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# This is my Vocation Story

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*My name is Daniel Adamson. I am called to care for the poor as a friar with the Franciscan Friars (Province of Our Lady of Guadalupe). This is my story.*

## In the Beginning

I was born into a stable and loving family in Ohio, and developed an early interest in history, politics, music and film. My mother and grandparents were wonderful examples of living out the Catholic Faith, and my father was supportive, if not personally interested, in Catholicism. Though I was confirmed Catholic, that sacrament sadly marked a long nine-year period of my falling away from the Church. Leading up to Confirmation, I struggled with questions of faith, but found no one willing to answer. I felt excluded, and by the end of my freshman year of high school, despite receiving Confirmation, I fashioned myself into an atheist. I became outspokenly anti-religious, as a way of subconsciously trying to distance myself from the pain caused by my rejection of God.

## My Vocation

Yet God wasn't going to give up on me. As I progressed through college and beyond, I began reading about historical figures like Dorothy Day and Pope Leo XIII, in whose lives politics and Christianity overlapped. My attitude towards the Faith softened, and I gradually began reading more from the Church Fathers, theologians like St. Augustine, and the Gospels themselves.

Following graduation, I faced several setbacks. Ruined plans, struggles to find work, social isolation, and loneliness all took their toll. I turned to the Gospels as a possible research focus for graduate school, and, like Jonah in the Old Testament, found myself drawn out from the pit. I realized my need for God, and returned to Confession and Mass. I began to pray the Rosary and attend Adoration as often as I could, and I developed a deep attachment to St. Francis of Assisi. He reminded me that Catholicism requires total generosity—in prayer, the liturgy, the life of the Church, and towards all creation. St. Francis taught me to believe in miracles again, and to radically trust in the Lord.

Within months of my return to the Catholic Faith, I was drawn towards religious life. I was ashamed, though, of my time of atheism, and afraid that I would be rejected from the religious orders with which I was so fascinated. In the summer of 2025, I traveled to Chicago and stumbled upon a Franciscan friary and church. In that first encounter with

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—Daniel Adamson



the Franciscans, and in every encounter I've had with them since, I've felt so welcomed and at home.

## Called to Serve

The Franciscan friars' prayerfulness, welcoming spirit, and generosity inspire me. Their service of the poor and marginalized through shelters, food pantries and missions all across North America beautifully proclaims the Gospel and witnesses to Christ's victory over sin and death.

In the Order of Friars Minor (OFM), I can dedicate myself totally to the service of Christ through the poor. I feel especially drawn to serving the homeless. Even if I evangelize them by simply greeting and spending time with them, I know I'll have made a difference and loved those the Lord loves. My story is only beginning, and I can't wait to see what the Lord has in store for me.

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## 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: [DanielAdamson@rescuevocations.org](mailto:DanielAdamson@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 / religious formation. My classmates are discerning all over the nation.

**Hannah Looman**  
Community of the Beatitudes

**Tyler Martensen**  
Franciscan Friars (Province of Our Lady of Guadalupe)

**Joshua Kleinman**  
Tarrawarra Abbey

**Daniel Adamson**  
Franciscan Friars (Province of Our Lady of Guadalupe)

**Grace Mombrea**  
Carmelite Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Los Angeles

**Myles Forgue**  
Diocese of Fall River

**Fatima Partida**  
Missionaries of Charity

**Brooke Dircks**  
Daughters of St. Paul

**Isaiah Rodriguez**  
Diocese of Orange

**David Georgeanni**  
Diocese of Trenton

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

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

**Enrique Garcia**  
Diocese of El Paso

**Kyle Hudson**  
Conventual Franciscan Friars (Province of Our Lady of Consolation)

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

*My goal is to raise \$50,000 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?



Escalating education costs block many aspiring priests and religious 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 LABOURÉ 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?

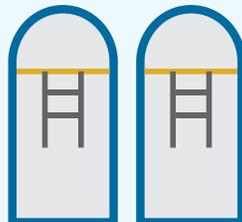
### 350+ INSTITUTIONS



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.

### \$15+ MILLION



Raised by 450 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.