

VOCATION NEWS
FROM THE DOMINICAN SISTERS OF PEACE
August 2019



Dominican
Sisters *of Peace*
Sisters and Associates
in Mission

Vocations Office
2320 Airport Drive
Columbus, OH 43219

As summer comes to a close and new adventures await you, we pray that you are ready and open to embark on whatever path unfolds before you.

This month, we share a reflection from our new novice, Ellen Coates, and a response to a question from our Coordinator of Formation, Sr. Pat Dual, about what helped her in the discernment process. You can read also about our 10th Anniversary celebration and check out the info about our September Come and See retreat that is almost full (but if you still want to attend, you can contact us.)

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; Sr. Bea Tiboldi, OP;
Mary Ellen George, OPA

Novice Ellen Coates



After living in community as a candidate for two years, Ellen Coates reflects on what she learned as a candidate and what she looks forward to as she embarks on her novitiate year. (Candidacy is the first stage of becoming a sister followed by a two-year novitiate period.)

What did you learn during your candidacy period?

One of the most important areas of growth was learning about different styles of prayer, beyond the rote recitation of prayers I had been doing all my life. Over time, I discovered contemplative prayer styles that work for me, and that in turn, helped me to deepen my understanding of God and of being in relationship with God. Living in community helped me to see both weaknesses and strengths that I never realized I had. I have learned that it is true that “if you’ve meet one Dominican, you’ve met one Dominican” and I am so grateful for the unique outlook, honesty, and compassion of each of the women with whom I lived, their faith sharing, and their joyful laughter.

What do you look forward to as you embark on your novitiate year?

I am very excited about the opportunity to further explore contemplative prayer and to deepen my prayer life and relationship with God. I also look forward to learning more about what it means to live Dominican life, and I hope that perhaps I will begin to find my own way of preaching God’s word.

Ask a Sister

“What helped you discern God’s desire and what advice do you have for others?”

Response from Sr. Pat Dual, OP:

“I think what helped me discern, whether it’s my desire or God’s desire, is actually discerning the question with someone; and understanding myself and also understanding how God interacts and communicates with me. Music, for instance, is a powerful way that I experience God. The advice I have for those discerning religious life is similar to what helped me discern: be open and be able to discern how God connects with you and how you experience God. Talk to someone who is a mentor or spiritual director, and know yourself, your desires, your challenges, what you like, and what you dislike.”



Celebrating our 10th Anniversary as Dominican Sisters of Peace July 26-28, 2019

Over 250 Sisters, Associates, Employees and Partners in Mission gathered in St. Louis, MO for this three day celebration. Our time included presentations by our Leadership Team, Sr. Simone Campbell, SSS, the Guadalupana Dancers and several special Masses - including one for our Jubiliarians and another to commemorate our Tenth Anniversary as a Congregation. Amid a festive atmosphere, we took time for prayer, to study the signs of our times and enjoy each others company.

A newspaper was published in honor of the event. Click here to [read](#) it. We also want to share with you a wonderful [video](#) that captures our life since our founding in 2009.

As we begin our second decade as a congregation, is God calling you to be a part of it all?

10th Anniversary



Rooted in the Word. Preaching Peace
Dominican Sisters of Peace

Come and See Retreat in Kentucky



Come & See
RETREAT

Sept. 13-15, 2019 | St. Catharine Motherhouse, KY

Pray
with our Sisters &
share with other
women of faith

Discover
God's Purpose
for your life

Explore
community life
as a Dominican
Sister of Peace

Contact Sr. Mai-Dung Nguyen, OP at (405) 248-7027 or mdnguyen@oppeace.org
*Free of charge

Dominican Sisters of Peace
Sisterhood of St. Catherine of Genoa

Join us in the foothills of Kentucky for our Fall Come and See Retreat! From **September 13-15, 2019**, we are offering Catholic women, ages 18-45, an opportunity to explore religious life at our Motherhouse in St. Catharine, Kentucky.

This free retreat gives you time to pray with our Sisters, to share with other women of faith, to discover God's purpose for your life, and to explore community life as a Dominican Sister of Peace.

A [Come and See retreat](#) is an excellent way to learn about religious life and to meet our sisters by joining us for prayer, meals, and conversation. You will have time for quiet personal prayer and reflection, and will be able to meet with a sister for spiritual guidance about discernment or questions and concerns about your vocation in life.

If you have questions about the retreat, you can contact Sr. Mai-Dung (pronounced "my-ung") at (405) 248-7027 or at mdnguyen@oppeace.org.

You can click [here](#) to register for this retreat.

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. 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 that families, through their life of prayer and love, become ever more clearly “schools of true human development.” You can listen to and watch this month's message [here](#).

Learn more about us via our website at 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
Mai-Dung Nguyen, OP -- mdnguyen@oppeace.org
Bea Tiboldi, OP -- btiboldi@oppeace.org



Be sure to add our email address to your address book or safe senders list so our emails get to your inbox.