

## **From Briana Murphy to Sister Kenesis**

Three years ago, Briana Murphy, a parishioner from Olathe, approached the KCK Serra Club for help in pursuing a vocation to the religious life. Like most young people, Briana had incurred a large student loan. Religious communities and most dioceses cannot assume the large debts of those wanting to enter such a vocation.

In July of 2015, Briana addressed the Serra Board, explaining her call to discern a special life with God and for His people. She had finished college and was in touch with the Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matara in Washington, D.C. The community was very excited to welcome Briana to their group. However, they had to remind her of the need to reduce and eventually resolve her large college loan.

Briana was determined to overcome this obstacle. She contacted the Serra Clubs and the Knights of Columbus. With the prayer and financial help of these organizations, she then appealed to the Labouré Society, an organization founded by a large group of dedicated men and women awarding financial aid to those wanting to enter the priesthood and religious life but are burdened with college loans. Those discerning a vocation must join with other aspirants to maintain early employment and participate in fund raising. During the first three years of formation, they receive monthly payments against their loans, while they begin theology education, religious formation, and work in evangelization. If aspirants like Briana withdraw from the community, they must assume the payments of their loans.

Recently, Briana completed her third year and was invested in the habit of the Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matara as Sister Kenesis, followed by the taking temporary vows. Recently she was granted a visit to her parents, Mr. & Mrs. Ed Murphy, and shared conversation with friends who supported her. The story of Sister Kenesis, like that of so many, is a perfect example of the power of prayer of the Serra Club and all those who share and support vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

God Bless You, Sister Kenesis,  
St. Junipero Serra, Pray for Us

John L. Coakley  
Past President