



# OFFICE FOR RELIGIOUS NEWSLETTER



March 2020

[consecratedlife.archchicago.org](http://consecratedlife.archchicago.org)

## Resources Available

Religious Formation Conference: For women & men; program offerings include *ForMission*; *Life Commitment Program*; *Orientation to Formation*. For more information visit [relforcon.org](http://relforcon.org).

National Religious Vocation Conference: For downloadable and video resources, workshops, and research to promote vocations to religious life including VISION Vocation Network, HORIZON Journal and the National Fund for Catholic Religious Vocations. For more information visit [nrvc.net](http://nrvc.net).

## Religious Brothers Symposium: Saturday, April 4, 2020 at Boston College at the Crowne Plaza-Boston Newton\*

The theme for this second gathering of religious brothers is “The sky’s the limit,” and appropriately enough, the keynote presenter will be Brother Guy Consolmagno, SJ, the director of the Vatican Observatory who will discuss “The Prophetic Call of the Brother in the Church.” Invited presenters from around the world will discuss how brothers are living witnesses of the prophetic Gospel call. Small-group sessions in the afternoon will allow for discussion. Cardinal Sean O’Malley, OFM Capuchin, Archbishop of Boston, will celebrate the closing Mass. Registration will open at 8 a.m. on Saturday, April 4, with the program beginning at 9 a.m. Lunch will be provided, and the day will conclude with the Eucharistic Liturgy at 5:30 p.m. On Friday, April 3, there will be an optional bus tour to Spencer Abbey. On Sunday, April 5 there will be a breakfast at the Crowne-Plaza-Boston Newton. The Brothers Think Tank will lead a conversation at breakfast discussing what was heard and how best it can be applied. The morning program will end at 11 a.m.

\* Note that the hotel will be renovated and changing owners in January and will become a Four Points by Sheraton. Reservations made at the Crowne Plaza will be honored. The rate is \$139/night and includes breakfast. Reservations can be made by contacting the hotel at 1.617.969.3010 and using the code CMS. The rate is available April 2–7, 2020. The Brothers Symposium is a program of the Brothers Think Tank, a coalition of organizations and individuals dedicated to supporting and promoting the vocation of Catholic religious brothers. Register now: [religiousbrothers.org/events/symposium](http://religiousbrothers.org/events/symposium) Questions? 301.588.4030 or [tsouthard@cmsm.org](mailto:tsouthard@cmsm.org).

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### 2020 OFR Events

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 23

9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

**Cardinal’s Meeting with Leadership,**  
St. Rosalie Parish, Harwood Heights

#### FRIDAY, MAY 1

11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**Mass/Luncheon for Religious**  
**Jubilarians,**  
St. Priscilla Parish, Chicago

## Catholic Sisters Week Special Event

During Catholic Sisters Week (March 8–14), women who are age 18–50 are invited to join on Wednesday evening, March 11 from 7 to 9 p.m. for scripture, prayer and refreshments at St. Scholastica Monastery, 7430 N. Ridge Boulevard in Chicago. Explore the Bible through Lectio Divina, a Benedictine prayer tradition, and discover God's guidance for your life. Visit [osbchicago.org/word](http://osbchicago.org/word) for more information and RSVP by emailing Sister Belinda at [bmonahan@osbchicago.org](mailto:bmonahan@osbchicago.org) or calling 773.338.7073. Catholic Sisters Week is an annual celebration that was created to honor women religious; it is a series of events that instruct, enlighten and bring greater focus to the lives of these incredible women.

## Ministry Opportunities

For additional Archdiocesan opportunities visit: [legacy.archchicago.org/Employment/](http://legacy.archchicago.org/Employment/)

### Database Administrator

The National Religious Vocation Conference (NRVC) is looking for a Database Administrator with a strong background in customer relationship management software: Raiser's Edge preferred. This team member will maintain the NRVC member/subscriber/donor database, assist with membership renewal, event and workshop registrations, and prepare event materials. This part-time position of 24 hours weekly at the National Office in Hyde Park (Chicago) includes parking at CTU. For more information and to submit a resume, please email [nrvc@nrvc.net](mailto:nrvc@nrvc.net).

### Liturgical Coordinator

Mercy Circle is a newly constructed faith-based continuing care and retirement community sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy located on Chicago's south side. Mercy Circle provides retirement apartments, assisted living, memory care, and skilled nursing care to individuals 62 years of age or older. Mercy Circle is seeking a qualified individual to serve as the Liturgical Coordinator. This full-time (32–40hours/22ek), benefit-eligible role is responsible for coordinating the worship program for the liturgical year including sacramental services and celebrations. The Liturgical Coordinator reports to the Executive Director. Interested? Contact: Jeannine Larkin at 773.253.3640.

## Volunteer Opportunities

### Mission of Our Lady of the Angels

**Saturday, March 7:** Mobile pantry; **Saturday, March 21:** Work day; **Sunday, March 22:** Shamrock Shuffle! Also, contact Sister Stephanie if you are interested in participating in the Bank of America Chicago Marathon on Sunday, October 11. Address: Mission of Our Lady of the Angels, 3808 W. Iowa Street, Chicago, IL 60651

### National Meeting: Institute on Religious Life

Friday, April 17 – Sunday, April 19 at the University of Saint Mary of the Lake/Mundelein Seminary in Mundelein, Illinois. Registration concludes on April 3. The theme for this year's National Meeting is *Forming Apostles through Prayer*. 847.573.8975 or [IRLstaff@ReligiousLife.com](mailto:IRLstaff@ReligiousLife.com).

### Congratulations to Reverend Mitch Pacwa, S.J.

Reverend Mitch Pacwa, S.J., will be honored with the **Pro Fidelitate et Virtute Award** on Saturday, April 18 at the University of St. Mary of the Lake/Mundelein Seminary. Father Mitch is known for his faithful witness as a religious priest, Sacred Scripture scholar, author and TV/Radio host. This banquet and the award are sponsored by the Institute on Religious Life.

## Properties/Housing Available

### Oak Park Apartment for Rent

2 Bedroom, 1 bath apartment for rent. A 1200 square foot apartment with in-unit full washer and dryer. The rent is \$1600/month for an extended lease. Contact Patricia Knabe at 708.204.6650 or [ob2knabe@gmail.com](mailto:ob2knabe@gmail.com).

### St. Catherine of Siena—St. Lucy Parish—Apartment for Rent, 28 N. Austin Boulevard in Oak Park, IL

Apartment: Newly renovated 2 bedrooms with living room, dining room, kitchen, mud room and parking. Rent: \$1,400 Per month including utilities: gas, electricity and water. Religious preferred. Conveniently located to PACE and CTA Bus stops. One block to Blue Line and Green Line.

Rectory Suite: 2 suites for priests or brothers only. Rent: \$850 per month including all utilities, heated garage and stair lift. Conveniently located to PACE and CTA Bus stops. One block to Blue Line and Green Line. Contact Fr. George Omwando at 708.386.8077.

### Bridgeport Apartment for Rent

One bedroom on the second floor/front. Non-smoking building; no animals. Central heat and air conditioning. Location: 2950 Keeley Street. Contact: Alice Mesec, 630.243.7390 or 630.301.0034 (cell).

### Jefferson Park House for Sale (possible rental)

5240 N. Ludlam Avenue, 60630. 3 bed/1 bath; oak floors and maple in kitchen with a great layout. 2.5 car garage with a yard and 6-foot fence on all sides. House has light streaming in from the east which has a peculiar ambience. Basement has a space which was another apartment in past years. The house does need some cosmetic work, mainly floors which need sanding and an exterior paint job. Some work is also needed on 3rd bedroom and basement apartment. Some new windows will be needed for next winter. The current occupant has lived here for 25 years and the home is dedicated to Our Lady. As is: \$230,000. Contact Julie: [jmccreevy099@gmail.com](mailto:jmccreevy099@gmail.com).

## Potpourri

**Online Discernment Group:** The Chicago Archdiocesan Vocation Association (CAVA) hosts monthly online vocation discernment groups via ZOOM video conference – one for men and one for women. For more details, visit [vocationscava.org/online-discernment-group/](http://vocationscava.org/online-discernment-group/).

### Spiritual Direction Program

Dr. Mary Amore presents a 10-month program entitled “Sacred Presence.” For further information, contact Dr. Amore at [mamore@mayslakeministries.org](mailto:mamore@mayslakeministries.org) or call 630.852.9000.

### Building a Monastery for the Heart

Author, PBS and NPR contributor and Benediction Oblate Judith Valente will flavor a weekend retreat in the spirit of St. Benedict. [chiaracenter.org](http://chiaracenter.org).

### Monthly Homicide Vigil

All are welcome to join Chicago Catholic Sisters for monthly homicide vigils to unite together, name those lost to violence, and pray for the end to violence in our city. The purpose of the homicide prayer vigil is to serve as a public witness to the sacredness of life when it has been lost through homicides. The vigils are held on the last Saturday of each month at the site of a homicide. Follow “Chicago Homicide Vigils” on Facebook: [facebook.com/ChicagoHomicideVigils/](https://facebook.com/ChicagoHomicideVigils/) To receive an e-mail notification with the location each month, email Sister Mary Therese at [Krugsmt@gmail.com](mailto:Krugsmt@gmail.com).

### Retreat Opportunities for Men

Mayslake Ministries is excited to announce a retreat opportunity for men the weekend of April 3–5: “*An Ignatian School of Prayer* will invite and offer opportunities to grow in methods of prayer that will help us walk with our Lord.” The Retreat Master will be Father Richard McGurn, S.J. The \$295 donation includes meals, lodging and retreat materials. The retreat will take place at the Bellarmine Retreat House in Barrington, Illinois. For information visit the website or call 630.852.9000 or go to [mayslakeministries.org](http://mayslakeministries.org).

### **“Together” Cohort Now Forming**

If you are a member of a women’s religious community or a men’s religious community with brothers, we invite you to consider the Together program for your newer members. This is a collaborative for theological education, formation, and community cosponsored by the RFC and Catholic Theological Union (CTU). Together offers a cohort-based, residential theology program for religious sisters and brothers in temporary vows and for newly perpetually professed religious who commit to participation in the three program components: theological education, formation and community. On Thursday, March 5 from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. CST those interested in the Together program will have the opportunity to speak with Katrina Conrad, Together Program Coordinator, receive an overview of CTU’s academic programs, and take a peek at the formation community. For an individual visit, Katrina will set up a time to meet on campus and talk more about the program. CTU is also willing to answer questions regarding admission: [admission@ctu.edu](mailto:admission@ctu.edu). The Together program application deadline is June 1, 2020. Katrina Conrad, CDP 773.675.8362 or [kconrad@reforcon.org](mailto:kconrad@reforcon.org)

### **Vocations Radio Show “Dare to Love”**

Co-hosts Sr. Lovina Pammit, OSF and Sr. Mary Kay Brooks, SSND feature topics on vocation awareness and discernment aids. “Dare to Love” airs on the first Thursday of the month from 8 to 8:30 a.m. on **750 AM Radio WNDZ Indiana**. If you miss the live airing of the show, podcast recordings are posted at [radiotv.archchicago.org/radio/dare-to-love](http://radiotv.archchicago.org/radio/dare-to-love) to stream or download. *Would you like to be our featured guest?* Contact Sister Lovina at [Lpammit@archchicago.org](mailto:Lpammit@archchicago.org).

### **Mayslake Ministries are Moving!**

As of April, Mayslake Ministries will be located at 1S314 Summit Avenue, Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois – inside beautiful Ascension of Our Lord Parish.

### **Reframing Retirement for Mission at the Chicago Theological Union**

A month long mini-sabbatical in Chicago for men and women religious and diocesan priests who are discerning and/or transitioning into retirement. The four-week program will run from Friday, May 29 to Friday, June 26, 2020. The program will include three weeks of speakers, one to one spiritual direction, daily prayer and mass along with other recreational activities. One week will be reserved for a directed retreat. \$3650 with a non-refundable deposit of \$250. For further information, contact Marian Diaz. This mini-sabbatical is limited to 30 participants so register early to save a place. CTU

### **Life Commitment Program: A Transformative Intercultural Experience**

July 8–16, Wednesday–(following) Thursday at the Marillac Retreat Center in Leavenworth, Kansas. An opportunity for Catholic religious women and men to contemplate and reflect on their call to embrace a full-time commitment to consecrated life. Those discerning or anticipating profession of final vows will gather with peers and presenters, seasoned in religious life and skilled in adult learning processes, to engage the compelling questions, experiences, and insights that speak to the reality of living vowed religious life in the 21st Century. Connie Schoen, OP, Program Director 773.675.8362 or [cschoen@reforcon.org](mailto:cschoen@reforcon.org)

### **Friends of Ben**

Interested in the cause of Ben Salmon? If so go to [bensalmon.org](http://bensalmon.org).

### **NRVC Summer Institute [nrvc.net](http://nrvc.net)**

#### **July:**

**8–12, Wednesday-Sunday:** *Orientation Program for New Vocation Directors*

**13–14, Monday-Tuesday:** *Ethical Issues in Vocation and Formation Ministry*

**16–18, Wednesday-Friday:** *Behavioral Assessment 1*

**16–18, Wednesday-Friday:** *Is it Generational, Cultural, Personality or Pathology?*

**20–23, Monday-Thursday:** *Understanding, Assessing, and Fostering Psycho-Sexual Integration...*

### **Stories of Spirit and Heart: Conversations with Catholic Sisters**

Come celebrate **Catholic Sisters Week** March 8–14 at the Chicago Theological Union (CTU) by joining the conversation with us! This **free** event will offer space to listen to panelists in an atmosphere to encourage sharing in small groups and delicious pizza to sustain table talk. Mark your calendar for Wednesday, March 11 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Denny Center, second floor. Parking is free in the garage next to CTU. Invite a friend to join us! Sponsored by the Center for the Study of Consecrated Life; Communicators for Women Religious; Giving Voice; Institute for Religious Formation; National Religious Vocation Conference; and the Religious Formation Conference.

### **Does Your Congregation have French Roots?**

Tres bien! A five-week course will be offered on Tuesday mornings beginning on April 21 for those who want to attend in a classroom at CTU, but another option is to watch recorded sessions at one's own convenience. Thus, it could even be made available to those in formation anywhere in the country – or the world – sacre bleu! Interested? Oui? Contact Mary Frohlich RSCJ at 773.371.5535 or [frohlich@ctu.edu](mailto:frohlich@ctu.edu).

### **Spiritual Direction Certificate Program, September – May**

(Currently accepting applications) Spiritual Direction is a sacred practice of deeply listening and supporting another as they are present to their own spiritual story. It is a long-standing ministry that is for people of all faith traditions. The Claret Center has offered Spiritual Direction for 30-plus years. The program provides an intense experiential mentoring for those who have completed academic study, have served in ministry or healing professions, and have personal experience with Spiritual Direction. For more information, contact Irma Cruz, Executive Director, The Claret Center 773.643.6259 [cruzi@claret.org](mailto:cruzi@claret.org)

## 2020 Calendared Programs of Interest for Religious

For venues, see the key below.

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- SRC: Siena Retreat Center 5637 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402 [sienaretreatcenter.org](http://sienaretreatcenter.org)  
262.898.2590
- BJRH: Bellarmine Jesuit Retreat House, Barrington, Illinois 420 W. County Line Rd., 60010 847.381.1261  
[Info@jesuitretreat.org](mailto:Info@jesuitretreat.org) or [jesuitretreat.org](http://jesuitretreat.org)
- PORT: Portiuncula Center for Prayer, 9263 West St. Francis Rd., Frankfort, IL 60423 815.464.3880  
[info@portforprayer.org](mailto:info@portforprayer.org) [portforprayer.org](http://portforprayer.org)
- CTU: Catholic Theological Union, 5401 South Cornell Ave., Chicago 60615 [ctu.edu](http://ctu.edu) 773.371.5400
- CEN: The Cenacle, 513 W. Fullerton, Chicago 773.528.6300  
[cenaclesisters.org/chicago/Retreats\\_Programs](http://cenaclesisters.org/chicago/Retreats_Programs)
- WELL: The Well Spirituality Center, 1515 West Ogden Ave., LaGrange Park, IL 60526 708.482.5048  
[csjthewell.org](http://csjthewell.org)
- NSC: Nazareth Spirituality Center, 717 North Batavia Ave., Batavia, IL 60510 630.879.1296 (Linda Isleib)  
[sscm-usa.org](http://sscm-usa.org)
- MHC: Monastery of the Holy Cross, 3100 S. Aberdeen Avenue 773.927.7424 [chicagomonk.org](http://chicagomonk.org)
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### March

**1, 8, 15, 22, 29 (Sundays) 3–6 p.m.:** **Lights, Camera, Faith...** is a movie lectionary series designed to help one enter into Lent. NSC

**2, 9, 16, 23, 30 (Mondays): Lenten Monday Evenings Retreat** This experience is open to both women and men that works itself into one's busy daily schedule. NSC

**2, 9, 16, 23, 30 (Mondays): Lenten Series based on "The Artist's Way"** with Fr. Michael Jennrich – *Safety and Identity* PORT

**2, Monday: World Mission Lecture "Encounters in Doing Theology Contextually on the U.S. – Mexican Border."** Eduardo Fernandez, SJ. CTU

**6, Friday: Song of Neptune – Gong** PORT

**6–7, Friday–Saturday: Teresa on Teresa de Avila:** Journey with Teresa de Avila through the eyes and lived experience of her namesake Teresa Mateus. WELL

**6-7, Friday-Saturday: Meeting at the Well of Living Water: Lenten Overnight Retreat** facilitated by Miriam Brown, OP SRC

**7, Saturday: The Treasured Aramaic Words of Jesus** *Interfaith Day of Retreat!*

Retreat Guide: Brother Joseph Kilkevise, OP at the Shem Center for Interfaith Spirituality, 708 N. Harvey, Oak Park, IL 60302. Information at 708.848.1095 or [shemcenter1993@gmail.com](mailto:shemcenter1993@gmail.com) [www.shemcenter.org](http://www.shemcenter.org)

**11, Wednesday: Stories of Spirit and Heart: Conversations with Catholic Sisters** 6–7:30 p.m. at the Denny Center, Catholic Theological Union CTU

**13, Friday: Private Retreat at Laverna** PORT

**8–14, Sunday-Saturday: National Catholic Religious Sisters Week**

**14, Saturday: Are You Living Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home** Pope Francis outlined a way forward for our planet. During this day of reflection, we will explore how the many aspects of our lives are intimately integrated and how personally and communally we can live each day the message expressed in Laudato Si'. SRC

**20, Friday: *Science and Saving Stories that Shape Us*** Br. Guy Consolmagno, SJ astrophysicist and Director of the Vatican Observatory; Todd A. Salzman, PhD., Catholic Theological ethicist CTU

**20–22, Friday–Sunday: Lenten Retreat: *The Blessing and the Consolation Found in Offering Oneself*** CEN

**20–22, Friday–Sunday: *Building a Monastery of the Heart*** in Springfield, Illinois (Chiara Center). See listing in “Potpourri” – “Retreat Opportunities for Men.”

**22, Sunday: *Shamrock Shuffle Run with team OLA (Our Lady of the Angels)*** 8K or 2 Mile Walk.

**22, Sunday: *Lenten Day of Solitude: Sacred Awareness*** SRC

**27–28, Friday–Saturday: *Following Jesus with a Little Help from Buddha*** SRC

**28, Saturday: Taste and See** if Siena Retreat Center’s Spiritual Guidance Program is for you. SRC

**26–29, Thursday–Sunday: LCWR New Leader Workshop** Conference Center, University of St. Mary of the Lake in Mundelein, Illinois

**30, Monday: Lenten Taizé Prayer** SRC

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## April

**3, Friday: Drawn Deeper into Mystery** with Sister Rose Hoover, rc. 10 a.m. – 12 noon CEN

**3–5, Friday–Sunday: Come and See:** Monastic Experience Weekend at Our Lady of the Mississippi Abbey in Dubuque, Iowa. Open to single women 18–39 [vocations@olmabbey.org](mailto:vocations@olmabbey.org) 563.582.2595, ext. 114  
8400 Abbey Hill Lane Dubuque, IA 52003

**3–5, Friday–Sunday: Silent Retreat for Men** at Bellarmine Retreat House in Barrington, IL (See article under “Potpourri”)

**4, Saturday: Religious Brothers Symposium** at Boston College *The Sky’s the Limit*

**6–9, Monday–Thursday: Holy Week Retreat** SRC

**14–16, Tuesday–Thursday: Midweek Silent Preached Retreat for Women** Theme: The Divine Dance “Life in the Trinity.” 1800 N. Timber Lane Oconomowoc, Wisconsin. For information, call 262.567.6900.

**17–19, Friday–Sunday: Art Journaling Retreat**

**24–25, Friday–Saturday: *The Living Poetry of April*** (Retreat Opportunity): April has magical appeal with its re-emerging of life buried deep in the Earth. Built around nature experiences, this retreat will challenge us to be one with the new life that surrounds us. Facilitators: Diane Prahler and Sister Bridget Sperduto WELL

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## May

**1, Friday: National Religious Brothers Day**

**8, Friday: *Interculturality and Consecrated Life*** Sister Barbara Kraemer, OSF, PhD., Vice President of the School Sisters of St. Francis CTU

**10, Sunday: *Engaging our Diversity: Intercultural and Consecrated Life Today*** Michael Andraos, PhD CTU

**22, Friday: Consecrated Life Gathering at Mission of Our Lady of the Angels** Save the date! 5:30 p.m. Holy Hour followed by dinner. 3800 W. Iowa Street, Chicago 60651

**22–24, Friday–Sunday: Celtic Weekend** “A Vision of the Sacred in All Things” with John Philip Newell CEN

**29, Friday: Reframing Retirement for Mission and Seeking Meaningful Ministry after Retirement** CTU

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## June

**14–19, Sunday–Friday: Silent & Directed Retreats** at the Chiara Center in Springfield, Illinois.  
[chiaracenter.org](http://chiaracenter.org)

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## July

**13–16, Monday–Thursday: 49th Annual Religious Brothers Assembly** at the Mater Dolorosa Retreat Center in Sierra Madre, California

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## August

**4–6, Tuesday–Thursday: National Assembly in Buffalo, New York – *Wake Up the World: Living Our Prophetic Witness***. To register: [cmsm.org](http://cmsm.org)

**9–13, Sunday–Thursday: Boundless Compassion Conference Retreat** in Springfield, Illinois (Chiara Center) [chiaracenter.org](http://chiaracenter.org)

**11–15, Sunday–Thursday: LCWR Assembly** in Dallas, Texas

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## October

**30, Friday – Nov 2, Monday: NRVC Convocation 2020** “Focus on Hope”: Focus on Vocation Ministry with keynote speakers Sister Anita Price Baird, D.H.M., and Father Antonio Pernia, S.V.D.