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This is my Vocation Story

David Georgeanni

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Diocese of Trenton

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My name is David Georgeanni. I am called to serve Christ and His Church as a priest with the Diocese of Trenton. This is my story.

In the Beginning

I grew up in a devout family. My parents made sure I went to religious education and Mass every Sunday. They also encouraged a prayerful and morally upstanding life. Growing up, my faith remained important to me, but I was driven by ambition. I was very successful in school and I had my whole life planned out. I wanted to make lots of money and have a family. God began to show me that my plan was not his during high school. I participated in a drum corps program which ended up being a bad influence. My Dad noticed my change in behavior and decided to pull me out. In my hurt and confusion over his decision, I turned to alcohol. Soon after, I attended college, and began to find academic success early on. Though I was finding success in my education, I found myself still moving back to drinking, as it was a normal part of the college culture. In turn, my alcoholism gradually worsened. However, no matter how bad things got, I never abandoned God. While I was still struggling with active alcoholism, God led me to the Drexel Newman Catholic Community, in which my faith grew by leaps and bounds.

“Christ sought me in my brokenness, and He calls me to share with my brothers and sisters the healing power of His love and mercy.”

—David Georgeanni

My Vocation

Despite being successful in classes and growing in my faith, I could not beat alcoholism on my own. I hit rock bottom and sought healing from a rehab program. A priest came to the rehab program and heard my confession, after which he asked me if I had ever considered seminary. I was surprised, and the seed of my vocation was planted.

After college, I was offered a great job in the defense industry, but I needed a higher level security clearance. I was denied the clearance, meaning that my planned career path was impossible. Everything I had worked so hard to achieve came crashing down. Normally, this would have devastated me, but I felt at peace. I trusted that God closed that door for a reason, and I asked Him what he wanted.

Around this time, my diocese had a “called by name” initiative which encouraged people to send in the names



"My life having been saved so entirely by grace, I feel called to bring God's grace to others in the sacraments."

—David Georgeanni

of those who may have a calling to the priesthood. I received a letter saying that someone had submitted my name. I called the diocesan vocations office, learned more, and was encouraged to meet with a spiritual director on a regular basis.

The moment I received clarity about my call to the priesthood, I was attending a Star Trek convention, a lifelong dream. In the car driving back to my hotel, I was thanking God for all the blessings of my life and sharing with him as I would with a friend. I had been afraid that my desire to be a priest was just another manifestation of my ambition, that maybe I wanted to do it because I would be good at it and it would be a good "career path for me."

In a moment of clarity, I realized that wasn't true and that those doubts were not of God, but were, opposite to what I had believed, the result of pride. That moment of clarity was the culmination of careful discernment and prayer. I knew that this calling was of God and continued to pursue priesthood with my home diocese.

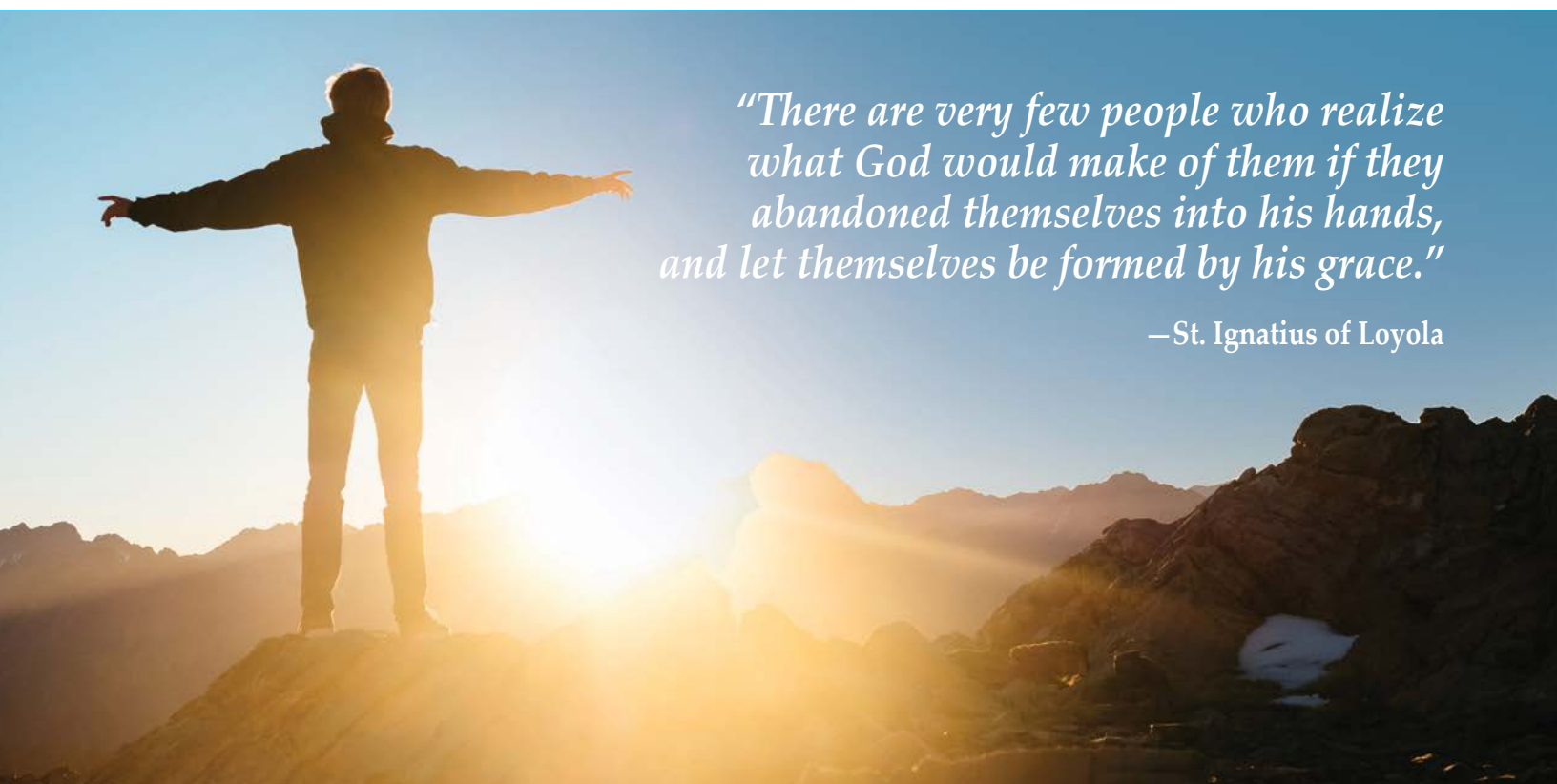
Called to Serve

It is my chief desire to give my life entirely to God to use as He sees fit. I feel God calling me to serve in my home diocese, the Diocese of Trenton. I desire to be a priest to help fight against the secularism that is taking over our world. I desire to journey with people, suffer with them, offer the sacraments, and share with them how to have God be part of their lives. It is through our brokenness that the Lord seeks us. I have been led to my vocation through my brokenness and God's healing power.

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: DavidG@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.

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
Children of Mary

Clayton Wise
Archdiocese of Seattle

David Georgeanni
Diocese of Trenton

Aislinn Torrance
Sister Servants of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

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. **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?



OUR ASPIRANTS

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



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

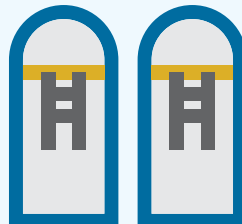
What Has Labouré Accomplished?

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.