



# Will you join my Vocation Journey?

| Community: Brothers of St. John | Alma Mater: New Jersey Institute of Technology  
| Email: [Br.Damian.McCabe@rescuevocations.org](mailto:Br.Damian.McCabe@rescuevocations.org) | Phone: (908) 578-5875

*My name is Br. Damian McCabe. I am following a call to witness to Christ's light and love as a brother with the Brothers of St. John. This is my story.*

## In the Beginning

Growing up in New Jersey as one of six children, I could often be found playing sports or studying. I was eager to pray at church, school, and summer camp. However, in my early teens, I formed some toxic friendships and stopped really caring about the Faith, though I never quite stopped believing.

During high school, while on retreat, I came face to face with the Lord in Eucharistic Adoration. He asked me if I was going to keep seeking what did not fulfill. With much resistance, I responded, "Ok, let's try it Your way." In the days following, I experienced a renewal within my heart as I sought the Lord in prayer, service and virtue.

## The Call

In college, I felt I needed to discern the priesthood, though I refrained from seriously considering it. After graduation, I went on mission to Honduras, where my love for the Lord deepened dramatically. Inspired by a missionary priest who gave his entire life and energy to minister to those thirsting for the sacraments, I decided to start afresh in my discernment and really seek what God was calling me to.

After about a year on mission, I could finally say to the Lord with all my heart, "Thy will be done." This brought true freedom - the Lord could finally reveal my own desires to me. He began to show me what beautiful plans He had for me.

As a Brother of St. John, I desire to accompany those who are doubting their faith, losing hope, or simply have questions. Like the apostle John, I seek to abide in Him and give testimony to the Father's love.

*"I came face to face with the Lord in Eucharistic Adoration. He asked me if I was going to keep seeking what did not fulfill."*

—Br. Damian

## An Invitation

As I follow God's calling to religious life and the priesthood, I seek others to accompany me on this journey. May we meet so that I can share more? Until then, please keep me and my classmates in prayer, and feel free to reach out to me at [Br.Damian.McCabe@rescuevocations.org](mailto:Br.Damian.McCabe@rescuevocations.org).

# 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 benefactors, 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?

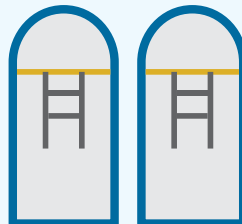
### 350+ INSTITUTIONS



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 480 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 Aspirant needs.