

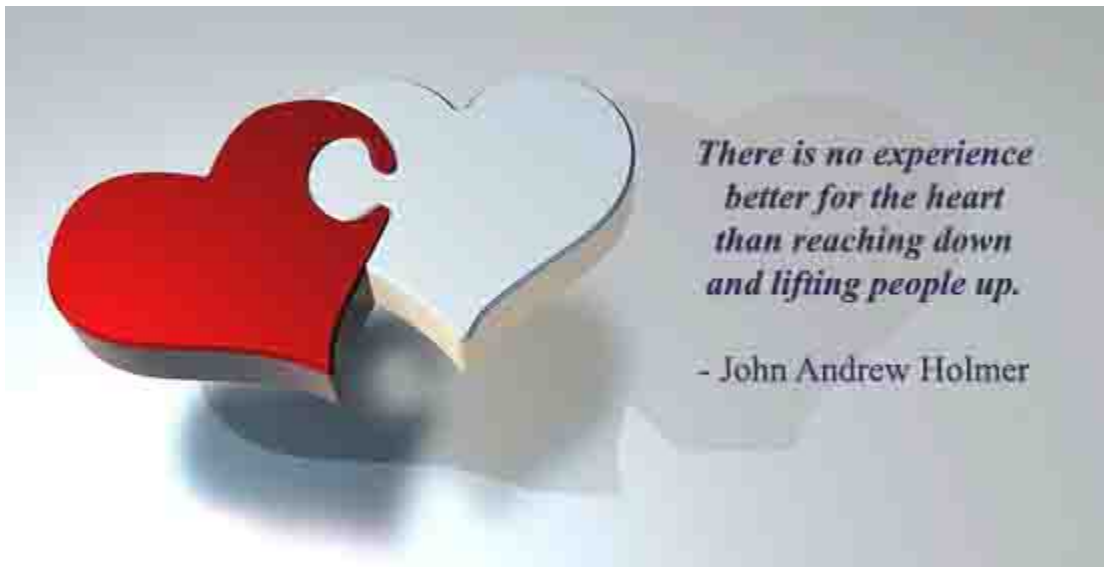
**VOCATION NEWS  
FROM THE DOMINICAN SISTERS OF PEACE**

**July 2018**



Dominican  
Sisters *of Peace*  
Sisters and Associates  
in Mission

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



Dear First name:

Are you feeling the summer's heat or finding heavy rainfalls dampening your summer plans? What do you yearn to do yet this summer? Be sure to find time to enjoy whatever summer delights lift your spirits. Explore a new hobby. Dabble in something outside your comfort zone. Expand your interests. Wander afar, wonder anew. Seek God in all your adventures and listen for God's messages to you. What do you hear? What do you see? How are you touched by God?

We hope this month's lengthier newsletter is informative for you. Be sure to watch our YouTube video on ***Becoming Dominican*** and check out our articles about our July Assembly, our Moving Forward in Peace gathering of our younger sisters, and about our September Come and See retreat.

May you find love, hope, and inspiration in your comings and goings. May God's peace surround you in your search to understand God's will for you.

*Sr. June Fitzgerald, OP; Sr. Mai-Dung Nguyen, OP; Mary Ellen George, OPA*

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## Becoming Dominican

Check out this [YouTube video](#) about our congregation for a peek into our community life and listen to Sisters talk about their vocation stories.

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## Lift Every Voice: Being Peace in a Global Community

The Dominican Sisters and Associates of Peace met in Assembly from July 12 to July 15, 2018 on the campus of Ohio Dominican University. Three hundred strong, we came from around the country to pray, learn, and reflect on our realities, to celebrate new beginnings and milestones, and to engage in discussion on racism and ways we can Lift Every Voice to indeed Be Peace in a Global Community.

Prayer served as the framework of each day and session of the Assembly. Our Leadership Team shared with us their reflections on the past two years in the context of the various narratives in which we find ourselves. These narratives included the present moment, communion, and mission. Within this context, they shared ways we are fulfilling our mission and how we are being called as a community to welcome others into our mission of Preaching the Word and Truth in our world.

We celebrated Sr. Phuong Vu's entrance into Novitiate, Sr. Ana Gonzalez and Margaret Uche's first profession of Vows and the Jubilees of eight of our Sisters. We also celebrated the beginning of our 10<sup>th</sup> year as a Congregation which will culminate in a 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration in 2019.

Racism has been the topic of study for our congregation this year and we continued that focus by engaging both an editor and a writer from the National Catholic Reporter's Global Sisters Report to speak to us about their experiences of racism and, in turn, they invited us to explore racism in our own lives.

As with any large organization, we spent some time on business matters with presentations, reflection and thoughtful discussion in small and large groups.

The Assembly was characterized by an atmosphere of communion, witnessed in everything from diverse groupings of Sisters and Associates discussing racism to joyful choral harmonies celebrating new beginnings and milestones to spontaneous applause and waving of multicolored scarves to joyful gatherings of Sisters and Associates in dorm rooms talking late into the night.

We are already looking forward to next year in St. Louis when we will gather to celebrate our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a Congregation.



*Assembly Speakers from  
National Catholic  
Reporter*



*Sr. Margaret Uche signs  
vows  
for first profession*



*Phuong Vu's Novitiate  
Blessing  
by Prioress Sr. Pat  
Twohill and  
Formation Coordinator  
Pat Dual*

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## **Moving Forward in Peace Gathering**

In our June Vocations Newsletter we told you about a gathering of Dominican Sisters of Peace to be held in July, called "Moving Forward in Peace – Lift Every Voice: Being Peace in our Local Realities." Now, we would like to share with you some brief snippets of what happened at this gathering.

We began with a contemplative prayer focusing on our breathing. As we breathed in fresh air, we allowed our breathing to transform the darkness inside us to inner peace. As we breathed out this transformed inner peace, we envisioned it benefiting the people around us. As we continued this exercise of breathing in and breathing out, we focused on this peace expanding beyond ourselves to those most in need of this peace, such as victims of violence,

separated family members, hate groups, etc. This exercise was a powerful example of how a simple act can cultivate peace, peace within and peace all over.

Following this prayer, we spent time sharing and reflecting on personal experiences of racism, both times when we have been the racist person and times when we have been the targets of racism. Racism has left wounds in us no matter our race or ethnicity. We must remember, however, that we are one body and when one part of the body aches, the whole body aches; but when we dance, the whole body dances. As always, we concluded the day with Mass and a festive dinner, followed by community time, including some excellent karaoke singing and dancing.



The next day of our gathering, we began with prayer and discussion and came up with our own commitment to take home and apply in our local communities where we live and minister. Each person shared their commitment with the whole group. As we did so, we helped each other move beyond her comfort zone to envision how to “be peace, live peace and build peace” on a daily basis.

Come and See Retreat  
*September 7-9, 2018*  
St. Catharine, KY

Click [here](#) for more details and for registration information about this Come and See weekend.

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## 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.

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

You can also contact our Vocation Ministers:

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



## The Vatican's Pope Video

We join the universal Church and Pope Francis as we pray that priests, who experience fatigue and loneliness in their pastoral work, may find help and comfort in their intimacy with the Lord and in their friendship with their brothers and sisters. You can listen to and watch via this video [here](#).



Check us out on Facebook. You'll find us by searching for *Vocations: Dominican Sisters*

*of Peace.*

Our daily posts offer you information on a wide range of topics about prayer and social justice issues, holidays and observances, inspirational quotes from Pope Francis and other noteworthy individuals, and stories

## God Calling?? Blogs

Every Thursday we post a reflection on a variety of topics for our God

Calling?? blog. You can read our blogs by viewing our [homepage](#), and clicking on "News and Blogs" on the far right side of the menu bar. In the pull-down menu, you will see our God Calling?? blog and other



about our sister's ministries. Don't hesitate to let us know what you think about a posting in the Comments section. We'd love to hear from you!

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blog series that we encourage you to read so that you can become familiar with what's important to us and what we're thinking about.

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Administrative Office: 2320 Airport Dr, Columbus, OH 43219