

# E-VōC

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



*Sisters of Charity*  
of Cincinnati

## CALENDAR

**Nov. 1, 2010**  
All Saints' Day

**Nov. 2, 2010**  
All Souls' Day

**Nov. 4-8, 2010**  
National Religious Vocation  
Conference in Cleveland, Ohio

**Nov. 12, 2010**  
Mother Margaret George Day  
(First Mother of the Sisters of  
Charity of Cincinnati)

**Nov. 28, 2010**  
First Sunday of Advent

*For more information about the above  
events, contact S. Janet Gildea at  
[Janetsc@juno.com](mailto:Janetsc@juno.com).*

*Masthead photo of College of Mount  
St. Joseph students Elizabeth Rettig,  
Sherrie Kleinholz, Frederick Thomason,  
and Tiffany Berman.*

## Questions and More Questions

*By S. Janet Gildea*

As the “Come and Serve” weekend unfolded over the Labor Day holiday in New Orleans, La., the seven participants had ample opportunity to reflect on their life’s calling. They shared with each other while scraping paint at Mr. De La Rose’s house, while riding to Mass, while sitting at the shore of Lake Pontchartraine, and while eating beignets at Café du Monde. What one woman said at a formal discussion later in the weekend rang true for many, “I keep discovering more and more questions!”

In any discernment process it is essential to let the questions surface and not be in too much of a hurry for answers. This is a huge challenge in today’s culture. Waiting is becoming a lost art. But perhaps impatience has ever been the companion of discerners! The “young poet” who sought the advice of Rainer Maria Rilke in the early 20th century was anxious for answers, to which the not-yet-thirtysomething “elder” poet made his famous reply:

“You are so young, so before all beginning, and I want to beg you, as much as I can, dear sir, to be patient toward all that is unsolved in your heart and to try to love the *questions themselves* like locked rooms and like books that are written in a very foreign tongue. Do not now seek the answers, which cannot be given you because you would not be able to live them. And the point is, to live everything. *Live* the questions now. Perhaps you will then gradually, without noticing it, live along some distant day into the answer.” (“Letters to a Young Poet,” July 16, 1903)

Discernment is a process like making wine. Questions are the fermentation agent. They generate insights that bubble to the surface and expand your understanding of yourself and of the possibilities that are present for you. Such stretching can transform your perception of the issue under consideration. Jesus was a good questioner. “Who do people say that I am?” (Luke 9:18) “Who do *you* say that I am?” (Luke 9:20) “What are you looking for?” (John 1:38)



Seven women took part in the September Come and Serve weekend in New Orleans, La., where they spent time reflecting on their life’s call.

It can be frightening to open yourself to deeper levels of questions. You may find yourself moving in directions that surprise you and be tempted to run in the opposite direction. Stay open and observe your feelings, positive or negative, as you explore the options that arise in answer to your questions. In that openness you will find yourself moving along the path to clarity, no matter how tiny the steps. And you can trust the One who has promised to be “the Way, the Truth and the Life”... for you.

# Where are the Sisters Today?

## Sister Franette Hyc



Since 2003, S. Franette Hyc has ministered as a research nurse with the University of Cincinnati in its Infectious Disease Center. Sister has cared for and worked with persons living with and affected by HIV/AIDS through the AIDS Clinical Trials Unit. To read more about S. Franette's ministry, [click here](#) for a question-and-answer.

## Movie Review

### Eat Pray Love

“Eat Pray Love” by Elizabeth Gilbert has been a bestseller, acclaimed on “Oprah” and elsewhere, but the film version, starring Julia Roberts, has received only lukewarm reviews. The story begins as a woman embarks on a year of recovery and self-discovery at the end of a marriage. “Eat” occurs in Italy and involves healing of her heartache with Italian cuisine and ambiance. Next she travels to an ashram in India to nourish her soul and learns to “Pray.” Finally she discovers “Love” again in the tropical setting of Bali. The book, as is usually the case, allows a deeper understanding of the soul-journey of the author. It seems that the cinematic version emphasizes the shallower aspects of Gilbert’s year of reclaiming herself. As an alternative I would recommend “Getting a Life: How to Find Your True Vocation” by Renee LaReau. Watch for that review next month...



## ASK OUR SISTERS

**What led to your decision to enter the Sisters of Charity?**

“My sense was that God was pursuing me and putting this together with the fact that Sisters of Charity were like the adults in my life who expressed life as joyfully as all my young friends. I responded to the warmth and happiness so many of them displayed whenever I was with them as a teenager. From the very beginning Mount St. Joseph felt like home, and I knew that is where I would start and live my adult life. An excellent choice!”

- S. Rose Marie Hewitt



S. Rose Marie Hewitt with College of Mount St. Joseph student Rachael Wuestfeld.

## REFLECTIONS

Lord, I thank You for the gifts  
You have given me, especially for life, love,  
family and friends.

Help me to know myself better and to know  
my talents, as I pray, study and decide  
on my life's work.

Help me to see and understand  
the path You open for me.  
Help me choose a life's work which  
will be in response to my potential  
and your love for me.

If I am being invited to follow  
You as a priest, brother, sister,  
give me a generous heart to respond  
to your challenging call  
and the strength to follow  
You wherever You lead me.

Amen.



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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 Web site at [www.srcharitycinti.org](http://www.srcharitycinti.org) or contact S. Janet Gildea at (513) 535-1624.