

Update

A Publication of the
Leadership Conference of Women Religious

October 2012

LCWR Takes First Step in Responding to CDF Mandate

Through a process of sustained prayer and dialogue, the 900 2012 LCWR assembly participants arrived at a consensus for its first step in responding to the findings of the doctrinal assessment of the organizations and implementation of the mandate by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (CDF).



and open conversation on the critical moral and ethical questions that face the global community.

The members declared their intention to maintain LCWR's official role representing US women religious

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As the assembly took place in St. Louis, Missouri, August 7-10, participants were reminded of the thousands of people throughout the country and the world who had been communicating with LCWR since the CDF report was issued on April 18, urging that the response be one that helps to reconcile the differences that exist within the Catholic church and creates spaces for honest



LCWR presidents Pat Farrell, OSF; Florence Deacon, OSF; and Mary Hughes, OP at the prayer vigil in St. Louis

LCWR Assembly Resources Available on the LCWR Website

All LCWR members are invited to take advantage of the many materials available on the LCWR website related to the 2012 assembly (lcwr.org/assembly). These include:

Press Release,
Presidential Address by Pat Farrell, OSF, and
the Outstanding Leadership Award Acceptance
Speech by Sandra Schneiders, IHM

Due to the generosity of the Guadalupan Missionaries of the Holy Spirit and the Congregation of Bon Secours, these three documents are available in English, French, and Spanish.

Video of the Assembly
animoto.com/play/hDLN09xPe3hwwk6bKFCWsiA

Assembly Resolutions

Information on Ordering CDs and DVDs of the
Major Presentations
www.gemtapes.net/Order/LCWR_2012.html

List of Assembly Exhibitors

From the LCWR Presidency

In the Spirit of Vatican II

by Florence Deacon, OSF — LCWR President

Earlier this month I had lunch with Reverend David Cooper, president of the Association of US Catholic Priests (AUSCP). During their inaugural assembly in June, the AUSCP had passed a resolution of support and gratitude for the ministry of sisters in schools and hospitals as well as to people on the margins, and sent a check to LCWR for expenses connected with the doctrinal assessment. One of the association's goals is to keep alive the vision of Vatican II, and Fr. David said they would like our help to begin a dialogue and build a bridge to religious and laity as we continue to en flesh that spirit together. He explained, "We feel that our cause to keep alive the spirit and enthusiasm of the Second Vatican Council could be given great impetus by learning from you."



another woman with similar desires and together the two formed a group called Jubilee Faithful in honor of the 50th anniversary of the beginning of Vatican Council II. Just by word of mouth their initial meeting attracted approximately 115 people, and subsequent gatherings continue to draw 20-somethings to 80-somethings who want to talk about their experiences and discuss questions about the church they so love.

I shared with him our discussion at recent LCWR meetings, including the annual assembly and board meet-

Might this be a time for all of us to reach out to our neighbors and provide a place for people to come together to pray, share their stories of faith, and fortify one another to be a stronger church?

ings, of the large number of Catholics in the United States and other countries who through letters, e-mails, and personal visits were asking us for that same conversation.

A vivid example is that of a woman who walked into LCWR headquarters in mid-May and asked, "Do you take associates?" She explained, "I like the way LCWR has been going about this interaction with the Vatican and I think this would be a place where I could talk about the questions I have about the church." LCWR executive director Janet Mock, CSJ put her in touch with

The groundswell of laity that has arisen to support LCWR since the CDF's

report on its doctrinal assessment has been overwhelming. Those present at our recent annual assembly were able to read firsthand some of the many letters of support from across the globe that told poignant stories of their love for and experiences with the church. LCWR members asked for open and honest dialogue to increase understanding between church leaders and women religious, and also to create more possibilities for laity, especially women, to have a voice in the church.

Might this be a time for all of us to reach out to our neighbors and provide a place for people to come

What better way to celebrate the Year of Faith and the 50th anniversary of the beginning of the Second Vatican Council?

together to pray, share their stories of faith, and fortify one another to be a stronger church? The ground rules we have set ourselves seem to match the desires of many people seeking open, honest, respectful dialogue. What better way to celebrate the Year of Faith and the 50th anniversary of the beginning of the Second Vatican Council?

LCWR Takes First Step in Responding to the CDF Mandate

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in the church and to use every opportunity to explain to church leaders LCWR's mission, values, and operating principles. They also charged the LCWR officers with beginning a conversation with Archbishop J. Peter Sartain, the apostolic delegate appointed by CDF to oversee LCWR, with the expectation that open and honest dialogue may lead not only to increasing understanding between the church leadership and US women religious, but also to creating more possibilities for the laity and, particularly for women, to have a voice in the church. The assembly instructed the LCWR officers to proceed with these discussions as long as possible, but to reconsider if LCWR is forced to compromise the integrity of its mission.

The full text of the statement released to the press on August 10 can be found on the [LCWR website](#).

Also during the assembly, Barbara Marx Hubbard, a futurist and author, spoke on consciousness evolution where she noted that the very crises humanity is facing on a global scale require the exercise of a higher level of ethical, shared commitment and social synergy to realize positive change. She observed that the crises are potential signals driving the world toward more cocreative, coevolving humanity, where people become more fully aware of their potential for healing and evolving the world in new ways, new forms, and ever-expanding relationships.

Press Briefings

During the assembly LCWR held four press briefings that provided the media background on religious life, LCWR, and the practices of contemplation and dialogue. Those leading the briefings were: Nancy Conway, CSJ; Helen Garvey, BVM; Rebecca



Ann Gemma, OP; Donna Markham, OP; Mary Pellegrino, CSJ; Sandra Schneiders, IHM; Nancy Schreck, OSF; Mary Waskowiak, RSM; and Marlene Weisenbeck, FSPA. The three LCWR presidents conducted the final briefing on the last afternoon of the assembly. Among the media outlets represented at the assembly were: *NY Times*, *National Catholic Reporter*, *National Catholic Register*, *Toronto Star*, *Ms. Magazine*, *60 Minutes*, Associated Press, Reuters, Catholic News Service, Religion News Service, and various St. Louis-based radio, TV and print outlets.

Thomas C. Fox; Jennifer Gordon, SCL; and Jamie Manson served as panelists, offering the assembly ideas for how religious life might evolve as it moves into the future.

In her address to the assembly, LCWR president Pat Farrell, OSF suggested six tools for navigating the shifts occurring in the world and church. These tools included contemplation, use of the prophetic voice, solidarity with the marginalized, community, nonviolent responses, and the capacity to live in joyful hope.

The members passed a resolution calling on Congress to pass the Dream Act and comprehensive immigration reform that includes the reunification of families and a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants living in the United States. In addition, the resolution opposes the passage and calls for the repeal of restrictive state laws that create a climate of fear in immigrant communities. They passed a second resolution that

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Sandra M. Schneiders, IHM accepts the 2012 LCWR Outstanding Leadership Award.

LCWR Takes First Step in Responding to the CDF Mandate

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committed them to work for the abolition of human trafficking, calling it a form of modern day slavery.

During the assembly the LCWR members also listened to an informative panel, "Human Trafficking: Stolen People, Stolen Hope." (Panelist Katie Rhoads, MSW of Healing Action Network can be reached at PO Box 21743, St. Louis, MO 63109.)

At the conclusion of the assembly, Florence Deacon of the Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi in Wisconsin assumed the office of LCWR president for 2012-2013 after the members elected Carol Zinn of Sisters of St. Joseph of Chestnut Hill, Pennsylvania as the conference president-elect; and Barbara Blesse of the Dominican Sisters of Springfield as conference secretary.

The assembly closed with the conferring of LCWR's highest honor, its Outstanding Leadership Award, on Sister Sandra Schneiders, IHM, a theologian and professor emerita at the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, California.

Reflecting on the LCWR Assembly

The richness of the LCWR assembly lends itself to further reflection and prayer. Members, whether they attended the assembly or not, may wish to spend time completing the following statements and share their reflections with their team members or others.

What I most want the members of my religious institute/the public to know about the LCWR assembly is ...

One insight that I had about leadership as a result of the assembly experience is ...

One hope I have for LCWR/my congregation/myself as LCWR takes the first step in response to the CDF findings and mandate is ...



LCWR Presidents and Executive Directors



Before the assembly opened, 25 past and current LCWR presidents and executive directors met to discuss the doctrinal assessment of LCWR by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. Standing: Mary Dacey, SSJ; Mary Hughes, OP; Anne Munley, IHM; Mary Christine Fellerhoff, CSA; Kathleen Popko, SP; Donna Markham, OP; Janet Roesener, CSJ; Florence Deacon, OSF; Bea Eichten, OSF; Pat Farrell, OSF; Nancy Sylvester, IHM; Constance Phelps, SCL; Kathleen Pruitt, CSJP; Joan Chittister, OSB; Janet Mock, CSJ; and Mary Waskowiak, RSM. Seated: Nadine Foley, OP; Nancy Schreck, OSF; Mary Ann Zollmann, BVM; J Lora Dambroski, OSF; Theresa Kane, RSM; Helen Maher Garvey, BVM; Camille D'Arienzo, RSM; Christine Vladimiroff, OSB; and Marlene Weisenbeck, FSPA

A Message to LCWR Members from Barbara Marx Hubbard

September 5, 2012

Most Dear Sisters:

It is with great joy and gratitude that I thank you for the privilege of being with you and speaking with you during the LCWR assembly in St. Louis at this most critical time in your history and in the life of the church and indeed the world. You are giving all of us guidance through your great mission, your cooperative processes of shared leadership, self-governance and decision making, your unqualified loving support for unmet needs in all ways.



As I was leaving the assembly I asked Janet Mock, CSJ for the opportunity to invite LCWR members to participate in a planetary celebration called Birth 2012 on December 22, 2012, initiated by me with The Shift Network and many others across the planet. Its purpose is to make visible what is working everywhere and celebrate what is being born through all of us -- what is good, loving, and innovative toward a world that works for all. A 24-hour global multi-media event will communicate key events and many offerings throughout the world, to help gentle our "birth" as a more co-creative humanity. We will add our energy to the "tipping point" from breakdown to breakthrough. As Teilhard de Chardin pointed out, "Everything that rises converges....Convergence is evolution."

On that day, and before, people are invited to form "hubs" of all kinds to deepen their own sense of community, communion, and co-creativity among friends, neighbors, and colleagues, symbolically giving "their gift to the planetary shift."

I hope all of you will have a unique celebration of Birth 2012 for the planetary shift on December 22, 2012 and become active participants in a new global movement for the conscious evolution of our planet – our shared mission for the 21st century.

If you choose to participate, go to www.Birth2012.com. 1) To locate an existing Hub: Click-Find a Hub, 2) Enter-Zip Code, 3) Click Search, 4) To create a new Hub: Click-Start a Hub 5) Click Create Hub text box. The book, *Birth 2012 and Beyond: Humanity's Great Shift to the Age of Conscious Evolution*, tells the whole story of this young planetary movement.

Please know that I am deeply grateful and honored to be your evolutionary sister! I would be delighted to hear from you personally at Barbara@barbamarxhubbard.com.

With love, blessings and anticipation as the "flame of expectancy" continues to rise in our hearts.

Barbara

Barbara Marx Hubbard
Foundation for Conscious Evolution

Contemplative Process Insights from the LCWR National Board

The LCWR national board engaged in the LCWR contemplative process at the conclusion of its post-assembly meeting. As the board reflected on both the experience of the assembly and the board meetings, the members shared the following insights:

- Now is the time for us to speak out the multi-faceted truth of religious life.
- As a beacon of fidelity, hope, prayer and community, and holding the ambiguities, questions, and pain, we are becoming the change we want to see in the church, for the life of the world.
- With integrity, faith, and deep contemplation, as women committed to live religious life in the church, we are on the brink of something crucial for the sake of God's people.
- We are women in love with God, called to walk in the Living Stillness.
- We have come to understand that we are birthing a profound moment of possibilities.

Leadership:

Mystery Unfolding



Leadership: Mystery Unfolding
is a retreat for LCWR members
and LCWR associates who are serving
in congregation leadership

January 20 - 25, 2013

Holy Spirit Retreat Center in Encino, California

Join with other women religious leaders for a five-day retreat that will provide opportunities to reflect on the blessings and challenges of religious life leadership today.

The days will include input, contemplative space, a variety of ritual experiences and some opportunity for individual and group spiritual direction for those who choose.

Retreat Directors



Maria Elena Martinez, OSF

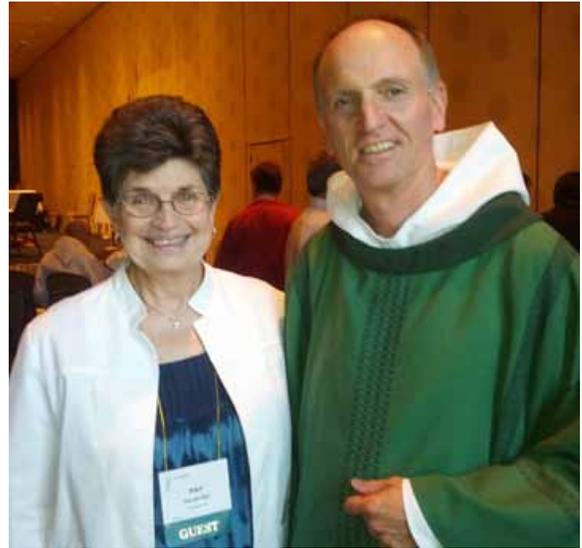


Mary Waskowiak, RSM

Space is limited to 25 persons.

More information and registration materials are found at:
lcwr.org/resources/leadership-retreat-2013

LCWR at CMSM Assembly



Pat Farrell, OSF represented LCWR at the annual assembly of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men, held August 1-4 in Houston, Texas. CMSM invited Pat to update the assembly on the doctrinal assessment. Shown with Pat is CMSM president Tom Smolich, SJ, former president of CMSM. *(Photo by James Martin, SJ)*

LCWR Addresses National Press Club



Mary Hughes, OP represented LCWR at the National Press Club where on August 16 she was the featured luncheon speaker. The National Press Club, a private club for journalists and communications professionals, has been a Washington, DC institution for more than a century. Through its speaker series, it provides education and background for reporters. The Press Club invited Mary to speak on LCWR and the doctrinal assessment. A video of her presentation and the question and answer session that followed is found at: press.org/news-multimedia/videos/pc-luncheon-sister-mary-hughes.

LCWR Names Associate Director of Program Development

LCWR has named Marie McCarthy, SP as associate director for program development, a newly created LCWR position. In this role, she will be responsible for guiding and overseeing all LCWR programs, including the launching and directing of Leadership Pathways, a new program of online/onsite learning for LCWR members.



Marie, a member of the Sisters of Providence of St. Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana, served as general counselor on her congregation's leadership team from 1991-1996 and 2001-2011, and was on the LCWR board of directors as the chair of Region 7 from 2009-2011. She serves as well on the LCWR Contemporary Religious Life Committee.

The recipient of a bachelor's degree in music, graduate degrees in music and theology, and a doctoral degree in religion and psychological studies, Marie has served as a professor of pastoral theology in a number of educational institutions, including Catholic Theological Union, Columbia Theological Seminary, Loyola Institute of Pastoral Studies, and the University of Chicago Divinity School. She has also worked as a clinical therapist.

Marie will assume the position at LCWR at the end of October.

Collaborating with Women Religious Globally

As part of LCWR's commitment to strengthen their support of women religious throughout the world, the LCWR national board voted to share 10 percent of the donations the conference receives with sisters who are in need in developing countries.

LCWR Members Serving the Conference

The LCWR national board approved a number of appointments at its August meeting.

Rita Cammack, OSF and Theresa Sandok, OSM were appointed to the National Advisory Council of the US Catholic Conference of Bishops. They will replace Lynn Jarrell, OSU and Yolanda Tarango, CCVI who for four years represented LCWR on the council which meets twice a year to review and offer recommendations about matters before the USCCB.

Eileen Gannon, OP and JoAnn Showalter, SP have been appointed to the LCWR Global Concerns Committee by the executive committee of the LCWR board to replace Kathleen Bryant, RSC and Judy Justinger, SSJ who have completed their terms. Vicki Bergkamp, ASC having completed her term in congregational leadership will also be leaving the committee.

The executive committee has also appointed Janet Folkl, CDP and Catherine Darcy, RSM to the LCWR Assembly Resolutions Committee. They replace Alice Gerdeman, CDP and Nancy Schramm, OSF who have completed their terms.

LCWR expresses its gratitude to all these members for their service to the conference.

On the LCWR Regional Meeting Agenda

Among the items on the LCWR fall regional meeting agenda are:

- Next steps in LCWR's response to the CDF doctrinal assessment
- Resolutions at the national assembly
- Nominations for the LCWR Outstanding Leadership Award
- Regional archival policy
- Pilgrimage to El Salvador
- LCWR contemplative process

Welcoming Communities Campaign Spreads

LCWR members continue to act in support of immigrants and immigration reform around the country. The immigration billboard campaign was born last fall in the Upper Midwest River Valley when sisters and communicators from Region 10 posted 22 billboards across Iowa as citizens, politicians, and press prepared for the Iowa caucuses. More about their experience is available at www.facebook.com/catholicsisters.

The billboard campaign spread across Missouri this spring and summer thanks to the efforts of 16 congregations of women religious and the support of donors. Billboards with the message “I was an immigrant and



you welcomed me,” based on Jesus’ words from the Gospel of St. Matthew, were posted in Hannibal, Joplin, Camdenton, Kirksville, Sedalia, Branson, and St. Louis. More information can be found at www.stlcatholicsisters.org.

The campaign continues to grow. Billboards are already up in Cincinnati. Thanks to the work of sisters in Region 6 billboards can also be seen in Akron, Canton, Cleveland, Dayton, Defiance, Hamilton, Middletown, Putnam County, Tiffin, and Toledo in Ohio, and Lexington, Louisville, and Owensboro in Kentucky.

Reports are that plans call for the installation of four “Welcome the Immigrant” billboards in the Columbus area before the end of September. The goal, as identified by Alice Gerdeman, CDP in the *Columbus Dispatch*, is to get people to look deep into their hearts and souls and reflect on US immigration policy in the light of their religious convictions. Learn more about the Region 6’s plans at catholicsisterscare.blog.com.

Upcoming LCWR Dates

LCWR Leading from Within Retreat

*Holy Spirit Retreat Center
Encino, California*
January 20 — 25, 2013

LCWR Think Tank Symposium

*Redemptorists’ Renewal Center
Tucson, AZ*
February 11-14, 2013

LCWR New Leader Workshop

*Conference Center - University of St. Mary of the Lake
Mundelein, Illinois*
March 21 — 24, 2013

LCWR Assembly

Orlando, Florida
August 13 — 17, 2013

LCWR Assembly

Nashville, Tennessee
August 12 — 16, 2014

LCWR Assembly

Houston, Texas
August 11-15, 2015

There is even something for those who would like to “Be the Billboard.” During the August LCWR assembly sisters from the Upper Mississippi Valley wore T-shirts with the same message from Matthew 25. Many inquired about ordering T-shirts for themselves. The T-shirts are now available for a limited time only.

The shirts come in unisex sizes small through 3XL. Those interested may send their name, phone number, email and mailing addresses to: Immigration T-shirts, Office of Communications, 1100 Carmel Drive, Dubuque, IA 52003-7991. Shirts are \$15.00 each and checks should be made payable to Sisters of Charity, BVM. Orders will be taken through October 30 only.

Celebrate October UN Days

October offers multiple opportunities to join in solidarity with people around the world to forward human rights and the work of the United Nations.

On October 11 the international community celebrates the first annual International Day of the Girl. The UN General Assembly, in its resolution proclaiming the day, recognized that empowerment of and investment in girls, are critical for economic growth and the eradication of poverty, and are key to breaking the cycle of discrimination and violence against women. It is hoped that the observance of the day will raise awareness of the situation of girls around the world and promote their human rights. More information is available at plan-international.org/girls/day-of-the-girl.php.

October 17, designated by the General Assembly as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, is set aside to promote awareness of the need to eradicate poverty and destitution in all countries, particularly in developing countries and to accomplish the Millennium Development Goals.

October 24, United Nations Day, marks the anniversary of the entry into force in 1945 of the UN Charter. With the ratification of this founding document by the majority of its signatories, including the five permanent members of the Security Council, the United Nations officially came into being. October 24 has been celebrated as United Nations Day since 1948 and is observed as a public holiday by many member states.

More information about these and other UN days of commemoration, celebration, and rededication is available at www.un.org/en/events/observances/days.



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CLINIC/LCWR Offer Webinar: The New American DREAM?

In June, President Obama announced that his administration will stop deporting certain undocumented young people. Instead, it will use its administrative authority to grant limited benefits on a case-by-case basis to young people who meet the government's criteria. The Catholic Legal Immigration Network Inc. (CLINIC), a national organization that works to promote the dignity and protect the rights of immigrants, has offered to host a webinar for LCWR members and staff about the administration's new policy. The webinar will help people learn who is eligible for the program, what the benefits are, where to refer young people for quality legal services, and how one can help community legal service providers meet the need in their area.

If there is interest, LCWR will organize a CLINIC webinar for the fall. Contact information of interested individuals may be sent to Ann Scholz, SSND at ascholz@lcwr.org.

Vote the Common Good

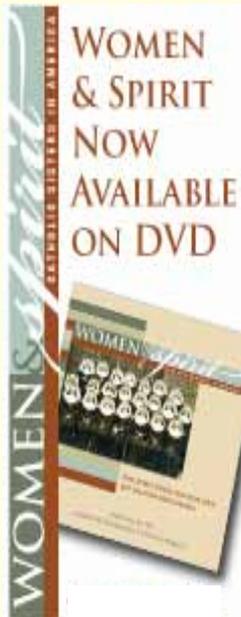
Candidates, incumbents and challengers alike, need to hear from voters over the next month. Voters are encouraged to find out when candidates are holding public events and engage them in conversation about Catholic Social Teaching and the common good.

Women religious may wish to do what the "nuns on the bus" did: ask candidates and elected officials to commit to "reasonable revenue for responsible programs." This may include talking to office seekers about responsible local programs that are helping people meet their needs: job training, healthcare, housing, education, and nutrition. Programs like these depend on many sources of funding and charitable contributions alone are not enough. Government has a role to play to help its citizens in time of need and it has the duty to ask those who have the most to contribute their fair share for the common good.

The direction the country takes depends on the election. Voters may wish to visit commongood2012.org, sign the national preamble to the Common Good Platform, download and share state platforms with candidates for local, state-wide, and national office, and vote the common good on November 6.

Planning Christmas Gifts for Staff, Benefactors, Friends?

Consider Purchasing a *Women & Spirit* DVD



This excellent educational resource produced by LCWR chronicles the contributions made by Catholic sisters to the growth of the nation from 1727 to today.

Cost: \$19.95

Proceeds from the sale of the DVD go to help support LCWR's mission.

More information can be found at:
lcur.org/item/women-spirit-dvd

NRRO Annual Statistical Report Now Available

The annual statistical report is now available from the National Religious Retirement Office at www.usccb.org/about/national-religious-retirement-office/upload/Statistical-Report.pdf. The report shows the average and median cost of care for each of the LCWR regions.



- Letter to Congress urging members to end the Bush era tax cuts to the richest two percent and to protect the Earned Income Tax Credit, the Child Tax Credit, and the American Opportunity Tax Credit.
- Endorsement of the Robin Hood Tax Campaign which seeks to impose a financial transaction tax on Wall Street to fund the myriad of social needs facing the country and the global community.
- Letter to Congress calling upon members to promote the common good, protect the vulnerable, and rebuild the economy.
- Letter to the members of the House and Senate urging support for the Senate's fiscal year 2013 overall funding level for the International Affairs Budget in order to protect its poverty-focused accounts.
- Letter to Congress asking members to co-sponsor the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2012 which would raise the federal minimum wage from \$7.25 to \$9.80 by 2014.

Colorado Springs Franciscans Say 'Thank You!'

We, the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration, wish to express heartfelt gratitude to all for your prayer, support and loving concern for us during our recent historic fire which proved to be the most destructive fire in Colorado state history. Three hundred forty-seven homes were destroyed as well as several thousand acres of National Forest land. Our Mount Saint Francis community and onsite ministries were under mandatory evacuation for a week, but we did not suffer any fire damage. However, it took three weeks for our 104-bed skilled care nursing center and kitchen to be up and running again due to necessary inspections and recertifications. Once again, all is well—all have been safe—and our hearts are filled with gratitude!



Documentary Chronicles Catholic Sisters in New Orleans after Katrina

Stories of the loss of life and destruction of ministries and residences of Catholic sisters are documented in the new hour-long documentary, "We Shall Not Be Moved: The Catholic Sisters of New Orleans," which is available to ABC stations throughout the country through November 18. The film relates the soul-searching decisions that six congregations made in the face of the destruction wrought by Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

"This analysis elevates the program from the level of a 'Katrina brick-and-mortar rebuilding chronicle' to a complex and fascinating journey with religious women who faced an uncertain personal and public future," said Sister of St. Francis of Sylvania Judith Ann Zielinski, the film's writer and producer for NewGroup Media, South Bend, IN. "Their choices were not uniform, simple, or immediate; ultimately, however, all six congregations, with an average of 175 years of combined service to New Orleans, re-confirmed their commitment to the city and its people," she added.

The program uses archival photos and materials, television footage of Katrina and the flood, extensive and poignant interviews with sisters from each of the congregations. Music is performed by New Orleans Gospel choirs.

The film project was coordinated and led by SC Ministry Foundation in Cincinnati, Ohio, which organized the fund-raising effort to make the documentary.

"I have had the privilege of witnessing the faith, hope, and love of these women religious in New Orleans since 2005," said Sister of Charity of Cincinnati Sally Duffy, president and executive director of SC Ministry Foundation and an executive producer of the film.

"These prophetic sisters transformed the destruction and devastation through the power of the Spirit and through the abiding presence of Christ. They rebuilt high schools, childcare development centers, community centers and motherhouses, in some cases starting from nothing. In other cases, they began programs that responded to the needs they saw around them after Hurricane Katrina."

More information about the film, including a preview, may be found at www.weshallnotbemovedmovie.com. Information on air dates, may be found at www.interfaithbroadcasting.com/program_onair.aspx?PID=370. Those who do not see their area listed are asked to contact their local ABC affiliate and encourage them to air the show.

Upcoming Justice Events

School of the Americas Watch Vigil Join human rights activists, people of faith, students, teachers, torture survivors, and others united for justice at the gates of Ft. Benning in Columbus, Georgia for the School of the Americas vigil, November 16-18, 2012. Learn more at www.soaw.org.

SHARE El Salvador/LCWR Delegation to El Salvador The November 29-December 6, 2012 pilgrimage is filling up fast. In honor of the four martyred church women, SHARE will launch four scholarships for young women leaders to attend college. LCWR has made a \$5000.00 contribution and is encouraging regions and congregations to contribute whatever they can to scholarship fund. Details and registration materials are available at www.share-elsalvador.org/delegations/major-delegations/honoring-women-religious-delegation.

CLINIC/USCCB Migration Conference From December 8-10, USCCB and CLINIC will be co-hosting a conference, "Migration Policy and Advocacy in 2013 and Beyond: New Challenges and New Opportunities," in Atlanta, GA. The conference will examine migration from both federal and local perspectives and will discuss methods for advancing the migration policy agenda of the Church. Panels will address state and local immigration policy advocacy as well as other issues such as federal legislation, refugee protection, detention, and migration trends in the United States. More information is available at www.justiceforimmigrants.org.



Archbishop Joseph Tobin, CSsR, to Speak at NRVC Convocation

The theme of the 2012 NRVC Convocation, which is being held from November 1-5 in Plano, Texas, is Vocation Ministers as Ambassadors of Christ: A Reconciling Presence. NRVC is pleased that Archbishop Joseph Tobin, CSsR, secretary to the Congregation for Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, will be the keynote speaker. The convocation will also feature Kathryn J. Hermes, FSP, author and retreat director. In addition to six workshops on diverse topics in vocation ministry, presentations will be made on the recent USCCB study on unmarried Catholic youth and young adults, and the NRVC Study on Educational Debt and Vocations. Archbishop Tobin expressed a desire to meet at this event as many people as possible; therefore, he has agreed to be present for the entire convocation. He will also conduct a special question and answer period that will be closed to the press and will only be open to convocation participants.

Leadership is welcome to attend this convocation. Further information regarding the program and registration is available at www.nrvc.net.

Women Religious Moving Forward in Hope

The first gathering of Women Religious Moving Forward in Hope will take place in Chicago, Illinois, from November 26-28. The other two gatherings are scheduled for January 7-9, 2013, in Burlingame, California, and March 5-7 in Latham, New York. NRVC is grateful to the GHR Foundation for their generosity in underwriting this special program for women religious. The purpose of these gatherings is to bring vocation ministers and leadership together to explore the generational and ethnic demographics of Catholic women, and its implications, challenges, and opportunities for inviting new generations of vowed members. This will be achieved through a process of prayer, reflection, and

dialogue. The keynote speaker is Mary Johnson, SNDdeN, author and chair of the sociology department at Emmanuel College. The gatherings will be facilitated by Gloria Marie Jones, OP, and Kieran Foley, FSE. Donald Senior, CP, president of Catholic Theological Union, will serve as mass president.

Although the grant was written to accommodate representatives from 75 religious congregations, due to their strong desire to attend, all 90 communities who applied were accepted for the three programs. A final document that will synthesize the results of the information, dialogue, and contemplation, and any intended future directions will be published late spring of 2013. This document will be authored by the two listeners, Lorraine Reaume, OP, and Anne Walsh, ASCJ.



Orientation to Formation

November 9-11, 2012

Holy Trinity Spiritual Center
Baltimore, MD

Transformation of Religious Life: An Action-Oriented Initiative

2013 Workshops

February 15-17, San Antonio, Texas

March 8-10, Baltimore, Maryland

April 5-7, Renton, Washington

April 26-28, West Hartford, Connecticut

May 3-5, St. Louis, Missouri

More information can be found at www.relforcon.org
or by calling the RFC national office at 301-588-4938.