

Update

*A Publication of the
Leadership Conference of Women Religious*

June 2004

LCWR-CMSM Delegation Visits Vatican Offices

Annually, a joint delegation from the Conference of Major Superiors of Men and the Leadership Conference of Women Religious travels to Rome to visit various offices at the Vatican for purposes of accountability and communication. This year's visits took place during the week of April 19. Some of the offices were visited jointly with CMSM, while others were visited separately by each delegation. The four LCWR delegates were: Constance Phelps, SCL (president); Mary Ann Zollmann, BVM (past president); Christine Vladimiroff, OSB (vice-president); and Carole Shinnick, SSND (executive director).

Prior to leaving for Rome, the LCWR national office had collected materials provided by LCWR member congregations illustrating innovative approaches to traditional ministries, especially healthcare and education. More than 70 institutions sent packets of materials and the office sent two Fed Ex boxes of them to Rome for distribution during the visits.

Highlights from the week can be found on pages 2 through 4.



Christine Vladimiroff, OSB; Constance Phelps, SCL; and Mary Ann Zollmann, BVM at St. Peter Square.

Mary Ann Zollmann, BVM; Constance Phelps, SCL; Christine Vladimiroff, OSB; and Carole Shinnick, SSND meet with Javier Cardinal Lozano Barragán, president of the Pontifical Council for Health Pastoral Care

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From the LCWR Presidency
Rome, Fresh in My Mind

by Constance Phelps, SCL -- LCWR President

Rome is still fresh in my mind.

It was a cool Roman April this year with a bit of rain several days. Usually, the LCWR and the CMSM delegations visit in May. However, anticipating the InterAmerican Conference in Brazil in May (postponed until 2005), we scheduled our trip in April. So Mary Ann, Christine, Carole and I, along with the five CMSM officers, ventured along the cobblestoned streets to the Vatican offices sometimes jointly, more often separately. We shared prayer and liturgy, and enjoyed meals at small Roman trattatorias.



We prepared well prior to our visit, consulting with others, contextualizing our presentation with documents, and clearly outlining what we wanted to share. As we met with each Vatican Congregation or Council, -- relating the fidelity of US women religious in ministry, sharing innovative

This contact provides us not only the opportunity to communicate, but also to continue to build relationships, to touch the human in one another, to let us assert who we are from our experiences and cultures -- and in our own words.

approaches to healthcare delivery and education, naming our continuing challenges and struggles, revealing how our congregational charisms saturate our ministries, and giving an overview of conference activities in the past year -- I was moved, proud and pleased.

While information and facts about the areas and/or issues we presented were clear and evident, it was the relating, the communicating and the sharing with the various dicastery members that elicited this response in me. As we each spoke, I had a renewed realization of how vibrant and vital women religious are in our Church.

Yet, I was, simultaneously, struck with the truth of the Haitian proverb: "One sees from where one stands." How can it be otherwise considering how we are formed and informed by culture? Thus in retrospect, I am more keenly aware of how crucial this annual face to face visit to the Vatican is. This contact provides us not only the opportunity to communicate, but also to continue to build

relationships, to touch the human in one another, to let us assert who we are from our experiences and cultures -- and in our own words. We listen to one another; hear one another from where we, respectively, stand. Hopefully, such contact provides a deeper insight and meaning into the lived reality of women religious in the United States.

That Sunday's Gospel told of the three affirmations of Peter's love for Jesus. Having it proclaimed in the shadow of St. Peter's Basilica was significant for me.

Our shared reflection was enriched by the setting and rich in meaning. Meaning that reminded me of our integrity, meaning that reminded me of the communities that stand with us. Yes, it was a moment when all of you, our members, were very present to us.

I left Rome understanding, anew and with greater depth, that there is nothing that we do, or can do, which will lessen God's love for us; likewise, there is nothing that we do, or can do, which will increase God's love for us. For God's love endures forever.

Yes, Rome is still fresh in my mind.



Bishop Wilton Gregory, USCCB President, and Constance Phelps, SCL relax outside a restaurant after members of CMSM, LCWR, and the presidency and the general secretary of USCCB enjoyed lunch together during their visits in Rome.

Visits to Vatican Offices

CICLSAL LCWR visited with the members of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life and engaged in conversation with Archbishop Nesti and members of the congregation's staff on two documents developed by this office: *Starting Afresh from Christ* and *Mutuae Relationes*. At this office, the delegation was invited to offer some input for the congregation's ad limina visits with the US bishops. Later in the week, the LCWR members enjoyed a delightful lunch with Sharon Holland, IHM, from the office.



Christine Vladimiroff, OSB; Sharon Holland, IHM; Constance Phelps, SCL; and Mary Ann Zollmann, BVM

Vatican Ambassador CMSM and LCWR visited Ambassador to the Vatican, James Nicholson, and had a lively and informative exchange with the ambassador and his aides about US foreign policy. This was the second year for meeting with Ambassador Nicholson who is very active in Rome and internationally in developing educational and preventive programs addressing worldwide trafficking of persons.

Health Care The LCWR delegation met with Javier Cardinal Lozano Barragán at the Pontifical Council for Health Pastoral Care. The agenda included a conversation with the cardinal on the complexities of healthcare in the United States as well as his own interest in AIDS in Africa. The group shared many of the materials sent by LCWR members emphasizing creative expressions of healthcare ministries carried on by LCWR member congregations.



The LCWR delegation met with members of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith: (left to right) Monsignor Charles Brown, Monsignor Charles Scicluna, Archbishop Angelo Amato, SDB; and Rev. J. Augustine DiNoia, OP

Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith

Faith The LCWR delegates met with four members of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, including Archbishop Angelo Amato, SDB and Promoter of Justice, Monsignor Charles Scicluna. The meeting was both cordial and engaging. Information and conversation flowed freely.

Visits to Vatican Offices

*Mary Ann Zollmann, BVM;
UISG staff members
Anne Munley, IHM and M.
Victoria Gz. de Castejón, RSCJ;
Constance Phelps, SCL; and
Christine Vladimiroff, OSB*

*The meeting with members of
general councils at the generalate
of the School Sisters of Notre
Dame*



UISG The LCWR members went to the offices of UISG for a two-hour visit with Anne Munley, IHM, former LCWR president, and with newly-appointed UISG General Secretary, M. Victoria Gz. de Castejón, RSCJ. Anne is currently serving as director of programs and social ministry for the UISG. Anne and Victoria shared about the May plenary session of UISG and the November Congress on Religious Life jointly sponsored with the Union of Superiors General (USG.)

Catholic Education LCWR Delegates met with newly-appointed Archbishop J. Michael Miller, CSB at the Congregation for Catholic Education. As former president of St. Thomas University in Houston, Archbishop Miller, a Canadian, is well aware of trends and challenges to Catholic education. The visit was dynamic, informative and engaging. The Archbishop and one of the staff, Father Zani, were most interested in the samples of educational innovations that LCWR brought to the meeting.

General Council Members The week of visits ended with a meeting of sisters from general councils in Rome whose congregation includes United States members. The gathering was hosted by the School Sisters of Notre Dame at their generalate on Via Aurelia outside Rome.

In reviewing the week and reflecting on the visits, the LCWR delegates felt strongly that the face-to-face encounters each spring provide a valuable opportunity for persons in the Vatican to hear and see how religious women in the United States live and serve, and for persons in the various offices to communicate information and express their views.



LCWR-CMSM Assembly

No Longer Bystanders: Creating Peace in Violent Times

WHO: All LCWR and CMSM national members

WHERE: Forth Worth, Texas

WHEN: August 19 -- 22, 2004

WHY: To pray, converse and be educated about one of the most critical matters of these times -- the devastating violence plaguing the world. What role can women and men religious leaders play in creating peace and bringing hope to a world crying for reconciliation?

ASSEMBLY HIGHLIGHTS:

- ▶ Keynote Speaker: Dr. Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland and former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
- ▶ Ten Break-out Sessions on timely topics with outstanding presenters
- ▶ Joint Presidential Address by Constance Phelps, SCL and Ronald D. Witherup, SS
- ▶ Public Witness Event against the Death Penalty

LCWR Gathering -- Sunday, August 22

Panel Presentation
Four women religious leaders who have created peace in violent situations
Moderator: Camille D'Arienzo, RSM

Ritual of Healing and Reconciliation

Input from LCWR President
Constance Phelps, SCL

LCWR Business Meeting

LCWR Banquet
Transfer of Leadership
Presentation of the LCWR Outstanding Leadership Award to Theresa Kane, RSM

LCWR Panelists

Kathleen Reid, ASC

Suzanne Moore, MM



Linda Tan, OSF

Kathleen Schmittgens, SSND

All LCWR members should have received an assembly registration brochure in the mail. Please contact the LCWR national office if you have not yet received yours.

Partial Scholarships Available for LCWR-CMSM Assembly

For the third year, LCWR is able to offer partial scholarships to attend the assembly in Fort Worth, Texas, *No Longer Bystanders: Creating Peace in Violent Times*. The conference is aware that some members may find it difficult to manage the full cost of attending the assembly and may welcome some financial assistance. At the same time, other members are able to donate to the assembly scholarship fund.

In 2002 and again in 2003, approximately 20 sisters were able to attend the assembly who otherwise would not have been able to participate. To say that these women have been grateful is an understatement. Here are some excerpts from notes from last year's recipients.

"What a gift to have received from the scholarship fund... I won't forget the generous folks out there who make this possible."

"You will never know how much this means to me to attend the LCWR Assembly. It has been a beacon of hope for me as I move through membership losses at this time."

"I am very grateful to LCWR for the financial support to attend the assembly in Detroit. It is such an honor to be part of the Universal Church and to experience the power of being one body in Christ."

Anyone who would like to attend the assembly in Fort Worth and is interested in exploring the possibility of being partially financed by the scholarship fund, is asked to contact Carole Shinnick, SSND, LCWR executive director at 301-588-4955, or at cshinnick@lcwr.org **before July 1, 2004**.

The scholarship fund can be applied to the costs of registration and hotel expenses, as well as to assistance with additional LCWR membership (which may be necessary since the assembly is only open to LCWR members).

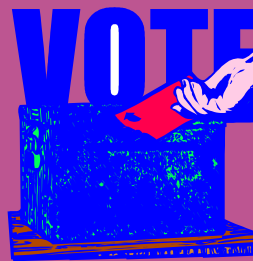
Some priority will be given to persons and congregations who have never received funding, but in fact, all decisions will be made on a congregation-by-congregation basis.

The assembly is a major opportunity for ongoing formation in the ministry of leadership, as well as a chance to be with others who share that ministry. Anyone is most welcome to call for additional information.

First Phase of Nomination Process Complete

The regional liaisons of the LCWR Nomination and Election Committee completed the first phase of the nomination process for the offices of LCWR vice president and secretary at the spring regional meetings. The national office is grateful to the committee members and liaisons for all the process preparations and for encouraging members to consider the office for which they were nominated.

Nominees have until May 24 to discern whether to continue in the next phase of the election process. If more than three members are on the slate, a run off ballot will take place in June. Ardis Cloutier, OSF, who will assume the responsibilities of committee chair in August, will facilitate the election process at the assembly.



Did you know?

50 LCWR members were nominated for vice president

43 LCWR members were nominated for secretary

Information about candidates will be posted on the website. A World Merge message will notify members when this information is available.

All members are asked to come prepared to vote at the August assembly.

LCWR Members Participate in UISG Plenary

Many LCWR members were among the nearly 800 leaders of congregations of women religious who met in Rome in May for the plenary of the International Union of Superiors General. Coming from more than 70 countries and five continents, the participants pledged to work for reconciliation on all levels of life. Recognizing the extreme violence afflicting the world, the leaders, who represent approximately one million members of Catholic religious institutes, proclaimed that no more important mission exists at this time than the work of reconciliation.

During the plenary the participants reflected on the contemporary contexts of violence in which their members live and work. At the conclusion of the gathering, the leaders committed themselves and the members of their institutes to a number of efforts to promote reconciliation.



Beatrice Eichten, OSF; Mary Ann Weismann-Mills, OP; and Jane Morrisey, SSJ present symbols of reconciliation from their UISG constellation.



LCWR associate member Geraldine MacCarthy, SHCJ (left) presents a draft of the UISG declaration to the plenary.



LCWR member Olive Bordelon, CCVI presents a synthesis of table reports at the plenary.



LCWR associate member Rosemary Howarth, SSND (second from left) greets one of the two sisters from Iraq who addressed the plenary. Rosemary was later elected UISG vice-president.



LCWR member Suzanne Moore, MM (left) with her table members.

LCWR Signs On for Justice

LCWR presidency and/or staff have recently signed on to letters addressing five different justice issues.

- On April 28, 2004, a letter urging Congress to cut funding for new nuclear weapons was sent to all House and Senate offices. Initiated by the Friends Committee on National Legislation, the letter was signed by a number of religious leaders including Carole Shinnick, SSND, LCWR executive director.
- President Constance Phelps, SCL, joined other leaders who signed a letter to President Bush from Churches for Middle East Peace expressing concerns about obstruction of the work of Christians in the Holy Land. This letter, signed on April 29, 2004, followed a similar letter written by Bishop Wilton Gregory on April 13 urging the President to address these concerns with Prime Minister Sharon of Israel.
- From June 2-10, leaders of the G-8, the world's 8 most powerful nations, will meet in Sea Island, Georgia for their annual summit, the first meeting in the United States since 1997. A letter from religious leaders to the G-8 calling for cancellation of debts of impoverished nations will be delivered by Jubilee USA during the meeting. LCWR is a signer in the names of Constance Phelps, president, Carole Shinnick, executive director, and Marie Lucey, OSF, associate director for social mission.
- LCWR joined many organizations concerned about the U.S.-Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) in signing a letter to members of Congress in the United States and Central America urging opposition to the agreement in its present form. The signature appears as the LCWR Office of Social Mission.
- The Undocumented Alien Emergency Medical Assistance Amendment of 2004 (H.R. 3722) engendered strong opposition from both immigration and healthcare organizations. Sponsored by Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-CA), the bill required hospital workers to collect certain data on undocumented individuals and provide this information to the Department of Homeland Security. LCWR added its signature to those of 64 national organizations, including the USCCB, Catholic Charities, and CHA, and more than 200 state and local organizations who signed a letter to Speaker Dennis Hastert urging that the proposal not move forward. Justice won—in a 331-88 vote (with 24 no

votes). Those who made calls are encouraged to thank their legislators if they voted No.

LCWR Members Support Statement on Abuse of Iraqi Prisoners

The LCWR office has received many positive responses to the May 7, 2004 statement drafted by staff in consultation with the LCWR executive committee, mailed to President Bush and Secretary of State Donald Rumsfeld, and released to media outlets. Responses overwhelmingly expressed confirmation of and gratitude for the statement. Many responses indicated appreciation for the perspective of collective responsibility and questioning of our cultural values rather than placing the burden of guilt solely on a few individuals. Members, associates, and subscribers, as well as justice and peace contact persons, were encouraged to use the statement as the basis for their own statements or letters to government leaders and the media.

LCWR Represented at Spring Meetings of Partner Organizations

Jubilee USA Network, April 20

The work of jubilee for cancellation of debt for impoverished countries was in high gear this spring. The meeting on April 20 featured a panel of Jubilee South members from Malawi, Argentina, and the Philippines, all of whom named in their concerns the privatization of water. During an all-day prayer vigil the next day outside the World Bank, 11,000 Unhappy 60th Birthday Cards were delivered, many of which came from LCWR congregational members. Jubilee is now gearing up for the June G-8 summit in Sea Island, Georgia, where there will be a protest calling for debt cancellation and letters from religious leaders will be delivered.

CHA Board Meeting, April 21

A major emphasis during the past year has been working for access to health care for all. A related focus has been to address the question, "access to what?" The task force formed to envision a future health care delivery system delivered a report and offered recommendations beginning with assessment of current practices within Catholic health care facilities, including accountability systems.

(continued on page 9)

LCWR Represented at Spring Meetings of Partner Organizations

(continued from page 8)

Also on the agenda was Pope John Paul's Allocution on Nutrition and Hydration for Patients in a Persistent Vegetative State. Members received an analysis comparing church teaching until now with the papal allocution, which seems to represent a shift in the church's approach. Until there is greater understanding of the intent of the Pope's allocution, Catholic facilities are encouraged to continue to follow the USCCB's "Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services" as interpreted by the diocesan bishop.

Members received a copy of the revised "Evolving Theology of Sponsorship," which will undergo further revision before being presented for further dialog to LCWR healthcare leaders preceding the joint assembly in August.

Coalition of Catholic Organizations Against Human Trafficking, April 22

Formed in June 2002 and staffed by the USCCB's Migration and Refugee Services, the Coalition of Catholic Organizations Against Human Trafficking is composed of organizations and religious congregations committed to the elimination of human trafficking, a form of modern slavery for sexual and economic purposes. This meeting featured two speakers: the director of Women in Development of the US Agency for International Development, and the co-director of the Protection Project, Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies. Both presentations evoked spirited dialogue.

The members also reviewed a draft of a Framework for Communications Plan. The plan will be refined for the September meeting.

LCWR members attending the UISG meeting in Rome had the opportunity to obtain an excellent information and workshop kit prepared by the Working Group on Trafficking in Women and Children for USG/UISG members.

NETWORK Board Meeting, April 29 – May 2

Network CONNECTION's new, colorful appearance, beginning with the May/June 2004 issue, is symbolic of its continuing work on organizational transition and transformation. After receiving the analysis and recommendations of a consultant, board members and staff engaged in productive dialogue at their meeting.

Staff members also gave reports on election activities and the membership survey in addition to providing highlights of their lobbying activities. The NETWORK Education Program (NEP) has prepared a very practical and usable website resource on Election 2004, "Where do the Presidential Candidates Stand on the Issues?" (www.networklobby.org). Committees comprised of both board members and staff met to identify issues and prepare work plans which were presented to the total group.

NETWORK is in the search process for a national coordinator. The job description is available on the website. While the position will be open to women other than women religious, qualified and interested sisters are encouraged to apply.

LCWR is represented at these meetings by Marie Lucey, OSF, associate director for social mission.

Participation in 2005 LCWR Delegations Encouraged

Some LCWR regions discussed participation in the Mexico and El Salvador delegations during their spring meeting. Since then, region chairs received an electronic flier for the February 19-26, 2005 delegation, "Faith and Globalization in Mexico." Chairs were asked to forward the flier to members of their region with a request for interested members to contact Marie Lucey, OSF for an application (mlucey@lcwr.org). This delegation should be firmed up by October. Further information about the El Salvador delegation will be provided at the fall region meetings.

A Tribute to William Mallory, Civil Rights Advocate and Grandfather of Constance Phelps, SCL

by Carole Shinnick, SSND

On May 17, 2004, the United States observed the 50th anniversary of the landmark Supreme Court decision, *Brown vs. the Board of Education*. The ruling written by Chief Justice Earl Warren in 1954 stated: "We conclude that in the field of public education the doctrine of 'separate but equal' has no place. Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal. Therefore, we hold that the plaintiffs and others similarly situated for whom the actions have been brought are, by reason of the segregation complained of, deprived of the equal protection of the laws guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment."

The impact of this ruling cannot be underestimated in the history of the United States. Not only did it make school segregation illegal, but inaugurated the civil rights movement itself. While through the years, particularly in the 1960s, women religious have participated in the civil rights movement, one LCWR member was uniquely and personally involved in progress towards the *Brown* decision, our current president, Constance Phelps, SCL.

Connie, the younger of two girls, grew up in Topeka, Kansas. Her maternal grandfather, William Mallory, was a deep believer in the average citizen making use of the democratic process to bring about change. Mr. Mallory was well known to persons in the Topeka government. Almost



Constance Phelps (left) and her sister, Patsy

annually, he brought to lawmakers proposals for legislation, all of which related to civil rights. He was responsible for integrating the Topeka Fire Department, where the practice of segregation took the form of two different fire departments - white firefighters to respond to fires in white people's homes, and black firefighters to fires where blacks resided. Mr. Mallory's last trip to legislators with a proposal took place when he was 90.

In 1944, Connie's older sister, Patsy, was of kindergarten age. The Polk School, three blocks from the Phelps' home, was a whites-only school and Patsy had to attend Buchanan, the African-American school several blocks away. Polk, the elementary school Mr. Mallory attended, was not segregated until the 20th century. Thus, he found it doubly irritating to pass his alma mater as he took his granddaughter to school daily. So, he approached the Topeka School Board and proposed that Patsy attend Polk, the closer school. And the Board of Education answered in the affirmative.



Mr. and Mrs. William Mallory

However, Dr. and Mrs. Phelps had reservations about Patsy switching schools. For one thing, they planned to send both children to parochial schools, so Patsy would be leaving the public school system at the end of the year. And they were concerned about her being the only African-American child in an all white school. In the end, Patsy stayed at Buchanan for the remainder of the year.

Mr. Mallory, however, continued to focus on the issue of segregated public schools. He worked closely with families willing to risk becoming plaintiffs in the case, and brought the suit against the Board of Education of Topeka. Because he himself no longer had children in the school system, he was not one of the families named in the suit. The NAACP working as overall organizer eventually brought four similar litigants from other parts of the country to create the class action suit now known as *Brown vs. the Board of Education*. The rest, as they say, is history.

Although there is a great deal LCWR owes Constance, on this 50th anniversary of *Brown*, we pay tribute to the indomitable spirit of her grandfather, for his belief in the power of the ordinary citizen, and for helping to open the way for countless children - black and white - who benefit from the richness of a diverse educational environment for all.

From the LCWR Executive Director

Creating Peace in Violent Times

The cicadas are out. This is a not-so-welcome event that occurs every 17 years in the Middle Atlantic States. Since 1987 these bulbous creatures have been gestating underground, and - as if they had all gotten a simultaneous e-mail message saying, "NOW!" - they are popping out all over.

Cicadas are fat, winged, and red-eyed. They are not lovely to look at. And they are plentiful on our sidewalks these days. Walking on a recent morning I carefully focused on the cicadas, not wanting to step on them. Some youngsters waiting for a school bus, however, were less sensitive to the creatures. "Squish!" "Splat!" "Yuck!" "Gross!" One well-placed sneaker stomp and a cicada was history.

The truth is that I was focusing so hard on the cicadas to give my mind and heart a rest from the horrible images that had flooded our TV screens and newspapers. It had been a numbing week. Nothing could have prepared us for the hooded figures and piles of prisoners abused by US

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in August in Fort Worth.*

*I need to be with you - others who also believe in trying to
create peace in these violent times.*

personnel in Baghdad. We groped to express our horror and our sadness but the words sounded hollow. We shook our heads. We hid our faces in our hands. We sputtered with anger and shame. We struggled to make sense out of the senseless. Although government and Pentagon officials quickly attributed the abuse to the actions of "a few bad apples" we knew better - we all knew better.

The images held a reflection of ourselves, and we saw what is so hard to acknowledge: we have become a violent nation. We live, work and play in a culture of violence. Violence is so commonplace that it almost seems normal. Our sports are violent. Our language is violent. Our children's music is violent. Our entertainment is violent. Our driving is violent.



Carole Shinnick, SSND

As a nation we threaten or actually use violence to coerce other nations to cooperate with us. Violence, it seems, is often condoned and regularly licensed. We are preoccupied with national security and justify imprisonment of "detainees" without legal counsel or hearings, thus doing violence to some of our own founding principles.

I'm not sure I have ever felt so helpless, so ashamed of my county, or so powerless to effect change. Persons in government, who launched this regrettable war, seem impervious to criticism, challenge, or protest. All our letters, statements, and marches feel like so much popcorn thrown against a concrete wall. Words that once made me proud to be an American and to tear up when I sang "America the Beautiful" now ring hollow. I feel homeless in my own country.

So that's why I was paying such careful attention to the cicadas - to distract myself and to avoid adding even one milligram of violence to our hurting world. I guess, too, that was why I found the school children's glee in cicada-squashing oddly alarming. And perhaps that was why I found myself singing, "Christ, be our light, shine in hearts, shine through the darkness..."

I am so grateful that we will gather in August in Fort Worth. I need to be with you - others who also believe in trying to create peace in these violent times. I look forward to our time together.



Update is an official publication of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious published monthly and distributed to members nationally.

Editor: Annmarie Sanders, IHM

8808 Cameron Street -- Silver Spring, MD 20910

Phone: 301-588-4955 Fax: 301-587-4575

E-mail: asanders@lcwr.org Website: www.lcwr.org

Upcoming LCWR Dates

LCWR--CMSM Joint Assembly
Fort Worth, Texas
August 19 -- 22, 2004

LCWR Leading from Within Retreat
Winter Park, Florida
January 16-21, 2005

LCWR Delegation to Mexico
February 19-26, 2005

LCWR New Leader Workshop
*Passionist Retreat Center
Riverdale, NY*
March 17-19, 2005

LCWR Assembly
Anaheim, California
August 19 -- 23, 2005

LCWR-CMSM Delegation to El Salvador
November 30 -- December 6, 2005

LCWR Assembly
Atlanta, Georgia
August 18 -- 22, 2006

broad range of government programs, (e.g. SS, Medicare, SSI, Medicaid, QMB, SLMB, public housing). The resource will be print, and web-based, and will have various levels of detail: introductory, advanced, troubleshooting, references to more detailed materials for each level, articles explaining nuances for religious.

FROM THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF RELIGIOUS LIFE

CRSL Publishes Reflections from Facilitators

In July members of CSRL will receive a complimentary copy of a booklet with the reflections of women and men who facilitate chapters, assemblies and other large gatherings of religious. The facilitators are sharing the signs of hope and areas of concern they see in religious congregations today. Additional copies will be available for purchase at the joint LCWR-CMSM assembly in Fort Worth in August.

Legal Resource Center for Religious Announces New Developments

Lynn Jarrell, OSU, has accepted the new position of associate director in canon law at the Legal Resource Center for Religious. Lynn is presently teaching at the seminary in San Francisco. She will complete her contract there and, after taking a mini-sabbatical, will be joining the staff of LRCR at the beginning of January 2005.

In another development, LRCR has convened a task force to explore the development of a new subscriber resource on government programs. The group met on March 24 in at the LRCR office in Silver Spring, MD. Experts gathered to discuss the most effective way to provide assistance to religious communities who participate in these programs.

Work has begun on the planned resource which will be somewhat like the *LRCR Taxes Notebook* and will help religious institutes in their efforts to take advantage of a

CRSL Calendar

January 6-8, 2005

"Conducting a Cultural Audit" Workshop
Mercy Center in Burlingame, CA

Spring 2005

Religious Leadership Forum
Dubuque, IA

June 2005

"Conducting a Cultural Audit" Workshop
Catholic Theological Union in Chicago