
VOCATION NEWS FROM THE DOMINICAN SISTERS OF PEACE

July 2020



Dominican
Sisters *of Peace*
Sisters and Associates
in Mission

Vocations Office
2320 Airport Drive
Columbus, OH 43219

Dear Discerner,

May you be inspired by these words from Senator John Lewis as you discern how God is calling you in this moment in time: “We may not have chosen the time, but the time has chosen us.”

Responding to any call takes courage, something Mr. Lewis showed throughout his life. He practiced what he preached when he said, “You cannot be afraid to speak up and speak out for what you believe. You have to have courage, raw courage.” See more information about this courageous and faithful man from our Facebook link [here](#).



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*



Virtual Discernment Retreat

We are excited to share with you our next Discernment retreat opportunity. Give yourself a meaningful break from your studies or work to pray, explore, reflect, and renew yourself.

This free online 3-day experience is September 11--13, 2020 and 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.

A retreatant from a previous program shared, "This was an absolutely wonderful experience of community. It was reassuring and helpful in giving me the courage to accept God's call for me."

If interested in this retreat, please contact Sr. Bea Tiboldi, OP at 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](#).

Welcome Cathy!

We are excited to welcome our newest Candidate elect, Cathy Buchanan. At present, she is doing her two week quarantine at our House of Welcome in New Haven, CT. Cathy will be officially received into the Congregation on August 8th at a small ceremony at the house. A video recording of it will be in next month's newsletter.

For now, in this short [interview](#), Cathy speaks about how her transition into Candidacy is going and answers the question, "When will you be called Sister Cathy?"



Pre-Chapter Assembly Highlights



We, the Dominican Sisters of Peace, gathered for our Pre-Chapter Assembly from July 15-19. This was a meeting of most of our Sisters and many of our Associate members. At this meeting, we looked back on this past year while looking forward to our Third General Chapter of 2021.

What is a Chapter? Well, from our Constitutions (or Rule of Life), we find this definition:

"The highest authority in the congregation is the General Chapter, an assembly of vowed members which meets every six years to

articulate our vision and direction, foster the renewal of the congregation, legislate broad policy, and elect the Prioress and members of the General Council."

We gathered via Zoom, in spirit and intention from convents across the United States and from New Zealand, Peru and Nigeria. We anchored our days in prayer & contemplative pauses. We began our meeting with a keynote presentation entitled, "What is the World asking of the Dominican Sisters of Peace" by Sr. Mary Mahar, SSND. Afterwards, we dialogued about her comments and challenged each other to bring her words to prayer and reflection. Throughout our time together, we engaged in discussions on our Congregational [Chapter Commitments](#),

took time to remember our sisters who died this year, and heard personal reflections from our Leadership Team as they looked back on this year. Throughout it all, we had time to reconnect with our Sisters and Associates before and after each session through open conversations peppered with laughter and exclamations across our Zoom platform.

We discussed the current state of the world, our Church and Congregation. After each presentation, we gathered in small groups (via Zoom breakout rooms) to discuss the topics and to share our collective wisdom. Amidst it all was a deep sense of God's presence and the love and care we have for each other as Sisters.

As the meeting progressed, we shared our small group reflections with the whole group. Some of the major themes that emerged for us to focus on in the next six years are: Racism, Climate Change, Preaching the Truth, Care for those affected by the Pandemic, the Future and renewal of Dominican Life, and Creating a Culture of Inclusion.

In closing, our Prioress, Sr. Pat Twohill said, "Our [Chapter prayer](#) reminds us that God will provide for all our needs. Yes, as the prayer says, "We walk into a future we cannot clearly see, but we have faith in God's Word, and hope in Gods promises."



GLOBAL SISTERS REPORT
A project of National Catholic Reporter

Global Sisters Report Article

An article in today's **Global Sisters Report** relays the story of a Sister who made her final vows. Even during this pandemic

women are responding to God's call to religious life, as this article affirms: "[Despite everything, we are still saying yes to God's call.](#)"

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 today's families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance, and especially, that they may be protected by the State. 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.

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