

Vocation *Reflections*

January 2022

 School Sisters of Notre Dame



“Follow the star which has arisen in you; it will certainly lead you to Jesus.”
Blessed Theresa, foundress of the School Sisters of Notre Dame
Letter #2534 written in 1858

Inspired by others

Read how women, coming from a variety of backgrounds and at different ages, were inspired to enter religious life in “Sister to sister: Religious reflect on who inspired them to follow God's call:”

<https://www.globalsistersreport.org/news/trends/sister-sister-religious-reflect-who-inspired-them-follow-gods-call-55768>.

Reflection Questions:

- As you read or hear about how others have begun steps toward discerning religious life in the article above, what are some common threads to the stories? How might these threads be helpful for your discernment?
- What are the obstacles that keep you from taking a next step – whatever it may be?

“It is a natural tendency to come to God saying something like, ‘Dear God, I’ve been offered this wonderful new job. I think I should take it. Don’t you?’ We expect to hear resounding agreement to a question stated like that, and we often close our ears to anything that sounds like no. But in discernment, we come before God with a hearing heart and say that we are faced with a new opportunity; we ask if it is consistent with God’s desires. And then we wait, with both expectancy and patience, for guidance. Or at least we try...if we wish to know what God desires rather than what we think should happen, we need to spend at least some of our prayer time holding the world and our specific concerns before God without an agenda...”



From [Hearing with the Heart: A Gentle Guide to Discerning God's Will for Your Life](#) by Debra K. Farrington.

Vocation Reflections is a monthly newsletter for those interested in learning more about discernment, prayer, and other topics related to the consecrated/vowed life. For questions, comments and subscription information, please contact sisters@ssnd.org

Did you know?

Each of our Vocation Reflections is available online at ssnd.org/become-sister/vocation-resources/.

Here's a Spotify playlist for vocational discernment:

<https://open.spotify.com/user/motzm1/playlist/2HNA2UBr0ZLf5Imgex3Rto?si=jFMW48HiRYSsFCoMekCdDg>

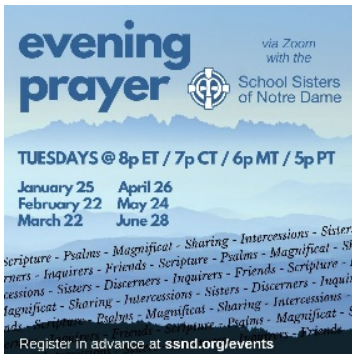
Looking ahead

The following events are all virtual. Learn more and register for the Zoom link at ssnd.org/events/.



Living our Call as SSND: Transformative Education, Part 2 – On the Margins

Wednesday, January 19, 2022
8 p.m. ET / 7 p.m. CT



Evening Prayer with the SSND Vocation Team

Every fourth Tuesday of the month
8 p.m. ET / 7 p.m. CT

January 25, 2022
February 22, 2022
March 22, 2022
April 26, 2022
May 24, 2022
June 28, 2022



Young Adult Retreat: Grounded in the Heartbeat of God

Sunday, February 27, 2022
2-5:30 ET / 1-4:30 p.m. CT



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