

# Soundings

...A GATHERING OF SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH VOCATION & FORMATION MINISTERS

## Moving Forward in Hope as Sisters of St. Joseph



**C**ourageous, concrete, creative questions shaped the conversation of Sisters of St. Joseph Vocation and Formation ministers who gathered in Albany, NY, from March 21-24, 2013. Participants were from CSSJ congregations in the United States and Canada.



**ABOVE:** Participants in the CSSJ Gathering of Vocation/Formation ministers. Representing Boston are Joanne Gallagher, CSJ, row 1, 3rd left and Marian Batho, CSJ, row 4, right end.

**RIGHT:** Sisters Anita, Erlinda, Sara, and Michelle on screen during the streaming video panel.

The energy of the Spirit was indeed alive with the awareness that similar questions and insights are bubbling up across congregations, among members under age 40, with Federation Leadership groups, and during gatherings of the global Joseph family at our International Centre in Le Puy, France. No longer "cousins", we are truly sisters in this one family of St. Joseph.

Four sisters from four areas of the country who are age 40 participated in a live-streamed video panel. These women explained, "The old ways of planning are not going to work right now. We can't wait for the exact right time. College students are being prepared for careers that don't exist yet. The fast pace of life is all over the world. Something we create today may no longer apply in two years, but that doesn't mean don't try it." They commented: "Small is going to be beautiful. The future is not a scary thing. There will be a stronger sense of identity of who we are because we need to have that." And concluded by adding, "We're excited about the vowed life that we've chosen to live."

Patty Johnson, CSJ, Executive Director of the CSSJ US Federation, shared from an even broader perspective. It is clear, she explained, that there is a great global consciousness emerging. As all this percolates, it raises some questions:

- ♦ How does this define vocation and formation in a whole new way?
- ♦ What bold choices are we called to **make together** to welcome new members and make religious life available for future generations?
- ♦ What concrete, creative, and courageous next steps are we willing to **take together**?

As the weekend drew to a close, participants agreed that this experience changed them. We are being invited to be a global community for the global community and prayed, "That all may be one." ☪

Visit the CSSJ US Federation website for an extended version of this article: <http://www.sistersofsaintjosephfederation.org/node/188>

## Helping Our 'Dear Neighbor' Live Sustainably — One Project at a Time



*Change for Global Change* is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation founded by the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Philadelphia. Networking with all the Congregations of Sisters of Saint Joseph in the U.S. Federation, we collect "change" in order to bring about sustainable change in areas where Sisters and Associates of Saint Joseph minister.

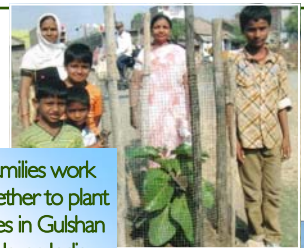
Since its inception in 2006, *Change for Global Change* has awarded grants totaling nearly \$150,000 for sustainability projects to communities in Brazil, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Kenya, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Sudan, and the United States.

Over the years, we have partnered with our Philadelphia sisters and donated to this project. You are invited to continue this support.

PLEASE SEND ALL DONATIONS TO

Rose Canney, CSJ, 637 Cambridge Street, Brighton, MA by May 1, 2013.

Cash is welcome. Checks payable to *Change for Global Change*.



Families work together to plant trees in Gulshan Nagar, India



The women of Tocarayo, Peru, do their part in the well's construction.

**Sustainability: Meeting present needs in a way that does not jeopardize future needs.**


"Together we are discerning new attractions; the Spirit of God is seeking to create anew in our lives, calling us to new relatedness and new wholeness.... The past has brought us into the present moment and it is good...the Spirit is creating anew and we are part of this new creation that is taking place in our midst."

— Ilia Delio, osf, Occasional Papers, Summer 2012



# 6th Annual Good Friday



More than 30 sisters, associates, students, and friends joined in our 6th annual Good Friday Peace Vigil. The vigil was organized by Denise Kelly, CSJ, and Betsy Conway, CSJ. The accompanying pictures tell the story. 

## Volunteers in Mission Experience...

**Volunteers in Mission 2013**, is scheduled for the week of June 22-29. Our time together consists of shared prayer, community, and service with people who are poor. We will begin on Saturday evening and end the following Saturday morning. The places we will serve are St. Francis House, The Women's Lunch Place, and Casserly House

A DIFFERENT  
*View*  
OF THE  
World

If this invitation interests you or you know someone whom you would recommend, please contact Mary Theresa O'Reilly, CSJ, before April 19, 2013, at [marytheresa.o'reilly@csjboston.org](mailto:marytheresa.o'reilly@csjboston.org) or call 617.746.2045

## Dates to Remember...

- APRIL 9, TUES., 5:30PM — MOTHERHOUSE LITURGY — All welcome
- THE GENTLE PATH TO LIFELONG RESILIENCE — see email from Dorothy Harrington — 3/8/13
- THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 6:00 – 8:00 PM — Motherhouse, Brighton
- FRIDAY, APRIL 19, 2:00 – 3:00 PM — Bethany Health Care Center, Framingham
- APRIL 13, SAT. 11:00AM — NEW MEXICO ASSOCIATE COMMITMENT AND RENEWAL OF COMMITMENT
- APRIL 14, SUN., 10:00AM — MOTHERHOUSE LITURGY — All welcome
- APRIL 17, WED. 5:30PM — MOTHERHOUSE LITURGY — All welcome
- APRIL 18, THURS., 7:00PM — TAIZÉ PRAYER — Motherhouse — All Welcome
- APRIL 19, FRI. VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION — Reply due — see Soundings Update 3/27/13
- APRIL 20, SAT. 10:00-11:30AM — SOCIAL NETWORKING 101 WORKSHOP — with Karen Hokanson, SND,
- APRIL 21, SUN., 10:00AM — MOTHERHOUSE LITURGY — All welcome
- APRIL 24 & 25, WED. & THURS., — SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH COLLABORATE WITH SHARE EL SALVADOR TRUTH & JUSTICE TOUR —
- Wed. 4/24, after 9:00am Mass — St. Agatha Church, Milton, lower chapel — All Welcome
- Wed. 4/24, 6:30PM — St. Ignatius Church, Chestnut Hill — All Welcome — bring friends
- Thurs. 4/25, 6:30PM — Paulist Center, Boston — All Welcome — bring friends
- Visit: <http://www.share-elsalvador.org/delegations/tours/truth-and-justice-tour>
- APRIL 25, THURS., 5:30PM — MOTHERHOUSE LITURGY — All welcome
- APRIL 26-27, FRI.-SAT. — ASSOCIATE RETREAT — Cohasset — call 617.746.1670 for more information.
- MAY 1, WED. 7:00PM — ASSOCIATE COMMITMENT AND RENEWAL OF COMMITMENT — reply to Paula Finn, CSJ by 4/25/13— see invite 4/8/13
- MAY 7, TUES., 5:30PM — MOTHERHOUSE LITURGY — All welcome
- MAY 9, THURS., 7:00PM — SHARING THE STATE OF THE HEART — Fontbonne Convent, Milton
- MAY 15, WED., 5:30PM — MOTHERHOUSE LITURGY — All welcome
- MAY 16, THURS., 7:00PM — TAIZÉ PRAYER — Motherhouse — All Welcome
- MAY 23, THURS., 5:30PM — MOTHERHOUSE LITURGY — All welcome



*"Pursue above all  
the pure glory of God"*  
Maxims of the Little Institute, 48

**SISTER NERI JENNINGS, CSJ**  
Date of Birth: December 5, 1913  
Date of Death: March 31, 2013  
in the 81<sup>st</sup> year of her Religious Life.

MEMBERSHIP: 354