

Wherever divine providence calls us, there we are most ready to go.

- Blessed Mother Theresa of Jesus Gerhardinger; Trust & Dare, February 10, Letter 3623

What We've Read: Surrendering to God

Prayer should be an experience of giving ourselves over to God, of truly entering into God's presence.

And once we have knocked on the door, then what? Who speaks first? Our prayer life will be deepened if we allow ourselves to experience a true encounter with God. Pope Francis says that his own best times of prayer involve this trust and surrender to the presence of God – the times when we both listen and are listened to, where heart joins heart, and words can even become superfluous.

- What Pope Francis Says About Prayer, Twenty-third Publications

Discernment Steps* (as developed by Sister Sandra Weinke, SSND; commentary by Sister Bridget Waldorf, SSND)

***PRAYER IS INTEGRATED INTO EACH STEP.**

2. LISTEN

What is your heart telling you?...your friends or mentors? Do you hear a call, or feel a longing?

I was struck at a recent vocation event how a number of women religious in the panel noted feeling something strong in their hearts in their own discernment. The heart is amazing – it can break, it can burst, it can long for something, it can weep, it can be attracted to someone or something, it can struggle, it can be tugged, it can be at peace, it can be closed off or it can be filled with giddiness – listen to what your heart is telling you at moments along the way. Do you hear a call? Are you being invited to something?



Listen to your mentors or wise friends – people who know you well, people who will be honest with you, people who understand commitment and want to help you discern God's will. What are you hearing from them?

Find a spiritual director that can walk with you as you discern God's invitations. Something that is sort of obvious but needs to be said is this: if we are to listen, we need to find times of quiet. Stillness helps us listen. Where and when are your moments of stillness?

Next Month: LEARN

Looking Ahead:

Come and Be – Dinner & Prayer with the SSNDs

Dallas, TX

August 14, 2018 6-8p

bwaldorf@ssnd.org

507-217-0663, please call to let us know you'll be joining us!

Nun Run

San Antonio, TX

September 22, 2018 830am - 6pm

Come join us and visit different convents. Fun with sisters. Fellowship and worship.

Learn more and register here - www.archsa.org/vocations/nun-run

For questions, contact the Vocation Office (210) 735-0553 or by e-mail anacecilia.montalvo@archsa.org

Discernment Dash

San Antonio, TX

Sunday, October 7, 2018 11a -4pm

Help commemorate the opening of the Synod on Youth, Young Adults, and Vocational Discernment in Rome by gathering with young people, families, religious, priests, seminarians, people in discernment, and with the Archbishop. We will run or walk a 5K path from Assumption Seminary to Our Lady of the Lake University - praying for God to send holy men and women to be priests, religious sisters, and brothers. The event is free. Bring a group from your parish, youth group, or prayer community. We hope to gather as a great witness to the movement of the Holy Spirit in the Church. If you are a runner, come compete prayerfully for a great cause. If you are not a runner, come and walk with us as we pray for the future of our Church.

Registration is open and information is available: <https://www.archsa.org/vocations/discernment-dash>

SAVE the DATE:

National Vocation Discernment Retreat for Hispanic women (ages 21-40)

March 7-10, 2019

More info next month...

This Month's Resources for Discernment:

<https://www.facebook.com/VISION.Vocation.Guide>

Love gives everything gladly, again and again...

El Amor da todo con alegría y lo renueva cada día.

- 24th General Chapter of the School Sisters of Notre Dame

www.ssnd.org

www.gerhardinger.org

www.ssndcp.org

www.amssnd.org