

E-VOC

evoke: 1. to call forth 2. to re-create imaginatively



Sisters of Charity

of Cincinnati

CALENDAR

Jan. 11, 2015

Vespers Service for Annie Klapheke's entrance into Canonical Novitiate, 4 p.m., Motherhouse chapel

Jan. 25-31, 2015

Catholic Schools Week

Feb. 8, 2015

Motherhouse Open House for Year of Consecrated Life, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Feb. 27-March 8, 2015

Chapter of Affairs and Elections



Representing the SC Federation, S.Andrea Koverman and OPJCC Director Debbie Weber spent the first week of Advent in Zabriko, Haiti, delivering water filtration kits to the women of Zabriko and training them to be "Water Women" as part of the Water With Blessings initiative.

Gifts of the New Year

By S. Janet Gildea

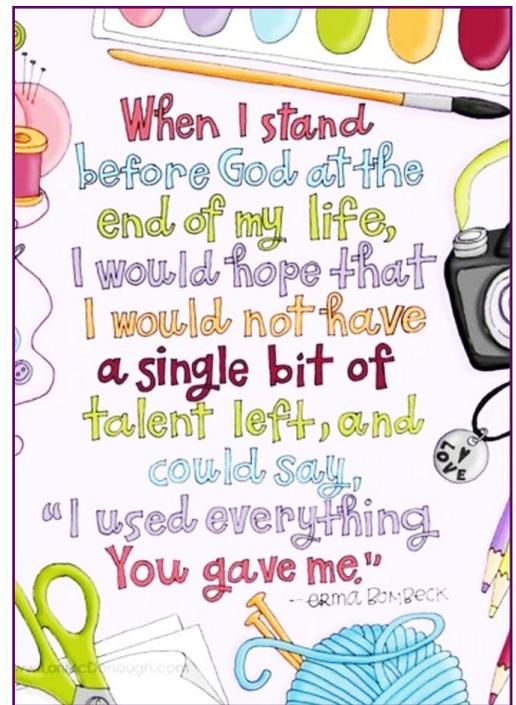
Instead of resolutions for change, entering the new year can be a good time to take inventory of what is working for you at this point in your life, what you are good at, what you are learning and developing. Whether you are considering a career change, a move across the country or a vocational choice, taking a look at your skills and capacities, the gifts God has entrusted to you, can provide helpful direction and clarity for the big questions of 2015.

Skills are the abilities you possess, developed through formal and informal study, experience and practice. There are also transferable skills that you might have developed for a particular job or situation but that you discover are helpful and appropriate for other related or unrelated activities. Capacities are the potentials, the raw materials that have real possibility for becoming skills when they grow up!

What can God do with the skills and capacities in you? Test out your gifts in the months to come by putting them to use in a parish ministry or extra-curricular activity. Are you bilingual? Tech-savvy? Good in the kitchen? Seek out a volunteer opportunity to use a familiar skill in a place that is out of your comfort zone. Has someone surprised you with a compliment or affirmation this past year? Lovely voice! Fine analysis! Beautiful prayer! Feedback from others can indicate capacities that are hidden from your own awareness - or that you are shy or reluctant to admit. How might you explore ways to cultivate them?

On the other hand, what skills and capacities are just not present in you? These are not necessarily negatives or deficiencies. Remember the words of St. Paul: "If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be?" (Romans 12:17). God doesn't force us to become what we are not, but lovingly invites us to become who we are.

Jesus saw skills and capacities in the most unlikely people. As you move forward in discernment, ask for the gift of the Spirit to open your eyes to the possibilities God invites you to consider this year.



Sisters' Stories

Sister Delia Sizler



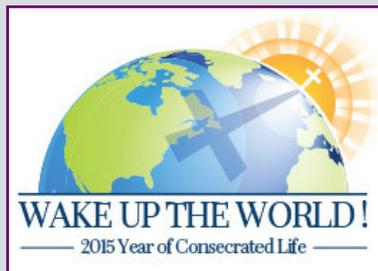
Since 2010, S. Delia Sizler (right) has lived and ministered in Juneau, Alaska, enjoying the vast beauty and the many individuals she has met along the way. To read more about S. Dee and her Alaskan adventures, [click here](#).

Future of Charity Blog

<http://futureofcharity.blogspot.com>

The Future of Charity is a group that has formed to build relationships among the younger, newer members of the 12 congregations of the Sisters of Charity Federation. As our congregations grow smaller, we recognize an exciting opportunity for collaboration! This project is one way that we choose to respond to Pope Francis' call for the Year of Consecrated Life: Wake Up the World! We hope, through this blog, to communicate our love of God and of religious life. We desire to generate hope and joy in our Charity congregations (and others). And we hope to be a place of accompaniment and encounter for discerners to freely explore what is stirring in their hearts.

"We offer to you an honest picture of our lives as younger, newer religious. And we invite your comments, thoughts, and questions. Will you journey with us? Let's Wake Up the World together!"



E-Voc is the electronic newsletter from the Vocations Team of the Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati for single women wondering what new thing God is calling forth in their lives. To unsubscribe, [click here](#).

If you are interested in learning more about life as a Sister of Charity, visit our website at www.srcharitycinti.org or contact S. Monica Gundler at 513-504-5592.



Visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/sistersofcharityofcincinnati

My Mentor –

S. Lois Jean Goettke

By S. Alice Ann O'Neill

I met S. Lois Jean Goettke in 2002 when I began formation. S. Lois was my mentor-Sister during Pre-entrance, the first stage of initial formation. At the time, I was teaching cello at Capital University (Columbus, Ohio) and working on my doctorate while she was the principal at St. Brigid's School in Xenia, Ohio. I think we were paired for mentoring because of our musical gifts – I play the cello and S. Lois plays the violin. I felt the more providential reason for our pairing was the proximity of where we lived. This was very helpful to me when I first began discerning religious life; I was able to visit quite often during the Pre-entrance phase of my formation.

S. Lois and I shared many hours walking and talking together. I joined her small group that met monthly in Dayton, Ohio. Our "Rainbow" group had 16 members of varying ages as well as several SC Associates. I loved these meetings and was able to meet and develop relationships with many different SCs. S. Lois also regularly made it a priority to accompany me to our larger congregational gatherings in Cincinnati. I always had her by my side when I met the hundreds of Sisters and Associates in our Community and when going to large meetings about things I had never thought about prior to discerning religious life. S. Lois provided me with a feeling of security, strength and offered me kind friendship during my time of transition into religious life. She also answered probably over 1,000 questions from me with never a complaint.

S. Lois journeyed with me through all my stages of formation and remains my Sister friend today. We sit next to each other in our Community music group for special Masses and though our lives are filled to the brim with ministries and activities, I like knowing we will be able to visit together when we are playing cello and violin in our chapel!

(From left) Sisters
Lois Jean Goettke
and Alice Ann O'Neill

