



# CAVA QUARTERLY

SUMMER 2022

A Newsletter for Office for Religious Chicago Archdiocesan Vocation Association (CAVA)

## A Hope-filled Ministry Year: 2022-2023

We thank Fr. John Schork, C.P. for serving on the CAVA Board even through the first several months of his move to Houston, Texas for the rest of his 2021-2022 ministry year. We sure miss you and your lovely parsley plant (it was the symbol used for last year's CAVA Community Garden theme). Fr. John will continue to be a part of the CAVA family as we continue to offer online opportunities!

For the ministry year 2022-2023, we welcome to the CAVA Board two new members: Sr. Joni Luna, S.P and Sr. Mary Jo Curtsinger, CSJ. We also welcome back Fr. Mike Scherschel, pastor at St. Hubert Parish, who served for six years on the board, and two years later said "yes" once again when asked to be on the team.

Along with our collaboration with Fr. Tim Monahan and the Vocation Office staff, Melissa Link in the Office for Catholic Schools, Campus Ministers, and various agencies in the Archdiocese, our goal is to connect and engage online or in person with parishes, schools, and college campuses given new opportunities after two years dealing with COVID-19.

## CAVA Advisory Board 2022-2023 Team

Here's the 2022-2023 list of the CAVA Advisory Board team:

Sr. Kathleen Branham, OSF, Sisters of St. Francis, Oldenburg  
 Sr. Mary Jo Curtsinger, CSJ, Congregation of St. Joseph  
 Mr. Greg Darr, Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers (MM)  
 Br. John Eustice, CSV, Viatorians (Clerics of St. Viator)  
 Sr. Michele Vincent Fisher, CSFN, Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth  
 Mrs. Michelle Horton, Dominicans of Sinsinawa (OP)  
 Sr. Joni Luna, SP, Sisters of Providence of St. Mary of the Woods, IN  
 Mrs. Suzanne Petrouski, Little Company of Mary Sisters (LCM)  
 Sr. Peggy Quinn, OSF, Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate (Joliet Franciscans)  
 Fr. Mike Scherschel, Pastor at St. Hubert Parish  
 Sr. Lovina Francis Pammit, OSF – Coordinator of Religious Vocations Ministries, Office for Religious  
 Panel Presentation (10 min. per presenter)

## Events (Click on link to visit site)

Jul. 29, 2022  
 2022-23 CAVA Board Meeting

Dare to Love Show:  
 Aug. 4, Sep. 1, Oct. 6, 2022

Sep. 7 CAVA Opening Gathering

Nov. 2-6, 2022: [Nat'l Vocation Awareness Week](#)

TBD:  
 Chicago's Got Sisters (Fall)  
 Busy Person's Retreat (Fall)  
 CAVA Café Gatherings  
 Gathering with Campus Ministers

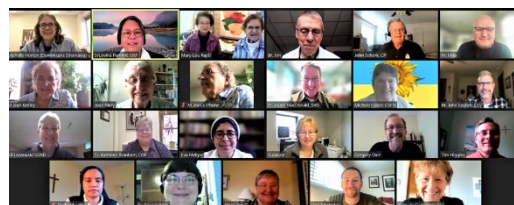
Dec. 14, 2022 CAVA Advent Gathering

Discernment Opportunities:  
<https://www.vocationscava.org/vocation-opportunities/>

Chicago Priest events:  
<https://vocations.archchicago.org/events>

## CAVA End-of-Year Gathering

On May 25, 2022 CAVA members gathered online to gain a fresh perspective of vocation and mission. Four guest panelists were asked to share their wisdom with this question: “How do you, in your current ministry in/for the Church see how we can grow in communion, participation and mission (the three themes of the Synod) to help people come to understand their lives as vocation and to engage in life-long discernment?”



We are grateful for the participation and wisdom of Paul E. Jarzembowski, MAPS (USCCB Assoc. Dir. for the Laity), Melissa Link (Ofc. of Catholic Schools Director of Catholic Mission and Culture), Tim Higgins – Campus Minister @ Northwestern University), and Fr. Mike Scherschel (Pastor at St. Hubert Parish).

Many thanks and kudos to the planning committee from the 2021-22 Board: Sr. Michele Fisher, CSFN (Holy Family of Nazareth), Ms. Suzanne Petrouski (Little Co. of Mary), and Ms. Michelle Horton (Sinsinawa Dominicans).

## Chicago's Got Sisters - May 21, 2022

By Sister Jess Lambert, FE

It was a great joy to once again be in-person for a Chicago's Got Sisters event! We are grateful to Sisters Belinda Monahan OSB, Jessi Beck PBVM, Kara Davis DC, and Jess Lambert FE for planning the day. Four young women participants and Sr. Connie Bach PHJ met at the Congregation of St. Joseph's home in La Grange, hosted by Sister Mary Jo Curtsinger and several of their Sisters, for a morning of prayer, an Emmaus walk, and lunch. The afternoon was hosted by the Franciscans of the Eucharist of Chicago, and included a panel, making bags of groceries for patrons of the food pantry, Eucharistic Adoration, and dinner with the hosting community. A sincere thank you to our panelists: Sr. Skolastika Wea SSPS, Sr. Jill Laszewski SSND, and Sr. Kathleen McClelland RSM.



## Vocation Voices

Each month, we feature a CAVA member, partner in ministry or part of the CAVA family to celebrate those in vocation ministry. Below are recently featured CAVA members.

Our May 2022 feature was [Fr. John Schork, CP](#). Our June feature was [Sr. Julia Walsh, FSPA](#) and our July feature is [Sr. Jill Laszewski, SSND, Silver jubilarian](#). Visit [vocationscava.org/vocation-voices/](http://vocationscava.org/vocation-voices/) for the full article and a list of previous Vocation Voices features. If you have never been featured before or are celebrating your jubilee, vows, or ordination anniversary, please contact Suzanne Petrouski at [spetrouski@lcmh.org](mailto:spetrouski@lcmh.org).

## DARE TO LOVE

### Vocation Awareness Show

Airs every first Thursday of the month at 8 a.m. |  
Channel WNDZ 750-AM – Indiana  
Watch on YouTube:  
[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL30oeUTJ9xG3wWoA7dy95RNbu\\_BAIfJbP](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL30oeUTJ9xG3wWoA7dy95RNbu_BAIfJbP)

Dare to Love is a half hour show featuring vocation stories of women and men who are living out their vocation calling with a focus on consecrated life. Listen or watch to learn about the many different Charisms (unique gift of each community, purpose and way of being) of religious congregations and the various ways they minister to serve others. Find out about their ongoing journey as they continue to respond to God's call and be inspired to respond to that call in your own personal way. Email [Lpammit@archchicago.org](mailto:Lpammit@archchicago.org) to be a featured guest this year!

### Dare to Love Radio Show

#### May 5, 2022: Celebrating Religious Brothers Day and World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Our guests today are Sister Michele Fisher, CSFN, a Sister of the Holy Family of Nazareth ( [www.NazarethCSFN.org](http://www.NazarethCSFN.org)) and Brother Tim Smyth, CFC, a member of the Edmund Rice Christian Brothers of the North American Province ([www.ercbna.org](http://www.ercbna.org)). Pray the rosary with the CSFNs in Ukraine via Zoom at 1:00 pm central. To join the Sisters for the online Rosary at 9pm (Kiev time), the following ZOOM link can be used: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/4394440126...>  
Meeting ID: 439 444 0126 | Passcode: b6RR89

#### Thursday, June 2, 2022: COVID, CONFIRMATION, and COMMITMENT

Fr. Adam MacDonald, SVD talks about how vocation efforts during the pandemic including his experience leading a Confirmation Retreat for young people and the gift of witnessing the journey of a priest he has accompanied over the years. Contact information for Fr. Adam: Toll-Free: 800-553-3321 | Cell: 847-644-8320 | Email: [adamsvd@yahoo.com](mailto:adamsvd@yahoo.com) | Website: [www.svdvocations.org](http://www.svdvocations.org) | Facebook: [www.facebook.com/adamsvd](http://www.facebook.com/adamsvd) | Twitter: @AMacDonaldSVD

#### Thursday, July 7, 2022: Spiritual Direction and Discernment

Sister Joyce Diltz, PHJC, a Poor Handmaid of Jesus Christ Sister, talks about Spiritual Direction – what it is, what it is not, and who is it for? If you are seeking guidance in your life, this is the topic for you! To find out more about the Poor Handmaids - PHJC website: [www.poorhandmaids.org](http://www.poorhandmaids.org). To contact Sr. Joyce, email [bethanyrh@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bethanyrh@sbcglobal.net).



## CAVA Member Communities Events and Spiritual Offerings

**Taizé Prayer Service:** 2nd Wednesday every month at 7:30 pm – join us from near or far. It livestreams on Facebook @ViatorianUSA @SaintViatorHighSchool @SaintViatorParish and on Instagram @ViatorianUSA. The Viatorians invite you to join us for Taizé Prayer. We gather monthly to pray for ourselves, our ministries, and our world. In this busy culture, join us as we make time to connect with the God of peace and serenity. Taizé prayer refers to chants that praise God or ask for God's help. During Taizé prayer, everyone repeatedly sings each chant with the choir for several minutes like a mantra. The repetition helps connect those gathered with God, while disconnecting them from life's stress. Taizé prayer originated with an ecumenical community of Christians in Taizé, France, who gather daily to chant and meditate together. Taizé Prayer takes place on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm and lasts about one hour. It livestreams from our chapel at the Viatorian Province Center, located at 1212 E. Euclid Ave., Arlington Heights, IL 60004. Email [vocations@viatorians.com](mailto:vocations@viatorians.com) with questions or to ask for more info.

### **Benedictine Sisters of Chicago**

The Benedictine Sisters of Chicago invite women to spend some quiet time or to pray with us at our monastery, on the far north side of Chicago. Visitors are welcome to join us for Liturgy of the Hours or Eucharist, as well as to spend time alone in personal prayer in our beautiful chapel. Weather permitting, our grounds and gardens provide a setting for reflection or reading, and a labyrinth is available for a contemplative walk. St. Scholastica Monastery is the home of twenty-three Benedictine women, called to seek God in prayer and community, serving where there is need. To let us know you are coming, for details, or for further information, please contact Sister Belinda Monahan, O.S.B. at 773-338-7063 or [vocation@osbchicago.org](mailto:vocation@osbchicago.org).

### **Cenacle Sisters**

Our Sisters in the Chicago area would be delighted to welcome women who are searching to understand how God is calling them into deeper relationship. In order to discern if religious life is a possibility, it's important to experience the prayer, community life and ministry of sisters. We welcome women to come for a visit, a meal, prayer — for one day or several. To find out more please contact Sr. Kathryn Madden, r.c. at [vocations@cenaclesisters.org](mailto:vocations@cenaclesisters.org).

### **Daughters of Charity**

The Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul strive to see Christ in persons who live in poverty. Come spend a day, several days or a week serving with us and/or an evening praying, supper and sharing with us. In Chicago, our sisters serve at our three social agencies: Marillac House, St. Vincent de Paul Center and St. Joseph Services as well as at De Paul University and in parish and jail ministry. We invite you to “encounter” those living in poverty. Come experience the prayer and community life that sustains our ministry. [www.daughters-of-charity.com](http://www.daughters-of-charity.com)  
Contact Sister Regina Hlavac, D.C., Vocation Director, [regina.hlavac@doc.org](mailto:regina.hlavac@doc.org)

### **Daughters of St. Mary of Providence**

The Daughters of St. Mary of Providence open their hearts to the poor who are living images of Christ, dedicating themselves to persons less favored with the gift of intelligence, physical health, those in need of religious formation and those deprived of human support. We strive to reveal the provident love of God through our works of mercy. You are invited to share in our family spirit and open your heart to see Christ in others. You may visit us, pray with us or volunteer at any of our three Chicago locations: St. Mary of Providence ([www.smopchicago.org](http://www.smopchicago.org)), Mount St. Joseph ([www.mtstjoseph.org](http://www.mtstjoseph.org)) or Providence Soup Kitchen ([providencesoupkitchen.com](http://providencesoupkitchen.com)). For more information check out our website: <http://www.dsmpic.org/> or contact: Sr. Brenda McHugh, DSMP at [DSMP.Vocations@gmail.com](mailto:DSMP.Vocations@gmail.com)

### **Dominican Sisters of Springfield, IL**

1. Mini-guided, virtual 3-day retreat that is ready at the [click of this button](#) and you set your own schedule!
  2. Virtual Events going on hosted by our Jubilee Farm and Ecological Spirituality Center <https://www.facebook.com/thejubileefarm/>
  3. [Cor Unum House](#) A faith-based residency program for Christian women 21-36. What life can be in a community of faith!
  4. Virtual guided tour of our gorgeous chapel. <https://springfieldop.org/arm-chair-chapel-tour/>
- Contact Sr. Denise Glazik, OP [dglazik@spdom.org](mailto:dglazik@spdom.org) for more information.

### **Franciscans of the Eucharist of Chicago**

For anyone interested in an experience of a Franciscan community, you are most welcome to come over to Our Lady of the Angels in Chicago, IL for a time of prayer and to share in a meal. Please contact Sr. Alicia Torres, 773-486-8431 or email to [FEVocations@gmail.com](mailto:FEVocations@gmail.com) to set up a visit. To learn more about the community at Our Lady of the Angels, please visit [www.franciscansoftheeucharistofchicago.com/](http://www.franciscansoftheeucharistofchicago.com/). We look forward to welcoming you!

### **Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart – Frankfort, IL**

Young adult women are welcome to drop by and visit St. Francis Woods, our motherhouse campus. We have several spots conducive to prayer and meditation including an outdoor labyrinth and Stations of the Cross. Due to COVID restrictions, Morning and Evening Prayer is not open to the public. Mass is celebrated (with the public) Tuesday – Sunday at 9:30 am.

**Contact Information:** Sr. Nancy Roberta Schramm, OSF, Phone: 815-464-3848,  
Email: [fsshvocations@aol.com](mailto:fsshvocations@aol.com); Sr. Maria Brizuela, OSF, Phone: 815-464-3873,  
Email: [Maria.brizuela@fssh.net](mailto:Maria.brizuela@fssh.net).

### **Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ**

Located in Donaldson, IN, 2 hours east of Chicago or 45 minutes south of South Bend on US 30, the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ joyfully welcome women to share prayer, dinner or conversation as you consider different communities in search of where God is calling you. Our congregation was inspired by Mary, the mother of Jesus, and Saint Katharina Kasper, a peasant woman from Dernbach, Germany who lovingly helped the sick, the elderly, the children and the needy of her village and beyond. Other women followed her and together they professed vows in 1851. You are most welcome to spend time with us in your discernment of God's call in your own life as a single, married or religious woman in service to God's church and the world. We host PHJC Volunteers anywhere from a week to a year to give women the opportunity to get to know us firsthand. Volunteers live with the sisters in community or with other volunteers growing spiritually as well as emotionally and mentally. We continue to make a preferential option for the poor and marginalized ministering in nine countries around the world.

Visit our website at [www.poorhandmaids.org](http://www.poorhandmaids.org), our volunteer website at [www.phjcvolprogram.org](http://www.phjcvolprogram.org) or contact Sr. Connie Bach, PHJC Vocation Director and Volunteer Co-Director at [cbach@poorhandmaids.org](mailto:cbach@poorhandmaids.org).

### **Sisters of Mercy of the Americas**

The Sisters of Mercy of the Americas are part of an international community. Along with the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience we have a fourth vow of service to the poor sick and uneducated. Living a life of prayer and service, we respond to the needs of people through health care, education, social work, advocacy and retreat work. Our critical concerns are earth, immigration, nonviolence, racism and women.

We welcome women between the ages of 20 and 45 to vowed life and women and men to serve with us as associates. Our year-long volunteer program, Mercy Volunteer Corps, accepts both men and women.

We would welcome an opportunity to answer any of your questions and to tell you more about our community. To arrange a visit or to learn more, contact Sr Kathleen McClelland at [kmcclelland@sistersofmercy.org](mailto:kmcclelland@sistersofmercy.org)

For more information, please visit our website at [www.sistersofmercy.org](http://www.sistersofmercy.org) or follow us at [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Blog](#)

### **Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth**

A warm welcome from our family to you! As we celebrate more than 135 years of service to and presence with God's people here in the United States, we are happy to invite you to experience our mission in action! A lot has changed since our simple beginnings in 1885, but one thing remains constant: our mission to families. Come and experience the heart and soul of a family of women religious with three locations in the Chicago area. The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth invite you to come and experience our ordinary life together in prayer, community and service. Opportunities for day or weekend visits at any of our local communities can be arranged. Visit us on our province website at: [www.nazarethcsfn.org](http://www.nazarethcsfn.org) and our international website at [www.nazarethfamily.org](http://www.nazarethfamily.org).

To arrange a local visit, contact Sister Trina Marie Ulrich at [tulrich@auroracentral.com](mailto:tulrich@auroracentral.com) or call her at (847) 299-5755. You can also contact our vocation director, **Sister Emmanuela**

**Le** at [vocations@nazarethcsfn.org](mailto:vocations@nazarethcsfn.org). Find us on Facebook at Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth in the USA and Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth vocations-USA.

### **Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods**

Are you looking for something real? You'll find authentic, life-giving relationship with God and community with the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana.

We invite you to visit and get to know our sisters in Chicago or in our motherhouse at beautiful **Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana**. The Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods are a community of Catholic women religious who collaborate with others to create a more just and hope-filled world through prayer, education, service and advocacy. We were founded by a strong woman of faith, **Saint Mother Theodore Guerin**. Today we minister using our own unique gifts in the United States and in Asia.

We invite single, Catholic women ages 18-42 to explore life as a Sister of Providence.

Visit [www.SistersofProvidence.org](http://www.SistersofProvidence.org) or contact Sister Joni Luna at [jluna@spsmw.org](mailto:jluna@spsmw.org) or 361-500-9505. Sister Joni would be happy to speak with you or arrange a visit. We also welcome women and men of all ages to spend some time as an intern or a long-term volunteer at our **White Violet Center for Eco-Justice ministry** or as a **Providence Associate** of the Sisters of Providence.

### **For other listings of CAVA Members communities visit:**

Women's Communities - [Women's Congregations/Organizations » Chicago Archdiocesan Vocation Association \(vocationscava.org\)](http://Women's%20Congregations/Organizations%20»%20Chicago%20Archdiocesan%20Vocation%20Association%20(vocationscava.org))

Men's communities - [Men's Congregations/Organizations » Chicago Archdiocesan Vocation Association \(vocationscava.org\)](http://Men's%20Congregations/Organizations%20»%20Chicago%20Archdiocesan%20Vocation%20Association%20(vocationscava.org))

Other Communities in Chicago:

Women's Institutes: <https://consecratedlife.archchicago.org/religious-institutes/for-women>

Men's Institutes: <https://consecratedlife.archchicago.org/religious-institutes/for-men>

## Online Discernment

CAVA members are available to meet with those who are in various stages of exploring life choices. Are you curious about consecrated life and would like to find out more? Are you sensing a desire to explore whether you are being called to religious life? Have you started your discernment and want someone to accompany you on your journey? Contact [cava@archchicago.org](mailto:cava@archchicago.org)

**The Chicago Archdiocesan Vocation Association (CAVA) serves vocation ministers and vocation awareness promoters through mutual support, sharing of resources and collaboration. We provide opportunities and resources and accompany those discerning their life choices.**



**Why CAVA Vocations? Faithful to Christ's call to discipleship and mission, CAVA encourages others to respond to this invitation:**

- by the witness of our own lives;
- by providing opportunities for young people and discerners to learn about various vocation choices including ordained, vowed/consecrated, married, or single life;
- by assisting seekers/discerners, including older adults, as they explore how God is calling them in their lives.

If you are exploring ways to respond to God's call in your life, CAVA is here to accompany you on your journey. We are here to listen to your story. Contact us at [CAVA@ArchChicago.org](mailto:CAVA@ArchChicago.org). Interested in helping with vocation ministry? Get involved with CAVA! You can join us as a member. There are many ways you can partner with us, collaborate, or provide support.

Find out more: [vocationscava.org/about-us/](http://vocationscava.org/about-us/)

Watch our video: [youtube.com/watch?v=P7K\\_RVZXrLk](https://youtube.com/watch?v=P7K_RVZXrLk)

## CONTACT US

Any comments, questions or if you wish to be involved in nurturing a vocation culture in the Archdiocese of Chicago, you may contact **312.534.5240** [lpammit@archchicago.org](mailto:lpammit@archchicago.org) or visit [vocationscava.org](http://vocationscava.org). CAVA works in collaboration with the Archdiocesan Vocation Office, Fr. Timothy Monahan, Director. Single, Catholic men interested in discerning a vocation to diocesan priesthood are invited to visit: [www.chicagopriest.com](http://www.chicagopriest.com)

