



Monthly Connections
Pat Farrell, OP :: Executive Director
Dominican Sisters Conference



A Message from Pat Farrell, OP

It was wonderful to see the many things sisters, and Dominican sisters in particular, were about last week during National Catholic Sisters Week. I want to thank our own Dominican Sister Mary Soher, OP, for her work as Co-Executive Director of National Catholic Sisters Week. We know that her Adrian Dominican Sisters are proud of her work!

And as I think of our vocation as Dominican Sisters and Associates, I recall the words of Henri Nouwen that best expresses our call.

My deepest vocation is to be a witness to the glimpses of God

I have been allowed to catch.

It is so appropriate that this week is celebrated during March, as that is Women's History Month. Another worldwide event that is celebrated during March is the Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations. Right now nine sisters are with Margaret Mayce in New York participating in the events. You will be hearing more about that soon! Cassie Vasquez, the editor of DomLife, is there, and will be posting on Facebook for all of us.

In the meantime, please keep these sisters who are attending the Commission in your prayers. They are:

Else-Britt Nilsen (Norway)

Bernadette Mwita (Kenya)

Julienne Nikiema (Ivory Coast)

Ana Belen Verisimo (Brazil)

Viviana Sisack (Argentina)

Anjana Parmar (India)

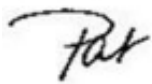
Elsie Bagaypo (Timor Leste)

Marceline Koch (North American Co-Promoter of Justice, and Dominican Sisters of Springfield)

Mary Alice Hannon (Dominican Sisters of Hope)

You can see a picture of the sisters waiting at the train station in Ossining on the DLC Facebook page. Here's the link: <https://www.facebook.com/dlcngo/>.

Gratefully,



News from the DSC Futuring Committee

As we mentioned last month, our Futuring Committee met for three days in February to begin work on a plan that will guide us over the next three years. Following that meeting, our Executive Committee worked on strengthening it. I will send our proposed plan as it now stands in a subsequent email. We look forward to fine-tuning it and rolling it out! We welcome your comments . . . the plan is for all of us.

Speaking with a Clear Voice

During our 2015 Convocation the clear need for the DSC to speak with a clear voice on

issues important to us was expressed. After further encouragement at the Leaders' Meeting, Anne Lythgoe, Sharon Zayac, Marceline Koch and Pat Farrell met to work on a plan. We are happy to share with all of you the fruits of our contemplation, conversation, and labor. Not wanting to clutter this newsletter with documents, we will send the DSC Public Statement Protocol out in a separate email.

Upcoming Chapters

The Dominican Sisters of Sparkill will begin their Chapter at the end of this month, and we will get you a prayer reminder the week before it begins. Sinsinawa (April), Mission San Jose (July) and the Roman Congregation (April and August) will also have their chapters this year. And even though our prayer reminders are sent the week before doesn't mean the sisters *don't* appreciate your prayers even now! So pray on!!

Save the Date in Chicago for an Evening with Dominicans

In case you missed this last month, I just want to make sure that those in the Chicago area know that Elizabeth Dreyer, PhD, will be giving the St. Catherine of Siena Lecture at Dominican University this year. It is entitled *Catherine of Siena: Accidental Theologian* and will be presented on Tuesday, April 19th at 7PM.

The following is a little about her topic.

"The tension between matter and spirit has a long and complex history in Christianity. One approach to this tension is to search the Tradition for evidence of what the Incarnation meant in experience and doctrine. What difference does it make to have a God who enters history fully with body, mind, feelings, struggles and joys? What doubts and fears prevent us from truly embracing a God who is like us in all things but sin? We mine the thought of Catherine of Siena to discover how she expressed the truth of Incarnation."

The St. Catherine of Siena Center of Dominican University and the Dominican Sisters Conference are co-sponsoring the evening, and invite Dominican sisters and associates in the Chicago area for prayer and refreshments beforehand.

We will get an email out with details out at a later date. Please save the date in your calendars!

May the preaching continue through our members!