

E-Vöc

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



Sisters of Charity
of Cincinnati

CALENDAR

Feb. 8, 2019

International Day of Prayer
and Awareness Against Human
Trafficking

March 3, 2019

Sunday of Reflection: Going
Deeper Within, 10:45 a.m.,
Cedars Auditorium

March 6, 2019

Ash Wednesday, Lent begins

March 7-10, 2019

Deep Encounter Retreat,
San Antonio, Texas

March 8-14, 2019

National Catholic Sisters Week



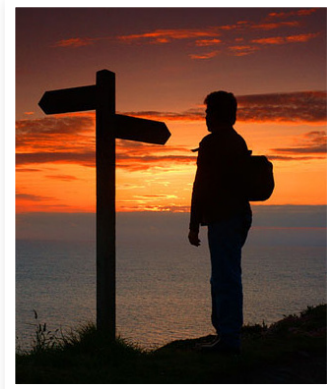
Sister of Charity Annie Klapheke (left) was one of the leaders of the Giving Voice 20s & 30s Retreat held Jan. 18-20 in Phoenix, Arizona. The peer-led weekend of prayer, relaxation and community focused on the theme "Staying at the Table: Our Commitment to Community."

Paralyzed by Possibilities?

Take a Hike!

By S. Janet Gildea

Somewhere between a 'Land of Unlimited Options' and the dreaded 'Life in a Cubicle' is a trail with trustworthy, weatherworn markers known as discernment. Whatever your big questions for the moment, the month or the year, it is helpful to return to the ways of the wise ones, like St. Ignatius, for guidance. Resources abound (e.g. *What's Your Decision?* by J. Michael Sparough, SJ, Jim Manney and Tim Hipskind, SJ) for being intentional with discernment, opening your decision-making process to the Spirit with the desire to know and to choose God's will in that Light. You may already be familiar with many of these resources but sometimes when an urgent decision is upon you or conversely when it seems that God's timing is taking too many years of your life to get some clarity, you can begin to despair. "Speak Lord! Your servant is listening!" takes on a desperate tone.



Discernment is a personal process but a spiritual companion, whether a trained director or trusted friend or mentor, can give perspective, and listening with the heart can help you understand the desires of your own deepest self. Sometimes they can give a gentle nudge or suggest a way to jump-start your frozen soul. "Where are such resources available?" was a question received from staff at Catholic Volunteer Network trying to develop programs and contacts for alumni of their programs transitioning to whatever was next in their lives. Participants in a retreat called "From Age to Age: Transition in Two Keys" last November at the Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati Motherhouse discovered that women religious have a wealth of personal experience in discernment and transitioning from ministries and local communities. Learning to discern is a lifelong process and seems to mellow and improve with age – and practice. Most congregations have a spirituality center at their motherhouse. Sisters and lay Associates serve as spiritual directors and they offer privately directed retreats open to all. Here is a link to ours (<http://www.srcharitycinti.org/spirit.htm>) but check out a religious congregational center or retreat house near you.

Being clear about your intention and stating your desire can take time. To whom are you accountable? Who will listen with respect for your freedom and accompany you with patience? Where are the places that allow you to ask the questions, even over and over again, that threaten to paralyze you with too many possibilities? Seek out those companions and those places. Jesus did. "Who do you say that I am?" (Luke 9:20). "He entered a village where a woman whose name was Martha welcomed him. She had a sister named Mary who sat beside the Lord at his feet listening to him speak" (Luke 10:38-39). Find your people and places to sort through the possibilities of your life.

Future of Charity Blog:

Staying at the Table: Our Commitment to Community



S. Annie Klapheke talks community life in the latest entry to the Sisters of Charity Federation's Future of Charity Blog. Read it here: <http://futureofcharity.blogspot.com/2019/01/staying-at-table-our-commitment-to.html>

Catholic Volunteer Network:

RESPONSE

It's the time of year when some are finishing a year – or years – of volunteer service and others are exploring the possibilities. If you are in either of these categories, take a look at the Catholic Volunteer Network website for resources. There are more and more opportunities for former volunteers, some offered regionally, for support, transition and ongoing discernment. The 2019 Response Guide is available and the website was recently updated (<https://catholicvolunteernetwork.org/>). And another AVE (After Volunteer Experience) participant is featured on the cover! Proud of you, Amanda!



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 join the *E-Vôc* mailing list, contact Erin Reder at erin.reder@srcharitycinti.org. 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 or contact S. Monica Gundler at 513-504-5592.

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Around the Community



S. Romina Sapinosa (left) began her internship with UN NGO S. Teresa Kotturan (right), SCN, in January. One of S. Romina's first opportunities was to attend the 2019 International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of Holocaust in the General Assembly Hall on Jan. 28, 2019.

"Instead of accepting the status quo, we must face our implicit bias; understand the power dynamics that come with being white; take the initiative to learn the parts of the story our upbringing allowed us to ignore; listen with humility when someone is willing to do the emotional labor it takes to illuminate new perspectives for us; back movements for racial justice led by people of color; vote for the common good; and work to change the culture on every level." Read **S. Tracy Kemme's** powerful and insightful article, "Dear white people: Nice doesn't cut it," in *Global Sisters Report*.

<https://www.globalsistersreport.org/column/horizons/equality/dear-white-people-nice-doesnt-cut-it-55813>

Welcome S. Christine

On Sunday, Feb. 3, the Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati welcomed S. Christine Okpomeshine (left) to the Community during a special prayer service in the Motherhouse chapel. S. Christine is transferring from the Handmaids of the Holy Child Jesus. During the service she was formally welcomed by the Community and offered their support, friendship and prayer as she enters into the transfer process.

