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## VOCATION NEWS FROM THE DOMINICAN SISTERS OF PEACE

August 2020

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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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As summer begins to fade away, we hope you've been able to enjoy some respite time, soaking in nature's warmth.

Be sure to check out the new online prayer group that we are starting in September.

May you find time in solitude for prayer and reflection to deepen your relationship with God.

Peace and Blessings,

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

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## Welcome Cathy!

On Saturday, August 8, 2020, we welcomed Cathy Buchanan as a Candidate in our Congregation. Sisters gathered in New Haven, Connecticut for a simple ceremony within the context of Evening Prayer. During the ceremony, Cathy was asked, "Cathy, what is your desire?" Cathy replied, "To live as a candidate with the Dominican Sisters of Peace, to learn what it is to be a Dominican, and to continue to answer God's call." Then, Sr. Pat Twohill, our Prioress, asked all of the Sisters present, "Sisters, are you willing to welcome Cathy, support her with prayer, share your knowledge and experience with her, and receive her gifts?" To this we replied, "Yes, we are willing." Thus begins Cathy's initial formation to become a Dominican Sister of Peace.

Cathy is from Kearny, New Jersey and most recently served as a Pastoral Associate at Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Parish in Roseland, NJ. Cathy will reside at our House of Welcome in New Haven, CT where she will be involved in ministry, study and learning what it means to be a Dominican Sister of Peace.

You can view highlights of Cathy's Welcome Ceremony [here](#) or click [here](#) for the full ceremony.



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## Three Keys to Discernment

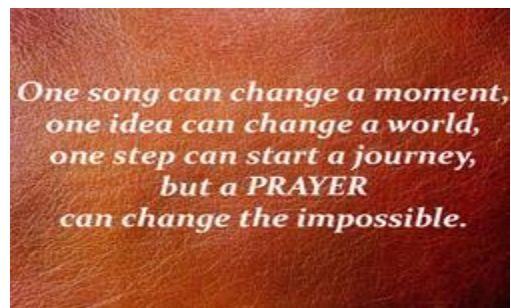


What is it about discerning a religious vocation that contributes to feeling hesitant or even fearful about looking at various religious communities? Is it the possibility that you might not fit into the community? Or, if the community is a fit for you, are you willing to take a risk to continue your discernment? In a 6-minute talk, Prioress Sr. Pat Twohill, OP offers three keys to discernment that can help you overcome anxiety and can give you the boost you need to take the next leap of faith. Click [here](#) to listen to her words.

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## New Prayer Group for Discerners

Prayer is one of the four pillars of Dominican life and is essential for having and growing a relationship with God. It is also one of the things that many women in discernment struggle with. How to pray? Is there a right way or a wrong way to pray? What is the Liturgy of the Hours? Why is prayer one of the four pillars? If you have asked any of these questions, you are not alone.



Several of you have asked for help in learning how to pray and exploring new ways to pray. We heard and are responding to your requests, with the creation of a new on-line prayer group for discerning women. Right now, we are polling some of our women in discernment as to what types of prayer they are most interested in learning & practicing. In addition, we are asking what day of the week and time is best for most. We plan to begin meeting in September. For more information, or to participate in this group, please contact Sr. June Fitzgerald at [jfitzgerald@oppeace.org](mailto:jfitzgerald@oppeace.org) or text/call 570-336-3991.

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## Virtual Discernment Retreat September 11-13, 2020

You can still register for our free online three-day discernment retreat, which is open to single, Catholic women, 18 to 45 years of age, who are discerning religious life.

This is a great opportunity to meet others who are discerning God's call in their lives. The Discernment retreat is an excellent way to learn about religious life and to meet our sisters by joining us for prayer and conversations. You will have time for quiet personal prayer and reflection, and there will be presentations on the discernment process and about the Dominican Sisters of Peace. Also, you will be matched up with a sister companion to speak with one-to-one for spiritual guidance and help in discerning your vocation in life.

**Give yourself a meaningful break from your studies or work to pray, explore, reflect, and renew yourself.**

If interested in this retreat, please contact Sr. Bea Tiboldi, OP at [btiboldi@oppeace.org](mailto:btiboldi@oppeace.org) or call or text her at 614-400-1255 and she will get back to you with more details about this retreat opportunity! By the way, did we mention that the weekend is free? We look forward to hearing from you soon! Or, you can go ahead and register by clicking [here](#).

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## Celebrating St. Dominic's Day

August 8th marked the Feast Day of Saint Dominic de Guzman, the founder of the Dominican Order. Click [here](#) for a video reflecting on Dominic's life and click here to read the the St. Dominic's Day Living Peace, and click [here](#) for a brochure highlighting how the Dominican Sisters of Peace live out the Dominican motto of preaching truth and discerning truth through study, prayer, and ministry within their communal life together.





## Living the Charism of the Dominican Sisters of Peace as a Homecare Nurse

by Sr. Margaret Uche, OP

In Scripture, we learn that Jesus dedicated His whole life to public ministry. His whole life was dedicated to helping others and healing the sick and the suffering. In John's Gospel, Jesus said, "He is the vine, and we are the branches. If I remain in Him I will bear much fruit, because without Him I can do nothing" (John 15:5-6).

The Dominican Sisters of Peace claim their Charism to be Holy Preaching. As a homecare nurse, I share this commitment by bringing the love and compassion of Jesus Christ to those I meet. I do this by being in solidarity with the sick and suffering. Most of my patients are children from diverse ethnicities, socioeconomic classes, and cultures. Their families cannot work due to the burden of caring for a sick child at home.

As a homecare nurse, I provide respite, temporary care for sick or disabled children, relieving parents so they can go to work and to give them a break from 24-hour care. I advocate for services parents need but are not aware of because of lack of information or access. My ministry also includes providing support, such as educating parents about their child's health condition and health progress, collaborating with other healthcare professionals in providing rehabilitation services so patients may return to normal functioning, and praying for my patients and families.

Just as married couples rejoice in their vocation of bearing children, I feel like I am bearing fruit in my ministry when my patients get well or when their families are relieved from their pain and suffering.

Most families are not able to attend their faith practices or visit their family members for long periods of time due to caring for their sick child. I am bearing fruit as an earthly vessel that God is using to bring caring hands and love to others.

We all preach in different ways in our ministries whether in teaching, vocation ministry, care of the environment, or being involved with justice issues. In my homecare ministry, I live out our Charism by extending the healing ministry of Christ to my patients and their families and by being a witness to the living presence of Christ to others.

## 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 who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families. 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:

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