

# E-VōC

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



*Sisters of Charity*  
of Cincinnati

## CALENDAR

### May 16, 2015

Garlic Mustard Pull, 9 a.m.,  
Mount St. Joseph Motherhouse

### May 24, 2015

Feast of Pentecost

### May 31, 2015

Feast of the Visitation

### June 13, 2015

Year of Consecrated Life Service  
Outing, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

### June 19, 2015

Year of Consecrated Life Service  
Outing, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

### June 27, 2015

Tracy Kemme and Andrea  
Koverman pronounce first vows,  
4 p.m., Motherhouse chapel

### August 4-8, 2015

Catholics on Call Young Adult  
Conference, Catholic Theological  
Union, Chicago, Illinois



Congratulations to S. Paula Gonzalez, who was honored as a *Cincinnati Enquirer* Woman of the Year at the annual recognition luncheon April 22. S. Paula was one of 10 local women to receive this year's honor for their contributions to the community.

## The Importance of Peers

By S. Janet Gildea

**D**iscernment is mostly a very personal process. Each of us is faced with big choices and major decisions that, while they certainly impact other persons, are experienced primarily from our unique individual perspective. In discernment we open up the process of our decision-making to the Holy Spirit for guidance. The God who created us knows our hearts and exactly the way to get through to us – because God “gets” us. As the psalmist says, “You know me through and through, from having watched my bones take shape, while I was knit together in my mother’s womb” (Ps. 139:14-15).

But going it alone with God is not without risk. “How do I know if it’s God or if it’s just me asserting what I want?” is a frequent question from all who discern. That’s where spiritual direction is crucial. A trained director listens along with you and helps to sift through your experiences of God in prayer, your emotions, questions, the stuff of which your life is made, all in order to sense where the Spirit is leading you. The wisdom and insights of an experienced director help you to trust the leanings of your heart.

Another important resource can be the experience of others who are currently on the journey of discernment. It might seem obvious that talking with someone who is still finding their way can be encouraging. But daring to say out loud to a peer the things that are bubbling up in your heart has a very different kind of benefit. In vocation discernment, for example, with someone nearer to your own age you can share concerns about celibacy, small numbers, big responsibilities, and the absence of entire “middle” generations; the expectation of being understood would be very different from that of a “wisdom figure.”

Where can you find these peers? Vocation directors can provide contacts, of course! But there are also plenty of resources available online. The Future of Charity Blog (see Page 2) offers some options. Giving Voice (for Sisters and discerners in their 20s and 30s) has a Facebook page that could give you some leads. The Catholics on Call Young Adult Conference each August is a place to meet up with others discerning a call to serve the Church as lay ministers or in consecrated life. Universities with graduate studies in pastoral ministry often have younger spiritual directors-in-training. And there is a generation of young adults who have been serving the Church for years already, creating online resources like this podcast from God In All Things, interviewing Becky Eldredge, who speaks about her ministry as a spiritual director, writer, wife and mother of three (<http://godinallthings.com/2015/04/13/interview-with-becky-eldredge/>).

You don’t have to go it alone on the path of discernment!



# Future of Charity Blog

## “What’s Not to Love?”



For World Day of Prayer for Vocations on April 26, Future of Charity blog contributors celebrated their vocation to religious life by saying what they loved about being newer, younger Sisters. View their responses at the Future of Charity Blog at <http://futureofcharity.blogspot.com/>.

## Spotlight on Song

Audrey Assad is a singer-songwriter whose music is beautiful for prayer, reflection and inspiration. Raised in an evangelical Protestant family, she became a Catholic in 2007 and sang back-up vocals for Matt Maher before successfully launching her own career. Her most recent release is “Death Be Not Proud”. Here is a sample of her work, from 2010, for all who long to rest in God: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UuhYZrn4flo>.



E-Vôc 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](http://www.srcharitycinti.org) or contact S. Monica Gundler at 513-504-5592.

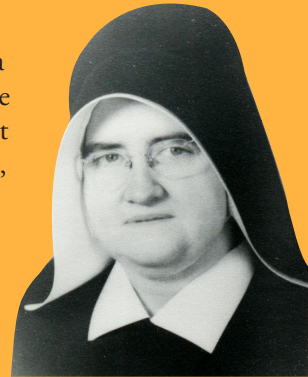
 Visit us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/sistersofcharityofcincinnati](http://www.facebook.com/sistersofcharityofcincinnati)

## My Mentors – Sisters Susanna Staley and Sarah Mosgrove

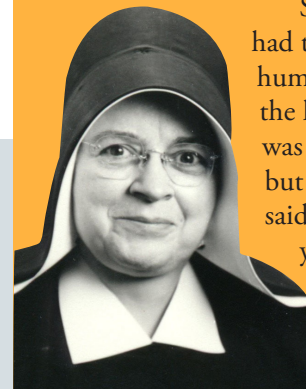
By S. Cookie Crowley

I met S. Susanna Staley when she was principal at St. Leo’s in Detroit, Michigan. It was a very poor but wonderful place to minister; I loved it. S. Susanna was very patient and very kind.

The second year I was there she got a catastrophic illness and she taught me so much about humility, which I did not have much of. She handled the illness with grace and was able to identify with people who were sick. She was always so funny and she never lost her sense of humor. I will never forget those lessons.



S. Susanna Staley



S. Sarah Mosgrove

S. Sarah Mosgrove had the best sense of humor. This was in the late 1960s and I was usually in trouble, but Sarah always said to me, “Keep your spark alive.

Get through whatever you can get through no matter how much trouble you get in.” Sarah did so many things with me. She loved to ride in cars, so we always had to get lost and stop for ice cream somewhere.

These women taught me humility and to never lose my sense of humor.