

Focus on Vocation Ministry

WHAT'S NEW IN NRVC



NRVC
National Religious
Vocation Conference



NRVC BOARD MEMBERS

MAY 2010

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

BY BROTHER PAUL BEDNARCZYK, CSC

Dear NRVC Member,

I trust that all of you continue to enjoy the many graces of this Easter season. May these weeks be a time of renewed faith and hope for everyone.

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR VOCATION MINISTRY AWARD

As we look forward to the 2010 NRVC National Convocation from November 4-18, I ask all professional members to consider nominating a possible candidate for the NRVC Recognition Award. This award is presented at our biennial Convocation and acknowledges an NRVC member who has made an outstanding contribution to vocation ministry. Final selections will be made by the NRVC Board.

This award honors an individual's significant contribution to vocation ministry in areas such as:

- leadership in the many facets of vocation ministry in promoting a culture of vocations in the Church and in society;
- collaboration with organizations that foster a culture of vocations;
- initiation or development of vocation program(s) that have had broad impact on vocation ministry beyond a given region or religious institute;
- development of innovative programs and/or creative approaches to vocation ministry.

All nominees must be members of NRVC for a minimum of three years. Nomination forms may be downloaded from the NRVC website.

"MOVING FORWARD IN HOPE" PROJECT TO ACT ON STUDY

A second planning meeting was held April 19 at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago for the Moving Forward in Hope Project, a vocation symposium that will be a follow-up to the NRVC/CARA study. Invitations have been sent to guests



LEARN WHILE ENJOYING CHICAGO—Participants in NRVC's Summer Institute can enjoy the urban pleasures of the Windy City while developing vocation ministry skills. See details on page 2.

representing various church constituencies to gather for the purpose of studying the results of the vocations study and developing a concrete strategic plan to facilitate a greater vocation culture in the church.

This gathering will be held at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago from September 16-19 and will be facilitated by Sister Joan Scanlon, OP. Keynote speakers will include Mary Gautier, Ph.D., from the Center of Applied Research in the Apostolate, Brother Sean Sammon, FMS, author and former superior general of the Marist Brothers, and Father Robin Ryan, CP, director of Catholics on Call.

This exciting event will highlight the importance of the study for the future of religious life by developing a concrete plan of action addressing the various opportunities and challenges found in the research. On behalf of NRVC, I would like to extend my thanks to an anonymous foundation for its generosity in sponsoring this symposium.

TAKE PART IN SUMMER INSTITUTE

Registration is ongoing for this year's vocation director's Summer Institute at Catholic Theologi-

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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.

cal Union in Chicago. I would encourage you to register now, as attendance is growing. This year's program is the following:

BEHAVIORAL ASSESSMENT I with Father Raymond Carey, Ph.D. from July 12-14. Click here to register:
<http://www.regonline.com/Checkin.asp?EventId=811062>

ETHICS IN VOCATION AND FORMATION MINISTRY with Father Raymond Carey, Ph.D., from July 15-16. Click here to register:
<http://www.regonline.com/Checkin.asp?EventId=811063>

ORIENTATION PROGRAM FOR NEW VOCATION DIRECTORS with Brother Paul Bednarczyk, CSC and Sister Charlene Diorka, SSJ, from July 19-23. Click here to register:
<http://www.regonline.com/Checkin.asp?EventId=811064>

VOCATION DIRECTOR AS SPIRITUAL GUIDE with Father David Couturier, OFM Cap., from July 26-28. Click here to register:
<http://www.regonline.com/Checkin.asp?EventId=816669>

PUT CONVOCATION ON YOUR CALENDAR

Don't forget the 2010 NRVC Convocation, scheduled for November 4-8 at the InterContinental Hotel in Cleveland, OH. Keynote speakers include **Brother David Andrews, CSC, Sister Angela Zukowski, MHSC, Father Bryan Massingale, and the Most Rev. Pietro Sambì**, papal nuncio of the United States. Online registration for the convocation will soon be available.

TWO REGIONS RECEIVE VISITS

Sister Charlene Diorka, SSJ and I each visited a region of NRVC in April. Sister Charlene attended the Region 9 meeting held at the Marillac Center in Leavenworth, KS, on April 20. **Father Kevin Nadolski, OSFS** received high praise from participants on his excellent workshop on the spiritual assessment of candidates. The workshop was titled "Faith Development Takes Time, and It Can Be Assessed." I made my way to St. Paul's Monastery in St. Paul, MN, on April 19 to attend the Region 8 gathering where I presented the results of the vocation study. The NRVC Board continues to look at ways to revitalize our regions and to be more supportive of our regional chairs.

APPEAL AND ANNUAL REPORT GO OUT

This month our annual letter of appeal will be mailed to all diocesan ordinaries and major superiors of men's and women's religious institutes in the United States. As you know, NRVC heavily relies on the generosity of our benefactors to continue to sustain us in our mission of vocation promotion. Please encourage the leadership of your congregation to support this appeal.



SPIRITUAL ASSESSMENT EXAMINED—Father Kevin Nadolski, OSFS, pictured here at a parish retreat, received outstanding feedback on the spiritual assessment workshop he presented April 20 at the Marillac Center in Leavenworth, KS.

All NRVC members will be receiving this month a copy of our 2009 Annual Report, which includes a review of the year's activities and finances, reports from our major collaborating organizations, and a list of our many benefactors. I think all NRVC members should be proud of our many accomplishments this past year.

The church has traditionally reserved this month of May for deepening our devotion to Mary, the Mother of God. May Our Lady, Queen of Vocations, pray for us all!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Brother Paul Bednarczyk, CSC
Executive Director

Vocation director opening

THE GREY NUNS of the Sacred Heart of Yardley, PA are seeking a full-time vocation director responsible for coordinating their vocation promotion plan. The candidate needs to be a practicing Catholic, be knowledgeable of Catholic teaching and contemporary religious life, and have a college degree in a relevant field, such as theology, psychology, spirituality, or religious studies. The applicant needs skills in relating to youth and young adults and excellent oral and written communication skills. Experience in church ministry is preferred. To learn about the Grey Nuns, see www.greynun.org. To apply, send a letter of interest and resumé to: Vocation Search Committee, 1750 Quarry Road, Yardley, PA 19067 or to vocationsearchcommittee@greynun.org. Applications are due June 1. ■

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.

Catholics on Call. Young adults seeking insight about where God is calling them can register now for a FREE summer conference. www.catholicsoncall.org

Weber Center Summer Programs. Enrich yourself in a restful Michigan setting. Check out summer courses and retreats at www.webercenter.org

New book: Vocations and Their Formation Today. Friar Guy Lespinay, OP looks at ways to encourage a positive journey for those entering religious formation today. www.stpauls.us/VOCATIONS-AND-THEIR-FORMATION-TODAY-P10789C0.aspx

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

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/>

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

There's a stereotype of nuns as stodgy Victorian traditionalists. I learned otherwise while hanging on for my life in a passenger seat as an American nun with a lead foot drove her Jeep over ruts and through a creek in Swaziland to visit AIDS orphans. After a number of encounters like that, I've come to believe that the very coolest people in the world today may be nuns.

—New York Times columnist Nicholas Kristof
<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/04/18/opinion/18kristof.html>

NRVC dates to remember

BEHAVIORAL ASSESSMENT I

July 12-14, 2010, Father Ray Carey, Chicago, IL

ETHICS IN VOCATION AND FORMATION MINISTRY

July 15-16, 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., Cleveland, OH

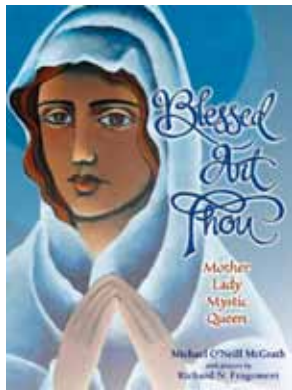
NRVC CONVOCATION 2010

November 4-8, 2010, Cleveland, OH

UPDATE FROM NATIONAL COALITION FOR CHURCH VOCATIONS

BY SISTER DIANE POPLAWSKI, OP, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF NCCV

MAY IS MARY'S MONTH



Consider purchasing the book *BLESSED ART THOU* for yourself or to give as a gift. Order #2144, \$24.95.

This month is also a good time to use our **MARY NOTECARDS**. Blank inside, these notecards come in a package of 20 for just \$5. Order Our Lady of Peace #1115 or Queen of the Saints #1116.

PARENT GUIDE NOW IN SPANISH

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

MAY SPRING SALES!

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).

VOCATION CHOICES FOR CATHOLICS. This NCCV bestseller gives an overview of priesthood, marriage, single life, diaconate, sisters, and brothers. It includes a vocation prayer and discussion questions. Order #415 and specify English or Spanish. \$.35 each (regularly \$.40). For 500+ \$.30 each (regularly \$.035).

EXPLORING THE CHARISM MENU OF RELIGIOUS LIFE. This NCCV bestseller is a discernment resource for anyone serious about exploring a vocation to religious life. It offers helpful insights on charism, discernment, prayer, and the roles of spiritual guide and vocation minister. Order #399; \$.40 each (regularly \$.50).

CALLED BY NAME, OPERATION MIRYAM & JOSEPH. Both of these are popular vocation awareness programs. Order #2104 for Called by Name; #2102 for Miryam & Joseph; \$5 each (regularly \$7).

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

OUT ON A LIMB: VOCATION RESOURCES FOR TEENS. This product combines the best lesson plans, prayer services, and activities from National Vocation Awareness Week resources. Order #2123; \$12 each (regularly \$16).

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

ANNUAL APPEAL IS UNDERWAY

NCCV is currently conducting its annual financial appeal. NCCV annually counts 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.

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



MARY NOTECARDS— These cards are ideal for use in May, our month to honor Mary. On the left is Our Lady of Peace, on the right is Queen of the Saints.

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