

Brigitta Kaiser

Community: Daughters of Mary, Help of Christians

Alma Mater: University of Wisconsin-Green Bay (715) 690-7955

Brigitta@rescuevocations.org

My name is Brigitta Kaiser. I am called to dedicate myself to evangelizing young people through reason, religion and loving kindness as a sister with the Daughters of Mary, Help of Christians / Salesian Sisters of Saint John Bosco. This is my story.

## In the Beginning

I grew up in a loving, generous Catholic family, along with my three sisters. My childhood in Wisconsin was filled with energy, friendship, sports, music, and reading. I was involved in various ministries at my parish: altar serving, lectoring, cantoring, music, and youth ministry.

# My Vocation

I enrolled at the University of Wisconsin Green Bay, and while I was still going to Mass every week, my prayer life was nearly nonexistent. I found myself slipping in my convictions, and I stopped going to Confession regularly.

"...I heard God ask me to set aside my plans... and instead focus on pursuing discernment of religious life."

-Brigitta Kaiser

After college, I took a job teaching English in Japan in 2019. I loved it there, but when the borders shut in 2020, I found myself at a spiritual and emotional low. I was separated from my family and from Mass due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and my heart became lonely and lost. During this intense period of loneliness, I allowed my heart to open to the possibility of God's call to become a religious sister.

After three years in Japan, I returned to America and worked in youth ministry. As I encouraged the youth to go deeper in their faith, I was sparked with a greater desire to delve deeper into my own faith as well. Through this work, I heard God ask me to set aside my plans of returning overseas to further my language studies and instead focus on pursuing discernment of religious life.

After stumbling upon the Salesian Sisters online, I visited with them and was amazed at how much fun, laughter,



"I feel called to the Sisters' mission to love and evangelize every young person with whom they come into contact."

-Brigitta Kaiser

and joy surrounded them. I began to discover that God had made me for a purpose and that all my desires could only be satisfied in Him. The Lord was truly working in me, and, through His grace, I was able to shed all my misconceptions about religious life and joyfully embrace God's call.

#### Called to Serve

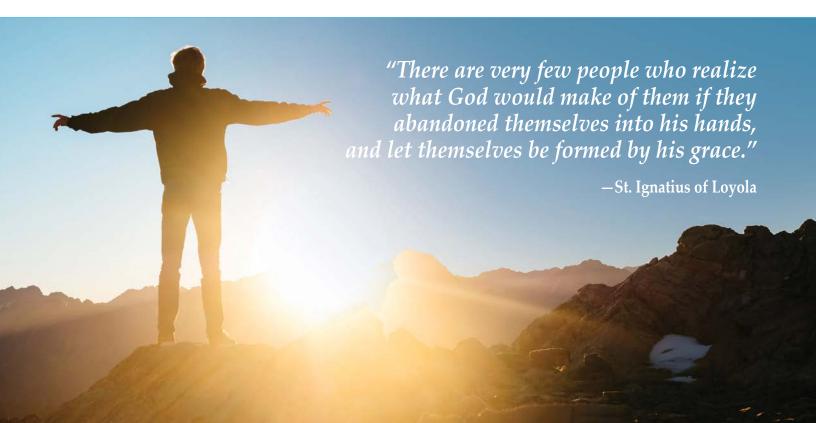
The Salesian Sisters of St. John Bosco genuinely love working with young people, and their joy and energy is infectious. My heart has always been drawn to the poor and suffering, and the Sisters really live out God's calling to loving service. The Sisters work wherever the youth are, from schools and summer camps to youth and campus ministry. I feel called to the Sisters' mission to love and evangelize every young person with whom they come into contact.

I am most looking forward to offering myself as a gift to the Lord, devoting time daily to the Eucharist and prayer, and bringing the love of Christ to every person I encounter. I am excited to help provide youth an opportunity to encounter God and discover the wonders and joys He has in store for them.

### Prayer & Invitation

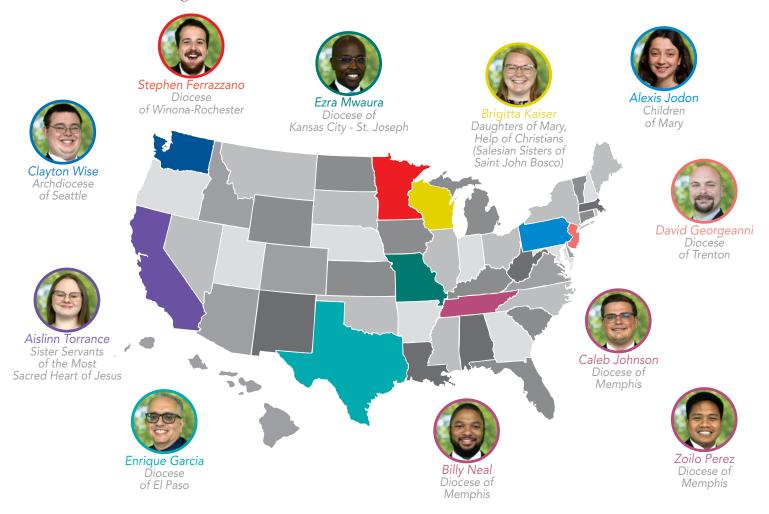
Please pray for me and for my fellow Labouré classmates on our vocation journeys.

Feel free to reach out with any questions you might have at: Brigitta@rescuevocations.org.



### 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 \$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!



# 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



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.

#### \$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.