

# My vocation is a precious pearl, I found it!!!!

My name is Juliette Louis Abi Khalil from a town called Blayble in the Elimination of Aalay. I was born from a Christian Maronite committed family. I have three younger brothers, and we were raised in a house next to the Church. This had a great influence on me, which made me well committed in my faith and loved to be in God's house. I learned and grew up, and since the adolescence I had the idea "to be a nun" that I didn't tell anyone about.

Later, I was effectively committed in Pastoral work and I spent most of my time taking care of the church and working in pastoral and missionary work. I was still wondering about my vocation, whereas it was growing day after day. I took a spiritual director, who was my parish priest. He guided me and led me by clarifying the meaning of the vocation and illuminating my spiritual experiences. That is what made me grow up and be more aware about my vocation which was transformed from an "idea" into a "desire".

I had "A desire" in searching for God and following him radically. I was always with him and following him in my pastoral commitment that became much more, and through it, I experienced the community life and work, which led to me a way of growing up. But I still felt the desire to go much more into "the depth". So I started participating in spiritual retreats about vocation and searching for the congregation that the Lord will choose me to serve him.

Later, I met a sister from the Congregation of the Maronites Sisters Holy Family, who called me to participate in a retreat on the vocation in the Convent of the Holy Family so I did. This retreat had a big influence on me and a bigger desire to say "Yes" to God and a greater clarity about the decision to enter the convent.

After a few months, my dad passed away and it was a very shocking event on my family. It put me in a great confusion if being able to leave the family after we lost my father, and my mother and brothers needed my presence.

In all these circumstances, I stayed firm to my vocation and I kept participating in spiritual retreats and spiritual accompaniment with guidance. With God's graces and strength, I made my decision to enter the convent, on the 28th of September 2009 into the "Congregation of the Maronites Sisters of the Holy family" to the Novitiate. God chose me to consecrate myself to him and serve him in the lap of The Holy Family, especially in this Congregation.

Today I live in the novitiate, in this holy time, knitting my spiritual life and my vocation to be firm and rooted in Jesus Christ and the spirituality of the congregation, through a life of meditation, prayer and work. Therefore, after finishing the novitiate, I can take my vows and go to the mission in my congregation, church and the world.

**" For the glory of Lord and the goodness of brothers "**