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

July 2021



Dominican Sisters of Peace Sisters and Associates in Mission

Vocations Office 2320 Airport Drive Columbus, OH 43219

#### What's Here

Come and See Retreat

Welcome Newest Candidate

Renewal of Vows Ceremony

Celebrating Our Novices

Chapter Assembly Highlights

Your Thoughts Matter

Ask a Sister

Word Search Fun

Prayer Requests

Pope's Video

We hope you are enjoying some rest and relaxation as you take in all of the beauty of God's creation around you.

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



#### Come and See Retreat



What do our newest candidate, our recent novices, and our Sisters who will be making their temporary and perpetual profession of vows in August all have in common? They all started their journey of discernment by attending a Come and See Retreat.

Why not **join us September 10-12** for our Come and See Retreat either in person at our Akron Motherhouse or via Zoom to begin your journey. It's the perfect way to meet our sisters, other discerning women and to get a taste of religious life.

Click <u>here</u> for more information or contact Sr. June Fitzgerald at 570-336-3991 (call/text) or email her at <u>June.Fitzgerald@oppeace.org</u>.



vowed Dominican Life.

#### Welcome to Our Newest Candidate Kristen Wolf!

We are excited to share with you that Kristen (Kristie) Wolf has been accepted as a Candidate with the Dominican Sisters of Peace. Kristie has participated in many of our Vocation activities since 2018, and some of you may have had occasion to meet her at these events. Kristie became an Associate in 2018 and has been an active participant with the Hyacinth-Hohman Associate Group. Through her contact with the Congregation, she discerned a call to

Kristie grew up in Cuyahoga Falls, OH. She and her mom, dad, and sister, Jackie, still all reside in and around that area. Kristie attended Our Lady of the Elms High School where she graduated as valedictorian. She then pursued and completed her Bachelor of Art's degree in elementary education at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, VA, and in 2009 received her Ph.D. in physical therapy from Walsh University in North Canton, OH.

We are very happy to welcome Kristie as she begins her journey as a Candidate. She will reside at our Columbus House of Welcome.



**Renewal of Vows Ceremony** 

On Sunday, July 18, 2021, **Sr. Margaret Uche, OP**, renewed her Temporary Vows for one more year. Her renewal ritual was presided over by our prioress, Sr. Patricia Twohill, OP, in the context of a Eucharist Liturgy in the Great Bend Motherhouse Chapel in Kansas. It was a joyful and inspiring moment for the many people attending the ceremony. After Mass, guests enjoyed some refreshments and gathered to chat and to congratulate Sr. Margaret on this step in her journey to consecrated religious life. Click <u>here</u> to watch the video of her renew vows ceremony. Click <u>here</u>

to see her pictures.



## **Celebrating Our Novices**

On Saturday, July 10, 2021, we celebrated Sister Tram Bui and Sister Cathy Buchanan (*pictured left to right*) on the occasion of becoming <u>novices</u>. You can view this 20-minute video about their novitiate ceremony <u>here</u>.

Cathy and Tram are heading to the Collaborative Dominican Novitiate in Chicago in mid-August, where they will begin their canonical year of study and prayer with other Dominican novices.



### Your Thoughts Matter

We want to know what discussion topics you are most interested in for our <u>Emmaus Discernment Group</u> and for our <u>Discernment Prayer Group</u>. Please click on this <u>survey</u> link to answer only THREE questions.

### **Chapter Assembly Highlights**

This month, our Congregation met for a few days in a Virtual Assembly. More than 280 Sisters and Associates took part in the program. This meeting is part of our preparation for our General Chapter that we will have in April 2022. You may ask, what is a Chapter? Well, we need to begin with some background, from our Constitutions (rules we live by):



35. Saint Dominic entrusted to the Dominican Order a model of democratic government from the first General Chapter of 1220. As members of the Dominican Family, we take pride in this long tradition of collaborative government and adopt structures that are democratic in form, based on principles of collegiality and subsidiarity. This model of governance enables us to realize our mission by promoting fidelity to our charism, unity and direction for the community, and an environment of freedom for the members whose diverse gifts enrich the Order.

36. 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.

In her opening remarks, Prioress Sr. Pat Twohill shared her thoughts on the blessing of peace that we share, and how it attracts new Sisters and associates to our congregation. "Our mission is not so much WHAT we preach," she said, "but HOW we ourselves make visible the holy preaching of Christ's Gospel of Peace." <u>Read more</u>.



#### Ask a Sister

Why do you choose to live a celibate life?

We feel called by God to this way of life, just as we are called to study, to preach, and to serve the needs of the world. The vow of celibacy helps us to free our hearts, and to love more deeply and more fully. By not being attached to a single person, a religious Sister is free to go wherever God's love is most needed in the world, and to take God's love with her.

#### WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

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# Word Search Fun

What words come to mind when you think of vocation? Or, a religious vocation? See if any of those words appear on this word search puzzle we created. You can either print the puzzle by clicking here or you can play the puzzle online by clicking here. For the solution to the puzzle, click here.

### 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, in social, economic and political situations of conflict, we may be courageous and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship. 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:

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