

Office for Religious 835 North Rush Street Chicago, IL 60611-60611-2030 tel 312-534-5240 fax 312-534-3877 Lpammit@archchicago.org CAVA – Chicago Archdiocesan Vocation Assoc. cava@archchicago.org www.vocationscava.org

September 1, 2017

Dear Friends:

How great is our mission in today's Church and world, and how ardently we desire to carry it forward to future generations! Here in the Archdiocese of Chicago, Cardinal Blase Cupich has called us to join with our brothers and sisters in Christ to "renew our Church" by "listening to each other attentively, imagining our future boldly, discerning our direction wisely, embracing the greater good and handing on our gifts to future generations." Vocation ministry is at the heart of this mission, and today, we call upon you and your congregation to join us in creating and nurturing a culture of vocations and discernment here in the Archdiocese.

We are blessed to have an archdiocesan organization dedicated to vocation ministry by nurturing all Church vocations and specifically vocation to consecrated life. **The Chicago Archdiocesan Vocation Association, (CAVA)** has existed since 1979 and continues to flourish with an active Advisory Board, Coordinator and members who contribute countless hours of service to vocation ministry at every level. Established as a collaborative group, **CAVA** continues to work hand in hand with the archdiocesan Vocation Office, various archdiocesan agencies, schools, parishes, campus ministers, and other organizations. Together, we are a tangible sign of the Spirit's dynamic presence that reaches beyond the capacities of any single religious congregation or parish in our work.

We are CAVA...Chicago...Aware, Vibrant and Alive!

We know that many congregations today are smaller in number or have reconfigured to meet the changing realities of the times we are living in, but even with these realities we never cease to be men and women who help others to hear the call of Christ and invite them to consider a vocation in the Church. If your congregation has a full time, part time or volunteer vocation minister, members of a vocation or formation team or simply interested members who are willing to offer the gift of presence here in the Archdiocese, please consider sending one, two or even five members (Group rates are great!) to be a part of the CAVA family! Registration information is available on our CAVA

website at: www. vocationscava.org or by contacting Sr. Lovina Francis Pammit, OSF at the Office for Religious at Lpammit@archchicago.org . Scholarships are available to congregations with financial need.

As always, your prayerful support, particularly, the prayers of your senior, retired and infirm members is especially appreciated. In addition, "in-kind" gifts such as meeting space, hospitality, printing and publishing services or monetary donations also help our ministry to flourish and allow us to extend our efforts at vocation outreach. May God bless you abundantly and enrich you as together we bring forth God's love and life here in the Archdiocese of Chicago!

In Christ,

The CAVA Advisory Board:

Sr. Connie Bach, PHJC

Sr. Maria Brizuela, O.S.F.

Sr. Mary Beth Bromer, C.S.S.F.

Sr. Mary Kay Brooks, SSND

Fr. Harold Fisher, OMI

Sr. Michele Fisher, C.S.F.N.

Sr. Bernadine Gutowski, O.S.F.

Sr. Jess Lambert, FE

Br. James McDonald, C.F.C.

Rev. Michael Scherschel (St. Hubert)

Sr. Lovina Francis Pammit, OSF

Coordinator of Religious Vocation Ministries, Office for Religious

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

