



OPPEACE NEWS

how we minister in times such as these

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Sisters Around the World Preaching Peace

In 1956, the Great Bend, KS, community of the Dominican Sisters of Peace founded the Dominican Sisters of St. Catherine of Siena, Gausau, Nigeria. Their goal was to provide health care, education, and a religious presence in Nigeria, West Africa. With the ongoing support of the Dominican Sisters of Peace through events like the annual Great Bend Bazaar and Raffle, Dominican Sisters of St. Catherine of Siena, Gausau, have continued to serve the poor and marginalized of Nigeria with health, social services, and educational ministries, touching more than 120,000 persons per year.

Today, the Indigenous congregation, the Dominican Sisters of St. Catherine of Siena, Gusau, is also part of our peacebuilding efforts. Partnering with the Africa Faith and Justice Network (AFJN), the Dominican Sisters of St. Catherine of Siena, Gusau are working to build peace by reaching out to youth. The one-day youth leadership training workshop “Youth Arise and Shine: You are the Light of the World” offered more than 80 youths training on coalition building, peaceful public action, advocacy, and collaboration. In the weeks since the workshop, the young people who attended have continued to stay in touch through a “WhatsApp” forum and have organized town-hall meetings to highlight the negative impact of drug abuse, alcoholism, rape and female molestation, and youth vulnerability to violence. The Sisters in Gusau were also part of an August seminar on Women Empowerment to combat human trafficking. Religious Sisters from 58 congregations came together to study and to practice advocacy, meeting with the Tanzanian Minister of Home Affairs and local police to encourage more protection from traffickers and more harsh punishment for those convicted of trafficking offenses.

Paulina Ogbonnaya, a Dominican Sister of St. Catherine of Siena, Nigeria, was one of the trainers at the spring workshop. She said her goal was realized because the training kindled a fire in the participants.

“It was like we were waiting for something like this for a long time, and it seems it is coming together now. We are happy because we can see it from the work they started doing after the program,” she said.

When you purchase your tickets for the Great Bend Raffle, you support our assistance to the Dominican Sisters of St. Catherine of Siena. To purchase tickets, visit us at OPPeace.org. Thank you for helping us build peace!



RAFFLE PRIZES INCLUDE: HAND-STITCHED QUILT, GIFT BASKETS OF HAND-CRAFTED ITEMS, GOLD AND DIAMOND RING AND MORE!

Living Faith Awards Presented



On Monday, September 27, 2021, the Columbus Spirituality Network visited the Dominican Sisters of Peace Motherhouse Chapel to honor Sr. Nadine Buchanan, OP, with the organization's annual Living Faith Award. She was honored for her ministry with trafficked women and the homeless in Columbus, OH.

In her introduction to the award, Reverend Dr. Renee

Wormack-Keels, OPA, Executive Director of the Spirituality Network, said that the Living Faith award honors individuals who create a more hopeful, peaceful, and faithful world. *“Those who are honored with this award,” she said, “are laypersons who exemplify dynamic faith in their lives, those whose faith is both “lived” and “alive” in ways that inspire, challenge, and serve.”*

She said that Sr. Nadine's specific service to the oppressed trafficked women and homeless in our community make her a model of this ideal.

Columbus Associates Dr. Christina Butler and Karen Martens also received Living Faith Awards, and Associate Sharon Reed was honored with the Hope For Today Award from the Spirituality Network.

Our congratulations for these well-deserved honors go to Sr. Nadine, Dr. Christina Butler, Karen Martens, and Sharon Reed. Thank you for your efforts to build peace in Columbus. For more about Sr. Nadine's work, visit our website at OPPeace.org.

Yahaira Rose, OPA, Honored



There are hardly enough words to describe the work done by Martin de Porres Director and Associate Yahaira Rose. She was recently honored as a semi-finalist in the Dispatch Media Every Day Heroes, as well as by local media Telemundo Columbus and La Grande 102.5 for her contribution to Latinx life in Columbus. She also represented the Martin de Porres Center and the Dominican Sisters of Peace

at the October 11, 2021, Columbus City Council meeting, where the Council passed a resolution celebrating the International Day of the Girl and the work done by Yahaira and the Dominican Sisters of Peace to assist Latinx girls.

We are grateful for the financial support of the Common Spirit Foundation and the City of Columbus in these efforts. We congratulate Yahaira and thank her for the work she does for our community and our Congregation.

Oktoberfest Celebrations



Sisters around the country are celebrating the change in seasons with Oktoberfest and Fall fun! Staff at the Sansbury Care Center mixed safety and silliness with a mask decorating contest, while Sisters in Great Bend and in Columbus took advantage of warm fall weather to enjoy local Oktoberfest parties.



Dominican Sisters of Peace
Sisters and Associates
in Mission