



NRVC

National Religious
Vocation Conference



NRVC BOARD MEMBERS

APRIL 2010

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

BY BROTHER PAUL BEDNARCZYK, CSC

Dear NRVC Member,

Although there still is a nip in the Chicago air, you can feel spring slowly emerging . . . sunny, blue skies, a crocus, and a hint of green. After a long winter, this promise of new life is most welcome.

NRVC BOARD MEETS IN OHIO

The NRVC Board conducted its spring meeting at Bethany House on the motherhouse grounds of the Sisters of Notre Dame in Chardon, OH. I would like to extend special thanks to **Sister Katherine Hine, SND** and to all the Sisters of Notre Dame who made us feel so comfortable and welcome throughout our stay.

We chose to meet in suburban Cleveland because it allowed us to meet with the NRVC members and other support people who will be assisting us in preparations for our 2010 convocation. It also provided an opportunity for the board to tour the InterContinental Hotel property and the gathering space for the convocation.

The board is grateful to **Father Michael K. Gurnick**, coordinator of vocations to the diocesan priesthood for the Diocese of Cleveland, for hosting our planning meeting at the diocesan pastoral

center. Father Gurnick also kindly invited the meeting participants to vespers and supper with the seminary community. Everyone agreed that there was great energy, excitement, and creativity flowing around the conference table, so I am confident that this year's convocation will be an event not to be missed.

Unlike previous convocations, this year our conference space will be an amphitheater with individual microphones, desks, and chairs for each participant. This "United Nations-like" environment will be most conducive to our theme, "Casting the Net, Vocation Ministry in a Global Church and World." Our keynote speakers will treat the theory, theology, and spirituality posed by the opportunities and challenges of vocation ministry in a changing global reality.

We invite vocation ministers, religious leadership, formation directors, communication directors, and all those who share responsibility and concern for future membership in religious life to attend this convocation. With quality input, diverse workshops, theological reflection, and celebrations of common prayer and Eucharist, I am confident that all will be inspired to "cast our nets" wider to a new generation and world full of future hope and possibilities.

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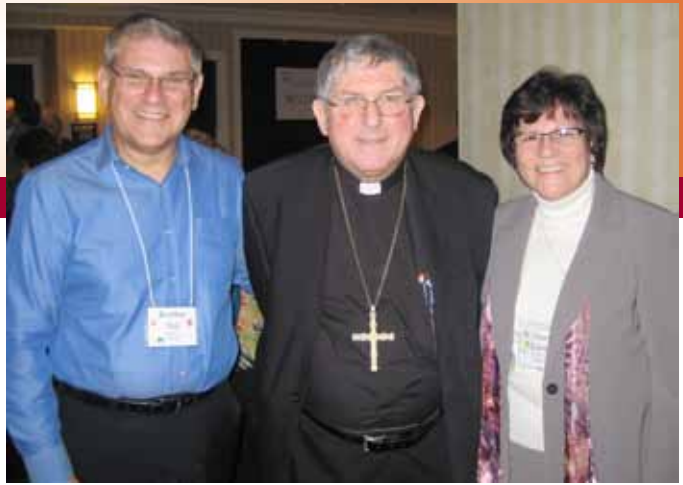


PLANNING AND STRATEGIZING—The NRVC Board gathered recently in Chardon, OH. Taking time out for a smile are (top row) Sisters Marcy Romine, OSF; Margaret Michael Gillis, FSP; Angele Lewis, SNDdeN; Barb Kwiatkowski, OSF; Father Kevin DePrinzio, OSA; Sister Charlene Diorka, SSJ; and Father Marty Lukas, OSFS. In the bottom row are Father Anthony Vinson, OSB; Brother Paul Bednarczyk, CSC; Sister Josita Colbert, SNDdeN; and Maryellen Glackin.



SEND US YOUR PHOTOS

Share your vocation efforts with others in this ministry. Send news and photos to the editor, Carol Schuck Scheiber, at cscheiber@nrvc.net.



CANADA CONNECTIONS— Above, Brother Paul Bednarzyk, CSC and Sister Charlene Diorka, SSJ take a moment with Most Reverend Thomas Collins, archbishop of Toronto. At left, Sister Kathleen Kelly, SSS, board president of Canada's National Association of Vocation and Formation Directors, makes a point while the group's executive director, Sister Maureen Baldwin, CND looks on.

Daughters of St. Paul, and the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, for their generous support of their service.

STRATEGIC PLANNING CONTINUES

Following through on the work begun in October, the board continues to address strategically the emerging needs of NRVC as we look to the next three years of operation. Our areas of attention include the mission of the organization, revenue enhancement, program development, internal office operations, and regional strengthening. Our goal is to complete this plan by convocation so we can present it to the membership at the business meeting. Of course we will keep all NRVC members abreast of our efforts as we continue this process.

NRVC GIVES WORKSHOPS AT CANADIAN VOCATION CONVENTION

Both Sister Charlene Diorka, SSJ and I were privileged to attend the biennial convention of the Canadian National Association of Vocation and Formation Directors (NAVFD), which was held at the Marriott Courtyard Hotel in Toronto, Ontario from March 14-17. Gathering under the theme, "Let Your Life Speak . . . Vocation Alive," approximately 200 vocation and formation ministers from throughout Canada attended. I presented the workshop "Skills for Healthy Celibate Living," and Sister Charlene treated the topic of "Women in Vocation Ministry" in a separate workshop. I also presented to the assembly the results of our NRVC/CARA Study on Recent Vocations to Religious Life. Although our study focused solely on vocations in the United States, many of the trends highlighted in the study transfer across the northern border.

Further information regarding Convocation 2010—as well as information on workshop offerings this year—may be found in our updated NRVC Workshops and Programs brochure, which can be downloaded from the NRVC homepage at www.nrvc.net. While online registration is now available for all of our summer programs in Chicago, convocation registration will be available later in the spring.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS APPOINTED

I am pleased to announce that the NRVC Board has appointed the following two new members for the coming year.

Brother William Timothy Raible, MM professed his final oath as a Maryknoll Missioner in 1982. Brother Tim ministered for 17 years in both the Philippines and Kenya as a counselor, campus minister, and youth and young adult minister. He returned to the United States in 1996 and served his society as the regional coordinator of mission, education, and promotion, which includes vocation ministry. No stranger to national boards, Brother Tim was the executive secretary and member of the board of trustees of the Religious Brothers Conference for seven years. A member of NRVC Region 11-North, Brother Tim presently lives in Fremont, CA, where he is the western regional vocation director for the Maryknoll Priests and Brothers.



Brother William Timothy Raible, MM

Father Luis M. Madera, OSA is a member of the Augustinian Friars, Villanova Province. He professed his solemn vows in 1999 and was ordained to the priesthood in 2000. Having served as a teacher in the Bronx, NY and as an associate pastor in Lawrence, MA, Father Luis brings to NRVC his skills in and commitment to Hispanic ministry. He has served as regional representative of the Asociación Nacional de Sacerdotes Hispanos (National Association of Hispanic Priests) and was chair of the Hispanic Ministry Commission in his province. In addition to being the director of an Augustinian house of discernment for Spanish-speaking candidates, Father Luis is currently the chair of NRVC Region 14 and chairs the NRVC Latino-Hispanic Committee. Father Luis lives in Miami Gardens, FL.



Father Luis M. Madera, OSA

The board also reappointed to a second two-year term **Sisters Margaret Michael Gillis, FSP** and **Josita Colbert, SNDdeN**. Congratulations to these men and women religious for their willingness to serve in this important leadership position for NRVC. I also extend my gratitude to their religious institutes, the Augustinian Friars, Villanova Province, the Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, the

I also want to congratulate **Sisters Maureen Baldwin, CND**, NAVFD executive director, and **Kathleen Kelly, SSS**, NAVFD board president, for a job well done. Since this group met two years ago, NAVFD is now in the process of being formally incorporated into a legally recognized non-profit entity. This will give greater recognition to the organization within the Canadian church and will allow the group to pursue its mission effectively.

Currently NRVC has approximately 60 Canadian members. We greatly value their membership and our continued collaboration with our northern neighbors.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

This is a reminder that the 47th Annual World Day of Prayer for Vocations is April 25, the Fourth Sunday of Easter. The Holy Father's message for this occasion is available in English and Spanish on the NRVC website.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

I ask the charity of your prayers for the repose of the soul of NRVC member Brother James Daly, SA, who died of cancer on March 16. A recent member to NRVC, Brother Jim had just completed the "Orientation Program for New Vocation Directors" this past October. On behalf of NRVC, I extend our heartfelt sympathy to his family and his community, the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement in Graymoor, NY.

This month we celebrate the Easter season, a time of renewal, transformation, and hope. In a special way, this joyous season speaks to the hearts of all vocation directors. May your Easter be both blessed and grace-filled.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Brother Paul Bednarczyk, CSC, Executive Director

Sharpen communication skills at conference

THE NATIONAL COMMUNICATORS NETWORK for Women Religious invites vocation ministers to take part in its 16th annual conference in Denver, CO September 21-24. With a theme of "Moving Mountains," the conference features keynote speaker Sister Carol Zinn, SSJ of the leadership team of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia. Other speakers and workshops will focus on maintaining social media, producing



BRAINSTORMING UNDERWAY—The NRVC Editorial Board gathered March 22 at the NRVC offices in Chicago to critique and generate ideas for *HORIZON* and the newsletter. NRVC extends its thanks to two outgoing members: Father Kevin Nadolski, OSFS and Sister Carol Mucha, RSM. Pictured here are Carol Schuck Scheiber; Father Anthony Vinson, OSB; Father Kevin; Father Ken O'Malley, CP; Sister Carol; and Joel Schorn.

e-newsletters, hosting virtual meetings, communicating throughout a reconfiguration, and the spirituality of communications. For more information, see www.ncnwr.org. ■

Catholics on Call summer program seeks participants

DO YOU KNOW YOUNG ADULTS considering a life of service? Encourage them to apply to attend the summer 2010 Catholics on Call young adult conference. The conference, to take place at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, is available as a long weekend (June 3-6, 2010) or a week-long program (August 1-6, 2010). Participants are ages 18-30 and have the opportunity to connect and pray with other like-minded young people, hear nationally known speakers discuss how to listen to God's call, and learn skills for discerning their own vocation, be it lay, vowed, or ordained. To learn more and to download the application, click on Young Adult Conferences on the left side of www.catholicsoncall.org, write to catholicsoncall@ctu.edu, or call (773) 371-5431. ■

Symposium on campus and young adult ministry

VOCATION MINISTERS ARE INVITED to attend a one-week symposium focused on conveying the faith to young adults to take place at the University of Notre Dame on May 23-28. The event is titled "Stewards of the Treasures of Our Faith" and is sponsored by the Office of Campus Ministry at the University of Notre Dame, in collaboration with several national organizations, including NRVC. Organizers describe the purpose of the symposium as follows: "We

anticipate coming together as a community that shares a common dedication to ministering to students and young adults. We will share prayer, conversation, and fresh perspectives on topics such as liturgical prayer, personal prayer, promoting justice, and the role of discernment in the lives of young adults. We also recognize that ministers need to be refreshed and renewed in their own mission at this time of the year. With this intent in mind, we will provide the freedom and opportunity for personal prayer and reflection, collegiality, and enjoyment of the recreational facilities, artistic offerings, and the natural beauty of our campus in May."

This is the first time vocation ministers have been invited to this event. Space is limited, so register now! Contact Darrell Paulson at Notre Dame at dpaulse1@nd.edu, (574) 631-5827 or see <http://campusministry.nd.edu/national-conferences/nd-symposium/> ■

Vocation rally a success

SOME 400 SIXTH-GRADERS from 14 western Oregon Catholic schools took part in a vocation rally held in Beaverton, OR February 18-19. Fourteen religious communities, the Diocese of Portland, two youth ministers, and the local Serra Club took part in the rally. Now in its third year, the rally included music, displays, talks, games, and Mass.

"It was all very well done and organized. The students really enjoyed Jeopardy and the music. Thank you very much for putting this on!" wrote one teacher in her evaluation, echoing the sentiments of most of the educators who evaluated the event.

A video clip of the vocation rally can be watched online at www.youtube.com/watch?v=SFdk39bpFZQ&feature=youtube_gdata. A diocesan newspaper article about it can be seen at www.sentinel.org/node/10796. For additional details, contact Sister Patricia Novak, OSF at srpatriciaosf@juno.com or (503) 233-1878. ■



Ed Langlois, Catholic Sentinel

TIME OUT FOR VOCATIONS—Sixth-graders listen to Father Mike Biewend during a vocation rally in Beaverton, OR.

Latino-Hispanic Committee to present workshop

THE NRVC LATINO-HISPANIC COMMITTEE met March 2-5 in Stone Harbor, NJ to plan a workshop to be presented November 7 during the NRVC Convocation in Cleveland. The interactive workshop is titled "Coming to a Neighborhood Near You" and will examine the relationship between Latino-Hispanic discerners and vocation ministers, as well as the Latino-Hispanic cultural context, family dynamics, and vocational candidates.

The committee invites those with Latino-Hispanic ministry experience or background to consider joining. To learn more, contact Father Luis Madera, OSA at maderaosa@aol.com. ■

NRVC vocation resources now at bargain prices

THE FOLLOWING RESOURCES developed by NRVC are now being offered at discount prices. Order them online at www.nccv-vocations.org or by calling (773) 955-5453.

TIME FOR TEA

This 62-minute VHS video depicts five Asian-Pacific men and women responding to their call to priesthood and/or religious life. A study guide is included. Order #826. Sale price \$10 (regularly \$35).



PARENTS SPEAK OUT: CHILDREN AND CHURCH VOCATIONS

This 12-minute VHS video shows interviews with parents of adult children who are priests or religious. A discussion guide is included. Order #835. Sale price \$15 (regularly \$25).



ASIAN PACIFIC HANDBOOK: OVERVIEW OF ASIAN CULTURE

This handbook reviews Vietnamese, Chinese, Korean, and Filipino cultures. Order #1200. Sale price \$10 (regularly \$25).



MULTI-CULTURAL TAPESTRY: LATINO-HISPANIC VOCATIONS HANDBOOK

Topics in this handbook include cultural awareness and sensitivity, cultural characteristics, bibliography, prayers, and more. Order #1214. Sale price \$20 while supplies last (regularly \$25). ■



Check out these links

HORIZON advertisers offer goods and services tailored for vocation ministers. Click on these links to see what they offer to your ministry.

Loyola University Institute of Pastoral Studies. Expand your ministry with an MA in pastoral studies, now available online. <http://luc.edu/grad/horizon/>

Redemptorist Renewal Center. Find calm in the desert: retreats, spiritual-direction study, writing hermitages near Picture Rocks in Arizona. www.desertrenewal.org

Our Lady of the Snows is the perfect place for your next retreat, special event, or getaway, minutes from downtown St. Louis. www.snows.org

Guesthouse Addiction treatment for Catholic clergy and religious. Let the transformation begin. www.guesthouse.org

ZuZu Group provides expert help with all forms of vocation communications: websites and much more. <http://www.zuzugroup.com/>

Prepare the Word is the perfect preaching and formation resource for busy religious. www.PrepareTheWord.com

Institute of Religious Formation. Challenging participants to a spirituality that adapts to the needs of our complex global village. See http://www.ctu.edu/Courses_and_Programs/Continuing_Education and click on "Institute of Religious Formation" in the column at left.

Lighthouse Catholic Media. Young adults love our Catholic speakers, such as Mother Teresa, Matthew Kelly, and many more; CDs and MP3s starting at \$3. <http://cursillo-lighthousemedia.org/>

St. John Vianney Center. Assessments, physical and behavioral healthcare, treatment, continuing formation programs, and on-site consultation for religious and clergy. <http://sjvcenter.org/>

A Necessary Conversation, A Gathering of Experts. Understand psychological assessment and learn interviewing skills. June 14-18, 2010, St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, Wyncwood, PA. www.scs.edu/events/psychology-formation-conference.htm ■

To imitate Christ, chaste, poor and obedient, and to identify with him: this is the ideal of the consecrated life, a witness to the absolute primacy of God in human life and history.
—Pope Benedict XVI

NRVC dates to remember

FAITH DEVELOPMENT TAKES TIME, AND IT CAN BE ASSESSED

April 20, 2010, Father Kevin Nadolski, OSFS, Marillac Center, Leavenworth, KS. Co-sponsored by NRVC Region 9 and NRVC

BEHAVIORAL ASSESSMENT I AND ETHICS

July 12-16, 2010, Father Ray Carey, Chicago, IL

ORIENTATION FOR NEW VOCATION DIRECTORS

July 19-23, 2010, Brother Paul Bednarczyk, CSC and Sister Charlene Diorka, SSJ, Chicago, IL

VOCATION MINISTER AS SPIRITUAL GUIDE

July 26-27, 2010, Father David Couturier, OFM Cap., Chicago, IL

BEHAVIORAL ASSESSMENT II

November 4, 2010, Father Ray Carey, Ph.D., Cleveland, OH

VOCATION MINISTRY AND ISSUES OF CIVIL, CANON AND IMMIGRATION LAW

November 4, 2010, Father Daniel Ward, OSB and Annemarie Gibbons of Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc., Cleveland, OH

THEOLOGY OF DISCERNMENT

November 4, 2010, Melanie-Prejean Sullivan, D.Min.

NRVC CONVOCATION 2010

November 4-8, 2010, Cleveland, OH

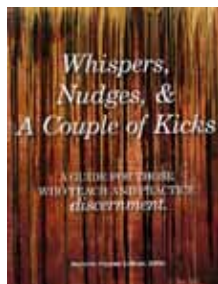
UPDATE FROM NATIONAL COALITION FOR CHURCH VOCATIONS

BY SISTER DIANE POPLAWSKI, OP, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF NCCV

NEW RESOURCES AVAILABLE

Following are two new items. Visit www.nccv-vocations.org and click on NEW ITEMS for a complete list!

WHISPERS, NUDGES, & A COUPLE OF KICKS ~ A GUIDE FOR THOSE WHO TEACH AND PRACTICE DISCERNMENT—Authored by Melanie-Prejean Sullivan, director of campus ministry at Bellarmine University and a workshop presenter at the 2008 NRVC Convocation in Louisville, KY. 121 pages. \$23, plus shipping and handling. Order #303.



NURTURING VOCATIONS IN THE FAMILY: A PARENT'S GUIDE—This resource is now available in Spanish as requested by NCCV customers! \$.50 each! Order #397; specify Spanish version.

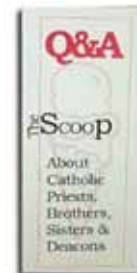
FREE DVD ON SISTERS

A FREE copy of the DVD (including shipping and handling) is available while supplies last. If you haven't yet ordered your copy of *Jesus Calls Women*, please send an e-mail to nccvocations@gmail.com. Type "Free DVD" in the e-mail subject line and include your complete mailing address in the body of the e-mail (line 1—your name; line 2—address; line 3—city, state, zip code. This is a helpful resource for any vocation minister, and the price is right! If you can use multiple copies, we will ship them to you for the cost of shipping so you can distribute them to your members who may be serving in parishes or schools.

APRIL SPRING SALES!

CALLED BY NAME AND OPERATION MIRYAM & JOSEPH—These are both popular vocation awareness programs. Order #2104 CBN, #2102 MJ. \$5 each (regularly \$7).

THE SCOOP: Q&A ABOUT CATHOLIC PRIESTS, BROTHERS, SISTERS & DEACONS—This NCCV bestseller gives concise explanations of call and lifestyle. Order #417 English; #418 Spanish. \$.60 each (regularly \$.80).



FOLLOW ME JESUS—These balloons are an uplifting resource! Buy one package of 50, get one free. Order #602. Two packages for \$11.

COME, FOLLOW ME! JESUS PENS—Order #620. \$.50 each (regularly \$.70 each).

DEAR GOD, OPEN MY HEART—These children's prayer books are composed of prayers by children from across the U.S. Grades 1-4 edition is order #320. Grades 5-8 edition is order #321. Buy one, get one free! \$5 each plus one free.



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER APRIL 25

Call today and order your kits in English or Spanish!

CONTRIBUTE TO OUR ANNUAL APPEAL

NCCV is currently conducting our annual financial appeal. We count on your generosity, as well as the generosity of others, as we strive to continue our commitment to vocations. Thanks for considering a response today if you have not yet done so.

HOLY WEEK HOURS

NCCV offices will be closed Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Monday, reopening Tuesday, April 6. Have a blessed Easter.

Contact NCCV at nccvocations@gmail.com, (773) 955-5453 or www.nccv-vocations.org.

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