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## VOCATION NEWS FROM THE DOMINICAN SISTERS OF PEACE

January 2022

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Dominican  
Sisters *of Peace*  
Sisters and Associates  
in Mission

**Vocations Office**  
**2320 Airport Drive**  
**Columbus, OH 43219**

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Dear Mary Ellen,

Despite the cold in many places, we can use this time to warm up our hearts by spending time in prayer, meditation, and reflection. Do you have a sacred space where you find solace in being with God?

Let this be a thawing out time for discovering who you are, for exploring your relationship with God, and embracing whatever God desires for you.

May you find time in solitude for prayer and reflection to deepen your relationship with God as you discern your next steps in life.

Peace and Blessings,

Sr. June Fitzgerald, OP; Sr. Mai-dung Nguyen, OP; Sr. Bea Tiboldi, OP; Mary Ellen George, OPA

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## Meet Our Newest Candidate

We are excited to welcome Shingai Chigwedere as our newest candidate to enter formation with our congregation. She will enter in a few months. Until then, she continues to live in Indianapolis, where she has worked as a Human Resource Specialist for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. Many discerners probably recognize Shingai (pronounced Shin-guy) from the many vocation activities she has participated in since 2019. Last August, she led our prayer group session, where we learned about Divine Mercy and prayed the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

Shingai grew up in Zimbabwe and comes from a family with two other siblings. She holds two Master's degrees, one in Pastoral Studies from Loyola University (Chicago) and the other in Human Resource Management from the Keller Graduate School of Management. Her Bachelor's degree is in Psychology from Cal Poly Pomona in California. Besides being an active member in local diocesan and parish activities, she has served on the USCCB National Advisory Council. [Read more.](#)



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## March Come and See Retreat

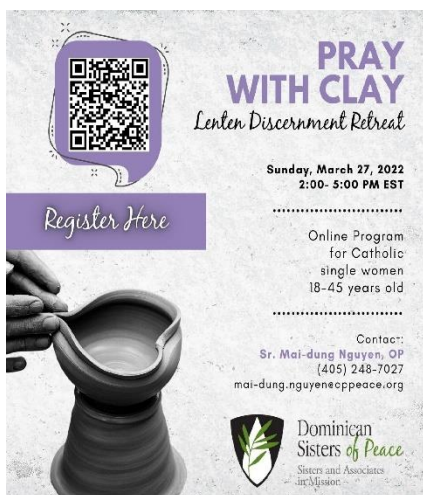
"Speak Lord, Your Servant is Listening" (1 Samuel 3:9) is the theme for our March 4-6 Come and See Retreat. This will be a hybrid retreat and for those who want to join us in person, the retreat will be held at the St. Catharine Motherhouse in St. Catharine, Kentucky.

Want to know what religious life looks like? What is involved in becoming a religious sister? How do I know what God is calling me to do with my life? If you have ever prayed with these and other "life" questions, then, come join other women who are discerning God's call to religious life at this March retreat. You

will learn the answers to these questions, and have an opportunity to ask your questions, and more.

To learn more about what to expect at a Come and See retreat click [here](#). To register for this retreat, click [here](#). If you have any questions about this retreat, feel free to call or text Sr. Bea Tiboldi at 614.400-1255 or via email at [Bea.Tiboldi@oppeace.org](mailto:Bea.Tiboldi@oppeace.org).

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## Lenten Discernment Retreat

Lent is coming soon at the beginning of March. It is a good time to reflect on your vocational call.

In Scripture, we learn that even Jesus and John the Baptist spent time in the desert praying and preparing for their vocational call. So, following in their footsteps, we invite you to pause some of your daily activities for a few hours to join our online Lenten mini retreat, 2:00 -5:00 PM EST, Sunday, March 27.

The theme of this retreat will be "pray with clay." We will share a presentation on some meanings of clay/dust in the Bible, walk with God through a

Gospel message, and participate in a guided meditation on clay. You will have time also for personal reflection to consider and meditate on how God is calling you. You will also have an opportunity to participate in group faith sharing. We look forward to being with you during this retreat. Click [here](#) to register. Or, if you have any questions about this program, please call or text Sr. Maidung (pronounced "My-zung") Nguyen at 405.248.7027 or via email at [Mai-dung.Nguyen@oppeace.org](mailto:Mai-dung.Nguyen@oppeace.org).



## Ways to Discern: Prayer Group

One of the first steps in discerning a call to religious life is to take time to pray. However, we must first learn how to deepen our relationship with God and to begin praying. Many people give up before they begin, because they do not know how to pray. With this in mind, and acknowledging the fact that personal prayer and reflection is enriched and multiplied when done with others, we began a Prayer Group for Discerners in October of 2020.

We were further encouraged by the Gospel of Matthew 18:20, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, there I am in the midst of them." It has been a graced time of learning new prayer forms and sharing the fruits of that prayer with each other. [Read more](#).

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## Collaborative Dominican Novitiate

Want to know what our novices at the Collaborative Dominican Novitiate in Chicago are thinking about and doing these days? Click [here](#) to find out.



## Video of the Month

Here is a video to help you with discerning a call to religious life as a Sister.

[Discernment Workshop](#) (full version) (40 minutes) – Hear Sr. June Fitzgerald O.P. and Sr. Pat Dual O.P. talk about the discernment process. Or, you can listen to segments of this presentation in these three shorter videos:

- [Decision vs. Discernment](#) (7 minutes)
- [Basic Discernment Components](#) (10 minutes)
- [Schools or Methods of Discernment](#) (21 minutes)

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer is one of the foundations of our life and we invite you to share your prayer requests with us. Please send them to [vocations@oppeace.org](mailto:vocations@oppeace.org). Please also keep us, our congregation, and your fellow discerners in prayer.



## The Vatican's Pope Video

We join the universal Church and Pope Francis as we pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family. You can listen to and watch this month's message [here](#).

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Learn more about us via our website at [www.oppeace.org](http://www.oppeace.org) or check us out on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [Facebook](#).

You can also contact our Vocation Ministers:

June Fitzgerald, OP -- [jfitzgerald@oppeace.org](mailto:jfitzgerald@oppeace.org)  
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