

September 8, 2008

Birth of Mary

VOCATION NEWS

Did you know...

We're back, beginning our 7th Year!

- Our Vocation Team for 2008-2009: Sr. Patricia Knopp, SND, Brian Halderman, Jim Wisecaver, George Kemmett, Sean Downing, Tom Pieper, Charlie Wanda, Gretchen Trautman, Dennis Schmitz, John McEnhill, Donna Tucker and **you!**
- The Vocation News is sent out to the directors and they are asked to post it for the members of the community. If you would like to receive this newsletter directly, please contact Donna Tucker and we will add you to our list.
- Thanks once again to the Communications Office for their help and support in our vocation efforts! Thanks to Diane Guerra, Joan Suda and Ann Mueller.
- Best wishes and prayers for our aspirants as they begin their year. Good luck to Tom Fox, Brian Myers, José Julián Matos and Joe Janosik!
- The following men are members of our Contact Program:
 - Hugo Bastida, Miami Beach
 - Andrew Caruso, Cuyahoga Falls, OH
 - Michael Chiuri, Los Angeles
 - Norman Capinpin, Los Angeles
 - Heribertus Denny, Los Angeles
 - Aaron Filsinger, Waco, TX
 - Joseph Gonzalez, San Antonio
 - Joseph Melendrez, Los Angeles
 - Julius Militante, St. Louis
 - Brandon Nivera, Maui
 - Brandon Paluch, Los Angeles
 - James Perry, Monterey, CA
 - Nhan Nguyen, Honolulu
 - Jonathan Pyles, Dayton
 - Michael Sievers, Dayton

David Valpone, Omaha
Kip Young, Chicago
(I am waiting for responses from a few more men)

We welcome these men to our Contact Program this year and we continue to pray for them!

- A special thanks to all the members of the Province who talk, listen, advise and mentor our Contacts and Aspirants. Your role in their discernment is very important. Thank you!
- There will be a **Vocation Summit** in Honolulu for our Brothers in Hawaii. Bro. Paul Bednarczyk, CSC, Executive Director of the NRVC will be our facilitator. Details will be available in October.
- Belated congratulations to Sister Nicole Trahan , FMI for her profession of First Vows this past June!!!
- New Contact, Andrew Caruso visited St.Louis during the 4th of July weekend. Andrew is from Cuyahoga Falls. Thanks to the Westminster Community for their hospitality.
- I visited new Contact, James Perry, in Monterey California earlier in the summer.
- Did your community talk about vocations during your planning session? If you did, let me know what you talked about so that I can share it with the Province. If you did not, you might want to schedule a community meeting with “vocations” as a topic.
- Many thanks to our Brothers in formation who have volunteered to write the monthly letter that is sent to our Contacts. I still have a few months available, so I assume that I will hear from some others very soon!
- Thanks to Brian Halderman for his work on our vocation webpage. Brian is back from Peru and now working at St. Mary’s University in San Antonio.
- Some Vocation/Formation dates:
 - September 26-27: Discernment Retreat-Governor’s Island
Aspirancy Retreat-California
 - October 3-5: Director’s Meeting-Dayton
 - October 4: Perpetual Profession of Brian Halderman-Cincinnati
 - Oct.9-12: NRVC Convocation-Louisville

Oct.13-14:	Meeting of Marianist vocation directors-Dayton
Oct.17-19:	Formation Advisory Committee-San Antonio
Nov. 13-16:	Formation Meeting
Dec.11-14:	Contact Retreat-Rockaway

- I visited Chaminade College Prep in St. Louis this past week. I spoke to 9th graders as part of their Esto Vir class. I enjoyed my visit, even though each class was 90 minutes. I was a little embarrassed with the standing ovation I received at the end of my talk!
- Thanks to Contact Michael Chiuri for my visit with him during my time in the LA area.
- Thanks to Neville O'Donohue for his support and energy of vocation ministry. Neville and James Byrne (former student from St. Laurence College) are in the process of beginning a young adult group. We offer them our support and prayers!
- Thanks to Sean Downing and Sr. Patricia Knopp for our meeting of last week.
- **Remember “PTA” – Prayer, Talk and Act!** What are you doing for vocations?
- Thanks to John Samaha for his notes of support and ideas.
- Thanks to David Betz for his help with Contact James Perry!
- Our Contact Retreat will be in Rockaway this December. The theme this year will deal with issues of social justice. Brian Halderman will organize the retreat and Steve O'Neil and Bob Donovan will be the presenters. Ray Dominguez will also assist during the weekend. Thanks to the Rockaway Community for hosting this event! More details later!
- Thanks to Richard Wosman and Rudy Vela for their assistance with our vocation advertisement.
- Thanks to Giancarlo Bonutti and Rollie Bunda for agreeing to assist us with our next advertisement.
- Thanks again to George Kemmett, Jesse O'Neill and Nicole Trahan for creating a “Marianist-oriented” lesson to add to our vocation lesson plans.

- Members of the vocation team will participate at the NRVC Convocation being held in Louisville in October. I will be on a panel that discusses the topic of “restructuring.” The vocation team will then meet in Dayton for our annual meeting. Tony Fitzgerald will join us and will lead some discussions about strategic planning.
- I had a very fine meeting with Ruth Hinde, Dan Richter and Myles McCabe concerning the collaboration of the vocation and volunteer offices.
- Thanks to John Habjan for his work concerning vocation/education materials that we will soon send to our schools. John has taken the lead with this project and I am very grateful. Also, thanks to Joan Suda for having to work with me and John.
- Inquirer Griffin Knepp (St. Louis University) and Contacts Julius Militante and Heribertus Denny joined us in St. Louis for the recent ordinations of Pat McDaid and Richard Villa. Special thanks to Heribertus for sharing his gift of photography during the mass and reception!

Invite! Invite! Invite!

Please send me any news about vocations or vocation activities!
We need to all work together in this very important ministry!

Peace!

Charlie