



Chicago Archdiocesan Vocation Association (CAVA) Fall 2017 Newsletter www.VocationsCava.org



Upcoming Events

[Click links to follow site](#)

Oct 13-14, 2017

[Chicago's Got Sisters](#)

Oct 20 or Oct 21, 2017

[Holy Fire](#)

Oct 20, 2017 @ 6 to 10 pm

[\(re\)Encounter](#)

Nov 5-11, 2017

[National Vocation Awareness Week](#)

Nov 10, 2017

[Noche de Gala](#)

Nov 16 – 18, 2017

[NCYC](#)

Feb 2, 2018 (Celebrated Feb 3-4)

[World Day for Consecrated Life](#)

February 10, 2018

[Chicago Faith Congress](#)

[WYD Jan 22-27, 2019](#)

Panama City, Panama

(Chicago event planning in the works for Jan 26-27!)

CAVA Opening

On Wednesday, August 30 CAVA members and partners in ministry gathered at St. Francis Woods in Frankfort, Illinois that included an orientation for new members, a presentation on



collaboration, introduction of partners in ministry, and a “speed dating” session for a CAVA committee orientation.

Meet our 2017-2018 CAVA Advisory Board

Sr. Connie Bach, PHJC, Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ
Sr. Maria Brizuela, OSF, Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart
Sr. Mary Beth Bromer, CSSF, Felician Sisters
Sr. Mary Kay Brooks, SSND, School Sisters of Notre Dame
Fr. Harold Fisher, OMI, Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate
Sr. Michele Fisher, CSFN, Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth
Sr. Bernadine Gutowski, OSF, Hospital Sisters of St. Francis
Sr. Jess Lambert, FE, Franciscans of the Eucharist of Chicago
Br. James McDonald, CFC, Edmund Rice Christian Brothers
Fr. Mike Scherschel, Pastor at St. Hubert Parish
Sr. Lovina Francis Pammit, OSF, Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart
(CAVA Coordinator)

Together with our members the CAVA Board has been working on getting in touch with changing member needs and realities in vocation ministry. We conducted interviews over the summer and synthesized a three year action plan that surfaced from our member gatherings of the past two years. We have also sent letters and brochures to communities inviting those who are not yet part of CAVA as part of our membership campaign. We believe that everybody has a responsibility and a role in creating a culture of vocations based

on our Baptismal call and our response beyond the immediate need to “add to our numbers” or seek replacement for functionary roles. As witnesses to Gospel values, we are building a wider collaboration that fosters missionary discipleship in our youth and young adults. Formed in 1979 as an association, CAVA continues to work collaboratively among members and with partners in ministry.

CAVA Brochure

Our new brochure is now available from our website:

<http://www.vocationscava.org/join-us/>

We invite those who are passionate in helping young people discern their vocation to join CAVA or to spread the word about our work and resources we offer.



Congratulations, Fr. Byron!

Fr. Byron Macias, CMF, was ordained to the priesthood on July 29, 2017. Bishop William Medley of Owensboro, Kentucky, presided the ordination along with Fr. Rosendo Urrabazo, CMF, Provincial Superior for the Claretian USA-Canada Province.



Picture: (L to R) Fr. Richard Meredith, Pastor of Saints Peter and Paul; Fr. Byron Macias, CMF; Bishop William Medley of the Diocese of Owensboro, KY. Picture courtesy of Fr. Paul Keller, CMF

The ordination took place at Fr. Byron's parish, Saints Peter and Paul in Hopkinsville, KY, where he worked as a lay minister; he found his missionary vocation while working there. Byron worked there since 2004 as Director of Hispanic Ministry.

Now, Fr. Byron has been assigned as Assistant Vocation Director for the Claretians. He was assigned also to Claretian Hispanic Ministry Publishing Resources and Escuela Biblica Claretiana in Chicago.

Fr. Byron has been collaborating with CAVA since 2015, from which he has learned many valuable lessons from very hardworking and creative religious women and men.

Please pray for him and all CAVA members as they continue working for the sake of new vocations to religious life.

Chicago's Got Sisters

At **6:00 pm** the CGS participants will come to the evening prayer experience followed by dinner and fellowship with Religious from the area on **Friday, October 13** at the Franciscans of the Eucharist (3808 W. Iowa Street, Chicago, IL 60651) Members of other religious congregations (that's you) are welcome to join! **Contact Sr. Stephanie Baliga 815-713-8286 olamission@gmail.com NOW!**

SCHEDULE	
6 pm, Friday	Welcome, Supper, Evening Prayer, Overnight
2nd Step	Breakfast, Morning Prayer
3rd Step	Mass
7th Step	Lunch, Vocation Panel, Emissus Walk
8th Step, ends 8:30 pm, Saturday	Evening Prayer, Dinner

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Gary's Got Sisters! October 3-4, 2017
- Judy's Got Sisters! February 2018
- Chicago's Got Sisters! March 5-6, 2018

CHICAGO'S GOT SISTERS
October 13-14
CHICAGO, IL

Thank you to S.S. Parish Co. for printing.
Sponsored by CAVA

Chicago's Got Sisters (c'td)

SCHEDULE
read & sign up online... visit with Sisters

6 p.m. Friday Welcome, Supper, Evening Prayer, Overnight

2nd Stop Breakfast, Morning Prayer

3rd Stop Mass

7th Stop Lunch, Vocation Panel, Emissus Walk

8th Stop ends 8:30 p.m. Saturday Evening Prayer, Dinner

UPCOMING EVENTS

Chicago's Got Sisters! October 3-7, 2017

Chicago's Got Sisters! February 2018

Chicago's Got Sisters! March 9-11, 2018

CHICAGO'S GOT sisters

October 13-14 CHICAGO, IL

Sponsored by CAVA
Thank you to U.S. Print Co. for printing.

We ask for your help in promoting this event and invite single Catholic women age 18 to 40 to sign up.

[Chicago's Got Sisters Oct 2017 Brochure](#)

[Chicago's Got Sisters Oct 2017 Flyer](#)

[Chicago's Got Sisters Oct 2017 Bulletin Insert](#)

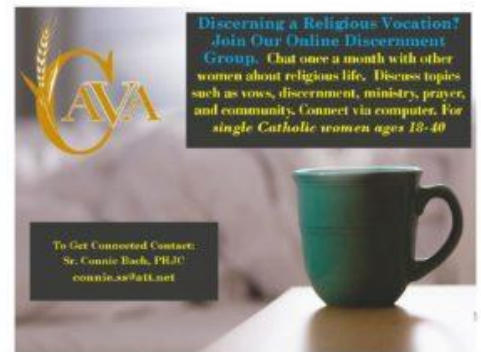
Vocation Voices

Featured on our website this month is Fr. Chris Gibson, CP. You can find the link at the bottom of our website home page or go directly to: <http://www.vocationscava.org/vocation-voices/> or see [vocationscava.org](http://www.vocationscava.org) homepage bottom section).

Online Discernment Group for Women

Chat once a month with other women about religious life. Discuss topics such as vows, discernment, ministry, prayer, and community. Connect via Zoom. For single catholic women age 18 – 40. The next chat event is October 26, 2017 at 8:00 p.m. Central time. Contact Sr. Connie Bach, PHJC connie.ss@att.net for more details. Help invite participants on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/274314956306619/>



Online Discernment Group for Men

At last! An online discernment chat group for men will soon be available. More information to follow. If you wish to contact the coordinators for this program, please email Sr. Lovina at Lpammit@archchicago.org

Hands-ON+Hearts-IN

SPREAD THE WORD!

We need your help in promoting this outreach discernment service program to interested single Catholic



This program involves a mission trip to Mississippi with religious women companions initiated by the Sisters of the Living Word in collaboration with the Chicago Archdiocesan Vocation Association (CAVA) and Sacred Heart Southern Missions. Contact: Sr. Sharon Glumb, SLW sglumb@slw.org; 847-5775972

ext. 233 (work); 601-291-6738 (cell). For details, go to: <http://www.vocationscava.org/hands-on-hearts/>



National Catholic Sisters Project (NCSP)

GET INVOLVED!

The annual [National Catholic Sisters Week \(March 8 to 14\)](#) event has now been expanded into celebrating Sisters the whole year round! The National Catholic Sisters Project is currently establishing pilot programs in several major dioceses across the nation including the Archdiocese of Chicago - one of the first ones to collaborate on this initiative.



You are invited to help nurture vocations that includes supporting events that promote discernment to religious life. Please visit <http://www.vocationscava.org/national-catholic-sisters-project/> for details about this initiative and to get involved or contact Sr. Lovina at Lpammit@archchicago.org or call 312-534-5240

Going Strong at 60th Jubilee



Congratulations to CAVA member Sister MaryLou Rajdl, M.M. who is celebrating her 60th Jubilee this year! When Sister MaryLou arrived at Maryknoll, NY in 1957, she looked up at the Sisters' Center for the first time and thought, "Coming from a farming community in Minnesota, this building sure would hold a lot of hay!"

Assigned to Hong Kong in 1963 she pursued Cantonese language study. Later she worked as outpatient department supervisor at Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital in a small clinic. Patients and staff noticed her kindness and patience in this extremely hectic, crowded and busy place. In Lantau Island, Sister Mary Lou extended the hospital's Community Nursing and also had a Prayer Presence ministry. Returning to Kowloon, she gave activity-oriented programs in Creation Spirituality including retreats in Vietnamese camps, spirituality days for Catholic and ecumenical groups and clown ministry sessions. She developed leadership in the group in a

creative way. She asked them to name the theme they wished for the retreat which gave insights into their needs. She changed students' ideas of what a retreat could be.

In 1978 Sister Mary Lou was assigned to the Eastern U.S. Region and worked in Chinatown, Chicago primarily as medical/social work interpreter, taking many Chinese to clinics and hospitals. She also served as a school nutritionist at St. Therese and was its community representative. After finishing her Master's degree in Spirituality, she returned to Hong Kong. After a number of additional years of mission work in Hong Kong, she returned to Chicago where Sister Mary Lou continues to do pastoral ministry with the Chinese and Burmese groups. She currently serves as a Spiritual Director and vocation minister in the Midwest area.

Through her 60 years in mission, Sister Mary Lou has endeared herself regaling everyone with her great sense of humor as a story teller, nurse, hospital administrator, language interpreter, spiritual and retreat director. One of Sister MaryLou's favorite quotes is Meister Eckhart's, "Every spiritual journey is a process and every process is a spiritual journey".

(re)ENCOUNTER

Young Adult Faith Night



Young Adult Event: (re)Encounter

When: Friday, October 20

Doors open at 6 p.m.
Event starts at 6:30 p.m.

Where: UIC Pavilion

525 South Racine Avenue
Chicago, IL 60607

[Click here to purchase tickets.](#)

Faith, Fame and Finding God's Purpose:

A Conversation with Mark Wahlberg: What Jesus and the Catholic Church Mean to Me

Special Guests include: Cardinal Blase J. Cupich, Mark Wahlberg, Sr. Bethany Madonna of the Sisters of Life, Fr. Paul Mueller, SJ, Vice Director of the Vatican Observatory, and Joe Melendrez (DJ)

[Click here for News Release on \(re\)ENCOUNTER](#)

Save the Date: Chicago Faith Congress – Saturday, February 10, 2018

(Otherwise known in the past as Catechetical Congress)

<https://pvm.archchicago.org/events/chicago-faith-congress>

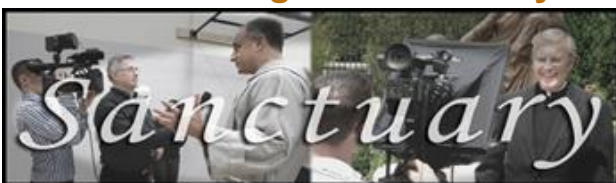
Loyola University Chicago

1032 West Sheridan Road, Chicago, IL 60660

Reignite the Journey: The Chicago Faith Congress will bring together leaders in religious education, evangelization, marriage and family ministry, youth and young adult ministry, and sacramental preparation from across the Archdiocese of Chicago for an inspiring gathering that will celebrate their extraordinary roles within the Catholic community. For more information, please email olf@archchicago.org or call 312.534.3700.



Catholic Chicago's "Sanctuary"



The October 2017 edition of Sanctuary is now available. Sanctuary is produced by the Archdiocesan Office of Radio and Television and is taped on location throughout the Chicago area. The Live Well Network can be seen over-the-air on ABC 7.2, as well as on Comcast Channel 217, RCN Channel 618, WOW Channel 219, Mediacom

Channel 723 and Charter Channel 608. Sanctuary airs every Sunday at 12-noon.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L6CDmPU1fbc&feature=youtu.be>

Six Weeks with the Word of God

Young adult scripture faith sharing – CAVA members and other Religious are invited to be present. Visit <https://pvm.archchicago.org/events/six-weeks-with-the-word-of-god> for locations and schedule.

V Encuentro – What is it?



The process of Encuentro (encounter) for Hispanic/Latino ministry has been deeply ecclesial. It is motivated by reading the signs of the times and convened by the bishops, who call the Hispanic/Latino community to raise their voices. In the context of this dialogue among

the bishops and the community, we live a spirit of pastoral ministry illuminated by an ecclesiological communion and missionary vocation that seeks to reach out to those who find themselves estranged from the life and vision of the Church. The main objective of the process of the Encuentro is to discern the way in which Hispanics/Latinos respond as Church. To learn more, visit: <https://vencuentro.org/encuentros/> to pray for our brothers and sisters who are on this journey, go to: <https://vencuentro.org/prayer-for-the-v-encuentro/>

Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Prayer Service

Here's our opportunity to pray with our brothers and sisters in Chicago!

Wednesday, November 22
First United Methodist Church
Chicago Temple, 77 West Washington Street
12 p.m. - 1 p.m.



Any comments, questions or if you wish to be involved, you may contact:
Tel. 312-534-5240
Email: Lpammit@archchicago.org

Mailing address:

OFR/CAVA
Sr. Lovina Francis Pammit, OSF
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Chicago, IL 60611-2030