

# E-VōC

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



*Sisters of Charity*  
of Cincinnati

## CALENDAR

**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

**July 4, 2015**

Installation of new SC Leadership Team, 4 p.m., Motherhouse chapel

**August 4-8, 2015**

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



Sisters Tracy Kemme (left) and Andrea Koverman (right) will pronounce first vows at a Mass on Saturday, June 27 in the Motherhouse chapel. All are invited to participate in the celebration.

## Trusting in God

By S. Janet Gildea

Walking through a park at the San Francisco waterfront, I noticed a large tree with a temporary fence placed around the circumference of the span of its branches. I laughed out loud when I saw the warning signs placed on the fence: Danger: Giant seed pod falling from tree. The accompanying diagram left me in hysterics! Of course I looked up to see the potentially dangerous seed pods but I saw nothing even close to the size depicted in the warning sign. Reviewing my photos later in the day I laughed again but then I wondered, “What dangers, real or perceived, cause me to limit my possibilities or alter my course when I am discerning God’s call?”

Dangers in discernment can include: perfectionism (fear of making a wrong decision), consumerism (fear that something better might come along later) and an excessively guarded heart (fear of losing control). Do any of these giant seed pods threaten to throw your discernment process off course?

Making the right decision is not exactly the goal of discernment. We desire to make a choice guided by the Spirit. We pray for the illumination of our heart’s desire by the indwelling Spirit that is ours through the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. Once (and again and again) we open our process of decision-making to the influence of the Spirit we can breathe easy. God is perfect. We are not. God will make the best of the choices we make with the intention of openness to the Spirit.

Sometimes inability to bring discernment to a point of decision indicates an unwillingness to limit options. It is the paralysis of too many choices and wanting to have them all. Maybe the next chocolate in the box has my favorite filling? What might I miss if I make this choice now? This can be really tough because it challenges me to answer the question, “What am I waiting for?”

Of course trusting God is a lifelong process. Discernment depends upon being able to develop a docile heart, to allow God access to the keys that lock up the most dangerous, fragile and precious parts of me. “With a willing spirit uphold me” the psalmist prays (Ps.51:12). Do I want a willing heart? Growing a heart that is soft and pliable in God’s hands, that trusts the artisan’s touch, allows me to become the person I was created to be. When I trust that God will reverence and care for me even better than I think I can, I will be able to walk in freedom, fearing neither “the dark of night, nor the arrow that flies by day”... nor the giant seed pods that fall from the trees!



# Future of Charity Blog



The Future of Charity Blog is a collaboration among younger, newer vowed members or women in formation with religious congregations from the Sisters of Charity Federation. The purpose of the blog is to communicate the women's love of God and of religious life, drawing others more deeply into "the beauty of God." The blog also serves as a place of accompaniment and encounter for discerners to freely explore what is stirring in their hearts, offering an honest picture of the lives of younger, newer religious. Check it out at <http://futureofcharity.blogspot.com/>.

## Music for the Discerning Soul: Audrey Assad

Mellow and reflective, this Catholic singer/songwriter draws on Scripture, poetry and traditional hymns to create a peaceful space. It is hard to choose just one song to recommend so this is a link to a playlist for her 2013 album "Fortunate Fall" on YouTube. Favorites for discerners might be *You Speak* and *Lead Kindly Light* – but have a listen and decide for yourself!

[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLsVoIP7pW8g8Pbi9eAb\\_XdFiesyXYGqUq](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLsVoIP7pW8g8Pbi9eAb_XdFiesyXYGqUq)



## My Mentor – S. Jean Patrice Harrington

By S. JoAnne Termini



(From left) Sisters Jean Patrice Harrington and JoAnne Termini

When I entered the Community, I was missioned to Loyola School in Denver, Colorado, to teach the fourth grade. I knew nothing about teaching. S. Jean Patrice Harrington mentored me along the way. I had no educational background and she would not only help me create lesson plans but give me creative ideas on how to carry my plans through. She was helpful, encouraging, creative and involved the whole school with her musical talents. It was so joyful.

Jean was also kind enough to correct my English, which I always appreciated. I have been very conscious of my grammar since, and I have her to thank. I had never been interested in teaching, but they needed a fourth grade teacher, so that's where I was sent. It was a wonderful assignment and I lived with delightful people in a beautiful part of the country. I was so grateful that Jean gave so much of her time to help me.

Getting one started in the teaching profession in such a positive way was what truly made an impression on me. Jean showed me that it wasn't quite as difficult as I initially thought it was. She led me to love teaching for the 15 years that I taught.

*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.

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