



## Convocation 2015

Registration materials were sent to congregational communicators on January 8th. Registration and Market Place packets are also available on the [DSC website](#).

## Paris 2015 and Counting . . .

On January 7th we distributed the first in our monthly series leading up to **Paris 2015**. Our focus for the month of February is Migrants, we are educating on the connections between Migration and Human Trafficking. A prayer for community and personal use is included. Please feel free to share. There are more resources and information at [our website](#).

### The questions are:

How many of you have contacted your representatives so far?

How many of you have contacted President Obama?

**Call while there's still time!**

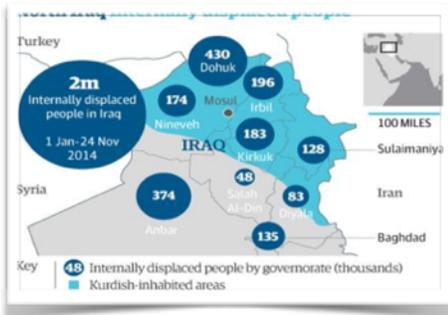
## A Message from Pat Farrell, OP

I just discovered that the Dominican Sisters of Hope redesigned their website yesterday. It is very fresh and inviting, and they are to be congratulated! As I clicked through the pages, I came across a perfect reflection for us as we begin Lent from the poetry of Connie Kelly, OP. It is entitled, "Ashes Must Be Stirred."

In stirring the ashes  
we let the world know  
that the silence that has killed  
the spirits of many  
will no longer be so  
There is hope in each flame  
There is hope in the ashes  
so in one voice  
through one flame  
through oneness  
we proclaim this truth  
because we love God

You can listen to Connie read the whole poem right here: <http://ophope.org/2013/12/10/prayer-through-poetry/>. Wishing you a most blest Lenten Season!

## PowerPoint Images of Our Family in Iraq



Statistics on Displaced Persons



August 2014, Fleeing ISIL, Exhausted Iraqi Christians arrive in Erbil,



Government of Kurdistan does not have the capacity to integrate the children into school system



Clinic in Erbil for Refugees

## We Still Have Family in Iraq

Thank you, Sisters Arlene, Dusty, and Marceline, for representing your Dominican Family here in the U.S., along with Timothy Radcliffe and Brian Pierce, as you visited our Dominican Family in Erbil and in Jordan. On Monday, February 9th, the Delegates offered a webinar to our Promoters of Social Justice that introduced a slide presentation for their use, in talking about the situation for Displaced Persons from Iraq. Please ask your Promoter to share this information with your sisters.

On March 8, the Delegates will be sharing via live-stream from Adrian, MI. Details on how to view this will be shared as soon as they are available. We want to share this story so that needed support may continue, and so that governments may take action to provide relief to Displaced Persons.

We continue to hold our Family in Iraq - in Kurdistan - in Syria - in Jordan - in our hearts, as we recall the delegates' story of their last day in the Middle East - Amman, Jordan.

*We shared that we wanted to do something for them but were not promising anything. "We know that. Just listen to our story."*

*Sr. Arlene invited all of us to stand and create a circle of prayer around the room. After we prayed the Hail Mary, a young boy appeared with a small censor and blessed each of us with incense. The beautiful scent wafted over each of us as we cupped our hands and received the incense to cover our faces and bodies.*

*We left the people embracing as many as possible upon our departure. Our hearts were full of the stories, grief, and sorrow of a people who are so deeply connected to their homeland. Community is life for them and all they want is to return to their home of origin which has been the seed of faith for centuries. We return now to the U.S. to try and see if there is anything we can do for our family in Iraq.*

**Yes, we have family in Iraq.**

