

Please, do all you can to encourage priestly and religious vocations. Your prayers and support make a difference.



“I was very impressed by his talks on the love of God”

My journey to becoming a seminarian with the Companions of the Cross community began when I was very young. For starters, I have felt a call to the priesthood for almost as long as I can remember. At the age of six or seven I was setting up my stuffed animals as a ‘congregation’ and pretending to say ‘Mass’, with my younger siblings acting as altar servers. However, I was first introduced to the Companions of the Cross at the age of nine when Fr. Tim Devine, one of their priests, ran a parish mission in my hometown of Woodstock. I was very much impressed by his talks on the love of God, and the fact that he was able to say Mass and lead worship despite being completely blind. After the mission, I eagerly ran up to him and introduced myself, rambling on and on about how I wanted to be a priest when I grew up. He encouraged me and said, “You will become a priest one day.” He then told me a little about the Companions, and my interest in the community was kindled.

Isaac Longworth, seminarian

Companions of the Cross: 5th year of formation

Home parish: Holy Trinity, Woodstock, Ontario

I didn’t know all of this back then, all I knew was that Fr. Tim impressed me, and I wanted to be a priest like him. Thus, at the age of ten, I decided that the Companions of the Cross was where I thought God was calling me to serve as a priest. I still have the journal entry that I penned on that day, Oct. 22, 2004! I then proceeded to seal the deal by sending them a generous donation of \$1.50 that I earned from doing chores around the house, complete with a hand drawn picture and letter. It was from this immature, yet sincere decision, that my journey with the Companions began. I am now in my fifth year of formation with the Companions, studying theology in Detroit, MI. I ask for your prayers for me as I continue on this path toward the priesthood, so that one day I can serve the Lord with the vocation I believe he is calling me to!

About the Companions of the Cross: The Companions of the Cross was founded in 1985, Ottawa, Ontario, by Fr. Robert Bedard, CC. We are a community of Catholic priests inviting people to know Jesus and empowering them to share Jesus. Our priests preach the Word of God with passion, celebrate the sacraments with devotion, and lead with confidence. www.companionscross.org

Vocations London seeks to promote a culture of vocations in the Diocese of London through prayer, awareness, affirmation and invitation. To learn more about how you can help foster a culture of vocations in your families, schools and parishes, please contact Fr. Patrick Bénéteau, vocations director at vocations@dol.ca or visit the Facebook page [VocationsLondon](https://www.facebook.com/VocationsLondon) or the website www.dol.ca/vocations

