

Hi there! My name is Isabel. I'm a young adult Catholic in San Diego.



I am fundraising to pay off my debt so that I can enter Candidacy with the Carmelites of the Most Sacred Heart of Los Angeles.

My Story

I was your typical cradle Catholic gone rogue. I entered my early twenties steeped in sin, troubled, lonely, and trying to convince myself that my life was fine. But you can only fool yourself for so long. I became hopeless and full of despair - thinking that I'd never live an authentic life worth living.

In a moment of desperation, with nowhere to turn, I cried out to God in the only way I knew how, and I prayed the "Our Father." The Lord heard me as He heard the hemorrhaging woman who reached out to the Lord thinking "If I but touch his clothes, I shall be cured". The Lord heard my cry for help and began to heal me with His merciful love.

For a brief period of time after I initially reached out to the Lord, I couldn't escape the sins that were chasing me. But the Lord was working even though I couldn't perceive it. Providentially, my Nana sent me a holy card of St. Joseph. As I looked at Christ and Our Lady holding him at the moment of his death, I was moved to tears. Later, I would realize it was at that moment that St. Joseph became my spiritual father; he went to the Lord as Jairus did in Mark 5:22-23, "pleading earnestly" that his daughter would be healed.

Then the Lord revealed Himself to me, descending to my filth, unafraid. He looked me in the eyes. He saw my pain, my sin, and the state of my life.

He pulled me out of the depths and brought me back to Himself. In one moment I was completely lost and in the next I was completely found.

My life has never been the same. I have spent the past four years since growing in relationship with the Lord, in His grace and love.

Over the past two and a half years, with the help of my spiritual director and the Carmelite Vocation Directress, I have been discerning a vocation to religious life. I was just recently accepted into Candidacy with the Carmelites of the Most Sacred Heart of Los Angeles on the Feast of St. Joseph.

I will go in August to begin the next step in my relationship with the Lord. I need your support financially and spiritually to make this possible.

The amount I need is \$30,300

Part of this is debt that I incurred from owning a business, and the rest will go towards covering any medical expenses for the first 4 or so years of my formation.

If you are unable to donate, please know I count on your prayers and be assured of mine for you!

If you have any questions, please email me at: isabelessex53@gmail.com

Thank you and may God reward you!