

Will you join my Vocation Journey?



| Community: Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph | Alma Mater: Conception Seminary College
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My name is Caleb Stoner. I am discerning a call to serve Christ and His Church as a priest with the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph. This is my story.

In the Beginning

I grew up in a Catholic family of eight in Kansas City, Missouri. Being homeschooled, most of my youth was centered around the Faith, including praying the rosary with my mother and siblings and volunteering as an altar server. I grew close to the priest and looked up to the older servers, some of whom were seminarians. These experiences laid a Catholic foundation built on joy and family.

My Catholicism was challenged, though, by the sports teams I played on. None of the other guys understood my Faith or my moral convictions, yet I was not confident enough to explain them, so it was hard to make friends.

The Call

Faced with the struggle of being a public witness to Christ, I learned that I did not want to be cowardly in my Faith. During high school, my pastor invited me to a discernment group, which was very affirming. I found that I had similar desires to the men I met during seminary visits, and felt fulfilled when I thought of giving myself in service for the Church.

I also grew closer to the Lord through the Sacraments and Eucharistic Adoration. During one particularly painful period of life, I was raw and honest with God in prayer, and He revealed to me that He was providing an opportunity for me to draw ever closer to Him. I've come to see that my passion for the Faith is a gift that the Lord is calling me to share with others, God-willing as a priest.

*"I felt fulfilled
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Church."*

—Caleb

An Invitation

As I follow God's calling to 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 Caleb.Stoner@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?

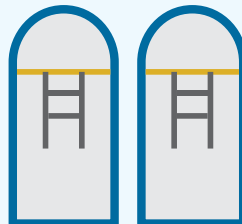
350+ INSTITUTIONS



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.