
VOCATION NEWS FROM THE DOMINICAN SISTERS OF PEACE

December 2020



Dominican
Sisters of Peace
Sisters and Associates
in Mission

Vocations Office
2320 Airport Drive
Columbus, OH 43219

During this final week of Advent, may you find love and peace as we await the incarnation of the Christ Child on Christmas Day! We hold you in prayer this Holy Season and pray that you come to a deeper awareness of God's calling in your life.

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

Peace and Blessings,

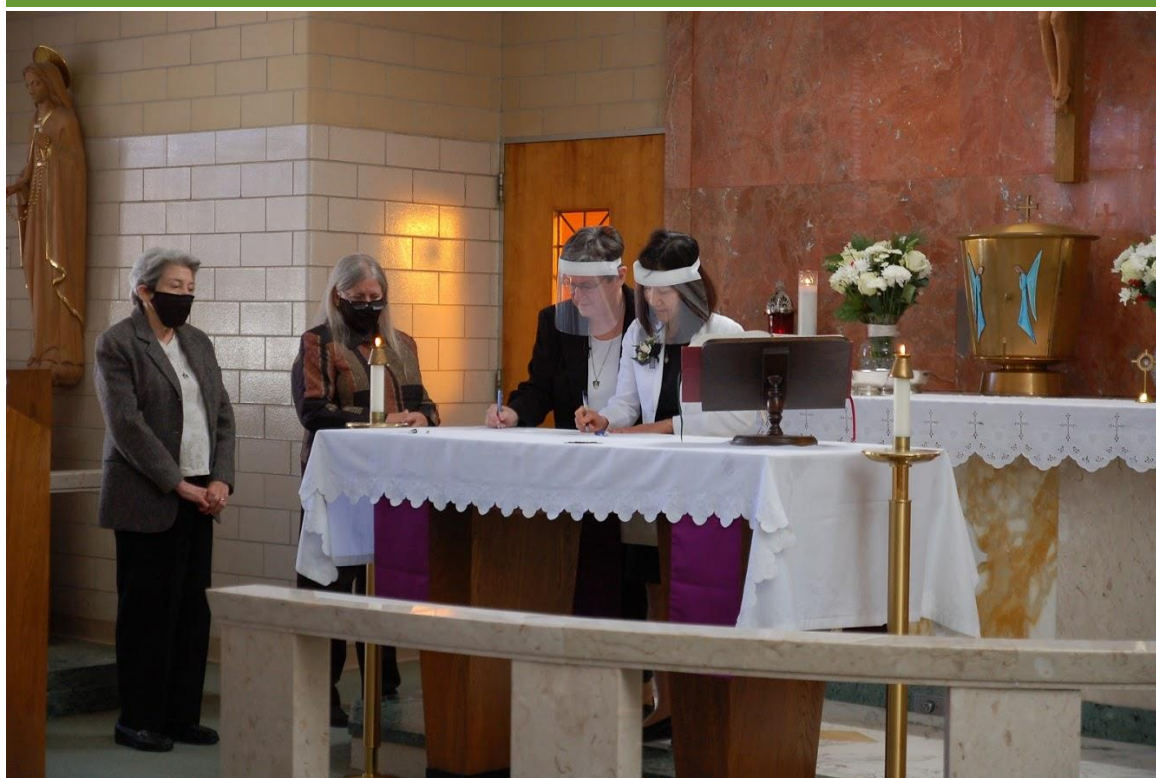
Sr. June Fitzgerald, OP; Sr. Mai-Dung Nguyen, OP; Sr. Bea Tiboldi, OP; Mary Ellen George, OPA



Welcome Tram!

With great joy, on Monday, December 7, 2020, we welcomed Tram Bui as a Candidate in our Congregation. In keeping with the times, our gathering had to be a small one and was streamed live to Sisters, family and friends around the country. The Welcoming Community (Sisters Ellen Coates, Pat Dual, Bea Tiboldi, Robin Richard and Margie Davis) in Columbus, Ohio gathered in their lovely chapel decorated with arrangements of white roses and seasonal greens. In the context of Evening Prayer, Tram was invited to say her "Yes" to this next stage of her discernment journey. During the ceremony, Tram was asked, "Tram, what is your desire?" She 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 (via Zoom), asked all of the Sisters present in person and on line, "Sisters, are you willing to welcome Tram, support her with prayer, share your knowledge and experience with her, and receive her gifts?" To this we replied, "Yes, we are willing." To watch the ceremony, click [here](#).

Tram is from Houston, Texas and is a physical therapist. She will reside at our House of Welcome in Columbus, Ohio where she will be involved in ministry, study, and learning what it means to be a Dominican Sister of Peace.



Sr. Phuong Vu Makes Temporary Profession of Vows

On the Feast of Immaculate Conception, December 8, 2020, the Dominican Sisters of Peace were delighted to celebrate the vowed commitment of Sr. Phuong Thuy Vu, OP. This beautiful ceremony was celebrated at the chapel of St. Mary's Dominican High School in New Orleans, Louisiana by witnesses attending both in person and via a live stream. Click [here](#) to watch her ceremony.

The Mass of Profession was simple, spiritual and joyful with the Holy Spirit present in the hearts of all attending and watching from afar. The voices of singing from students touched us deeply and lifted our hearts in joyful praise. Sr. Phuong's temporary profession of vows reflected the profound witness of God's call bestowed in Sr. Phuong throughout her life.

Sr. Phuong was born and raised in Vietnam. With her family, she came to the USA and earned a BS degree in chemical engineering. She has worked in various fields, including the chemical

industry, telecommunications, and insurance. Currently, she works as a counseling assistant for the Counseling department at St. Mary's Dominican High School.

In 2016, Sr. Phuong joined the Dominican Sisters of Peace as a candidate and lived in the House of Welcome in New Haven, Connecticut. In July 2018, she became a novice and moved to St. Louis to attend the [Collaborative Dominican Novitiate](#) program. Since August 2019, she has resided in New Orleans.

[Read more.](#)

Advent Reflection with Dominicans

On Sunday, December 13th, several women, who are discerning God's call to religious life the Dominican way, and Dominican Vocation Ministers 'came' together from around the country on Zoom to pray together.

After sharing Advent traditions and an opening prayer, Sr. Megan McElroy OP shared a reflection where we might go with the message of the Scripture for the 3rd Sunday of Advent. She exemplified it in the light of the West Wing TV series: how Toby used to "hold up a mirror" to the president, reminding him who he truly was. The Scriptures are like a mirror for us, and Isaiah, Paul and John from the Sunday readings are our friends, reminding us who we are. Sr. Megan focused on John being grounded in God, and then she invited participants to reflect on self-knowledge in the light of who God wants and needs them to be is "to lay claim to the undeniable truth of what is cause for rejoicing today. (...) The readings are brimming with the joy of the Spirit in us, among us, around us, and for us. (...) What we await at this point of Advent is the Spirit being born in us at Christmas, so that we might give birth to the Christ in our midst every day of every year."



Sr. Megan also reflected on ways of not letting the spirit be quenched in us. After her preaching, participants first brought into personal prayer what spoke to them from the readings, prayer, or preaching. Some jotted down the fruits of their contemplation on paper strips made out of gift wrapping paper and made an ornament that they could hang on their Christmas tree later as a reminder for the rest of this Advent season.

Personal, prayerful reflection was followed by sharing in small groups and then in large groups. The event ended with prayer.

May you continue to have a Blessed Advent and may you then have a Merry Christmas, filled with hope, peace, joy and love.



News from the Collaborative Dominican Novitiate

Novice Annie Killian writes about keeping watch for signs of God's presence in her everyday life. She notes how she is watching "this Advent for God's action here and now in our world. I look to the words and deeds of others around me who "make God's love visible" - an everyday miracle." You can read her December blog, *Watching for Everyday Miracles*, by clicking [here](#).

You can read the blogs of other CDN novices [here](#) for a rich flavor of their life and experiences.

The CDN is where novices from Dominican congregations live together in community to study Dominican life and to develop a richer prayer life. The canonical year is intended to give novices time to delve more deeply into religious life and the community's charism, to understand the meaning of the vows, and to explore prayer forms more intimately.



In a world where you can be anything...

BE PEACE, BUILD PEACE, PREACH PEACE

Virtual Mission for Peace

for single, Catholic women, ages 18-45

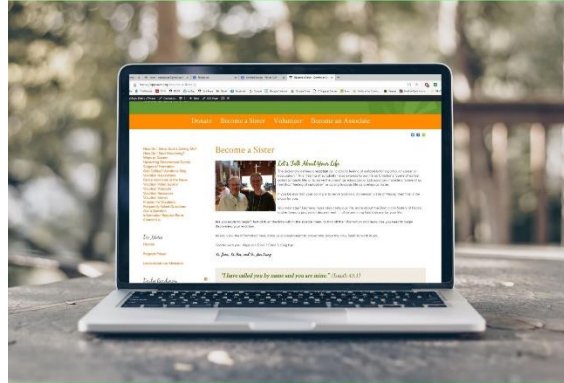
January 8 - 10, 2021

FREE
EVENT



Contact Sr. June Fitzgerald
(570) 336-3991
jfitzgerald@oppeace.org

NEW WEBPAGES



<https://oppeace.org/become-a-sister-2>



The Dominican Sisters of Peace Vocations office will be closed for the holidays from December 24 through January 3.

May you experience a holy Christmas season and a New Year filled with hope, peace, and God's blessings.

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 our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer. 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



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