

Vocation *Reflections*

June 2022



School Sisters of Notre Dame

“O my Jesus, as I desire to be your follower I will strive to accept your will in every event in life. Give me light and strength, divine Lord, through the Holy Spirit, to know the tendencies and foolishness of my own desires, so that I may have the grace steadfastly to fulfill your holy will in Jesus. Amen.”

Blessed Theresa of Jesus Gerhardinger, foundress of the School Sisters of Notre Dame

Letter #2, written in 1823

What We Heard:



The important thing is that each believer discern his or her own path, that they bring out the very best of themselves, the most personal gifts that God has placed in their hearts (cf. 1 Cor 12:7), rather than hopelessly trying to imitate something not meant for them. We are all called to be witnesses, but there are many actual ways of bearing witness. Indeed, when the great mystic, Saint John of the Cross, wrote his Spiritual Canticle, he preferred to avoid hard and fast rules for all. He explained that his verses were composed so that everyone could benefit from them “in his or her own way.” For God’s life is communicated “to some in one way and to others in another.” (#11)

This should excite and encourage us to give our all and to embrace that unique plan that God willed for each of us from eternity:

*“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
and before you were born I consecrated you”* (Jer 1:5). (#13)

~ Pope Francis, in his apostolic exhortation *“[Gaudete Et Exultate](#)”* (Call to Holiness) from 2018.

Thoughts on Prayer....

“I...don’t always have wonderful thoughts or feelings when I pray...
But I believe that something is happening because God is greater than my mind and heart.
The larger mystery of prayer is greater than what I can grasp.”

~ *Father Henri Nouwen*

“Prayer is the most necessary element for our souls, as water is for fish...”

~ *Blessed Theresa of Jesus Gerhardinger*

“The first requirement of prayer is silence. People of prayer are people of silence.”

~ *Saint Teresa of Calcutta*

This month's vocation resource:

[Me? Be a sister? You're not serious.](#)

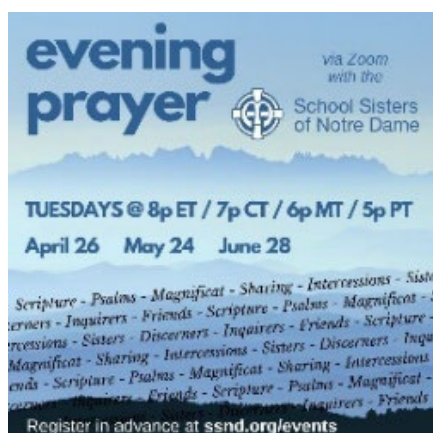
This recent blog post was adapted from Benedictine Sister Joan Chittister's 2018 book, [What Are You Looking For? Seeking the God Who is Seeking You](#), published by Paulist Press.

Did you know?

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

Looking ahead

Click the event title to learn more!



evening prayer

via Zoom with the School Sisters of Notre Dame

TUESDAYS @ 8p ET / 7p CT / 6p MT / 5p PT
April 26 May 24 June 28

Scripture - Psalms - Magnificat - Sharing - Intercessions - Sisters - Discerners - Inquirers - Friends - Scripture - Psalms - Magnificat - Intercessions - Sisters - Discerners - Inquirers - Friends - Scripture - Magnificat - Sharing - Intercessions - Sisters - Discerners - Inquirers - Friends - Scripture - Psalms - Magnificat - Sharing - Intercessions - Sisters - Discerners - Inquirers - Friends - Scripture - Psalms - Magnificat - Sharing - Intercessions - Sisters - Discerners - Inquirers - Friends


Register in advance at ssnd.org/events

Online Evening Prayer

June 28, 2022

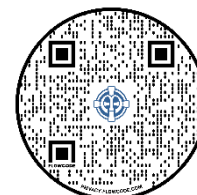
8 p.m. ET / 7 p.m. CT

Online



School Sisters of Notre Dame

Hermanas Educadoras de Notre Dame



God's cause
is the *only* concern of
our hearts

Blessed Thomas of Jesus Genharinger



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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.