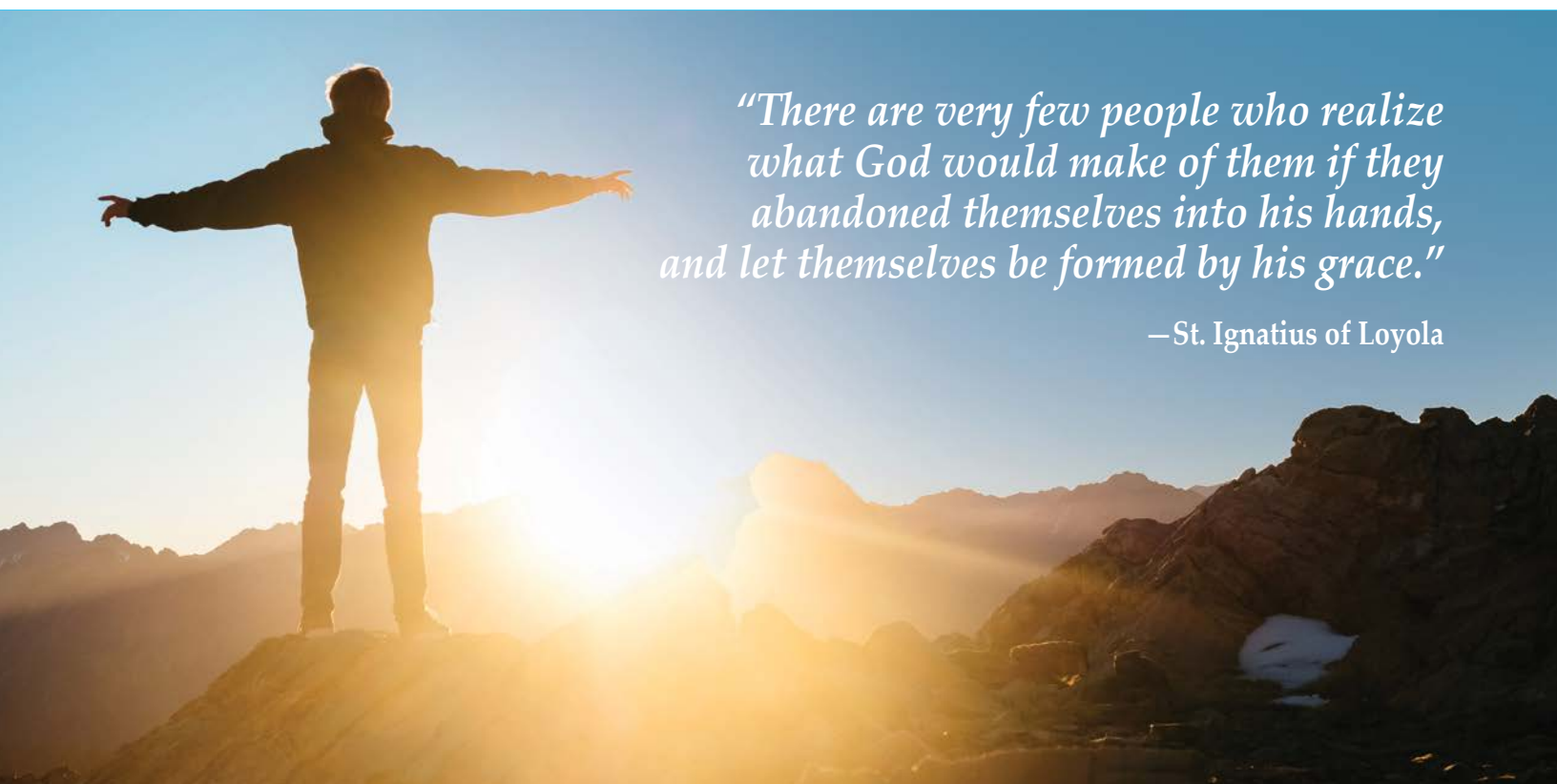
*"I greatly look forward  
to my life with the  
Discalced Carmelites of  
St. Therese of Lisieux."*

—Alexis Jodon

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

**Clayton Wise**  
Archdiocese of Seattle

**Stephen Ferrazzano**  
Diocese of Winona-Rochester

**Ezra Mwaura**  
Diocese of Kansas City - St. Joseph

**Brigitta Kaiser**  
Daughters of Mary, Help of Christians (Salesian Sisters of Saint John Bosco)

**Alexis Jodon**  
Discalced Carmelites of St. Therese of Lisieux

**Aislinn Torrance**  
Sister Servants of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

**David Georgeanni**  
Diocese of Trenton

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

**Caleb Johnson**  
Diocese of Memphis

**Enrique Garcia**  
Diocese of El Paso

**Billy Neal**  
Diocese of Memphis

**Zoilo Perez**  
Diocese of Memphis

## With your help, we will rebuild the Church!

*My goal is to raise \$60,000 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 education debt.

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?

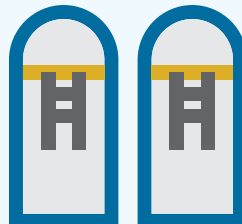
### 350+ INSTITUTIONS



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

### \$14+ MILLION



Raised by 430 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.