

E-VōC

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



Sisters of Charity
of Cincinnati

CALENDAR

Feb. 2, 2015
World Day of Consecrated Life

Feb. 8, 2015
Motherhouse Open House for Year of Consecrated Life, 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Feb. 18, 2015
Ash Wednesday

Feb. 27-March 8, 2015
Chapter of Affairs and Elections

TURNING THE WORLD Upside Down

By S. Janet Gildea

“**W**ake up the world!” This is the theme Pope Francis chose for the Year of Consecrated Life that began on the first Sunday of Advent. But his challenge is not just for those who have taken vows of poverty, celibate chastity and obedience. Each of us is called by our baptism, called by name to follow Christ in a way that turns the world upside down by our choices, our values, our words and our actions.



Pope Francis said that such a radical following of Jesus is not just for religious. “It is demanded of all.” But, he continued, “Religious follow the Lord in a special way, in a prophetic way. It is this witness that I expect of you. Religious should be men and women able to wake the world up.” How do you feel about living a prophetic life? Is it a challenge that you find intriguing, exciting, or frightening? This is a good question for your discernment. We all know the stories of call from the New Testament that resulted in leaving fishing nets and father at the seaside or selling all to follow the one who had no place to lay his head. Definitely a wake-up call for those first disciples as well as their families and co-workers!

Not many of us are anxious to make such a break with all we hold dear to embrace a life of uncertainty and sacrifice. But if in your deepest self these words find the slightest resonance or hint of joy, you might want to pay closer attention during this Year of Consecrated Life. Take these words of Pope Francis to heart:

“In calling you God says to you: ‘You are important to me, I love you, I am counting on you.’ Jesus says this to each one of us! Joy is born from that! The joy of the moment in which Jesus looked at me. Understanding and hearing this is the secret of our joy. Feeling loved by God, feeling that for him we are not numbers but people; and we know that it is he who is calling us.”

Pay attention. Wake up to the deep joy that is a sign you are on the right path. Then you will find the courage to live the prophetic call that is yours by baptism.

Join us for an
Open House
on Sunday, Feb. 8
from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
at the SC Motherhouse.

Visit with Sisters and Associates;
learn more about the ministries
of the SCs, and enjoy a guided
tour of the Motherhouse.
For more information, [click here.](#)



Future of Charity Blog

“Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord”



Members of the Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati welcomed Annie Klapheke into the Canonical Novitiate during a ceremony January 11, 2015, in the Immaculate Conception Chapel at the Mount St. Joseph Motherhouse. Read more about S. Annie's joy, hope and excitement as she begins her new life as a Novice at the Future of Charity Blog at <http://futureofcharity.blogspot.com>.

Wake Up the World!

www.youtube.com/watch?v=2bgvp-3eQsw

The monks of St. Benedict Abbey in Atchison, Kansas, put together a short video reflection on the call to monastic life that is helpful for anyone seeking to follow Christ in a radical way. Brief vocation stories are punctuated with information about the rule of St. Benedict that still guides one of the major movements of religious life, i.e. monasticism.

For the full text of the apostolic letter of Pope Francis on the Year of Consecrated Life: http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_letters/documents/papa-francesco-lettera-ap_20141121_lettera-consacraati.html



My Mentor –

S. Julia Mary Deiters

By S. Donna Steffen

As a mere 21-year-old, I was sent to Seton High School in Cincinnati for my math student teaching with S. Julia Mary Deiters as my cooperating teacher. I most remember her trust in me. Julia Mary never hovered over me. Instead, her trust that I would do well, gave me the confidence that I could indeed be a good teacher.

After this semester of student teaching, I stayed on as a teacher. Besides other classes, Julia Mary created a class for me to teach by separating into two the brightest class of seniors taking math. She gave me the top half to teach. Her confidence in me somehow got me through.

Julia Mary always looked ahead. Early on we bought our first computer at Seton. She asked me to teach a programming class. This was a new endeavor for sure. Even at this early stage of computers, she realized their importance. When Julia Mary left Seton, she taught math in a GED program. Again, she was a maverick in this emerging area of education.

All the math faculty, though diverse, respected Julia Mary, probably because of her respect for each one. She allowed us, each in our own style, to give the best to our students. Julia Mary understood people, and was quite perceptive.

When I was ready to profess Vows, I asked her to write a letter of recommendation. In her letter she described some of my inner desire to be a vehicle for the students to know God's love for them. She was right on target. A few years ago Julia Mary found a copy of the letter she wrote and shared it with me. These early experiences in teaching helped me learn to trust myself. I am grateful.

(From left) Sisters
Julia Mary Deiters
and Donna Steffen



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.



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