



JOURNEYS

URSULINE SISTERS

of the Roman Union † United States Provinces

October 2014

Dear Friends,

Did you wonder what happened to the September issue of our *Journeys* e-letter? Over the summer we decided to publish six times a year rather than twelve. So starting this month, you'll receive *Journeys* every other month. We hope you'll forward *Journeys* to others you know!

In this issue we'll consider charisms. A charism is a personal gift of God given for the whole Church. Charism is what orients the particular mission and spirit of a religious community. Although religious communities have much in common, each one has its own charism, or spirit. Part of discerning a vocation to consecrated life is coming to understand in which community you can mostly freely share your own unique spirit (charism). A sense of joy, peace, and "at-homeness" will tell you you've arrived!

United in prayer,

Fr. Jan Hopman, OSU



For Reflection

Part of our Ursuline charism is to be peace-makers and reconcilers, with special focus on the needs of women and children.

- What aspect(-s) of yourself help to define who you are and are non-negotiable? (e.g.- extrovert, compassionate, educator, etc.)
- What words best describe your purpose in life, your place in the world?
- What value do you place on mission and service?

Angela Maria

Scripture Helps

Listen to St. Paul reminding Timothy to “fan into flame the gift that God gave you . . . God’s gift was not a spirit of timidity, but the Spirit of power, and love, and self-control.” [[2 Timothy 1:6-8](#)] Reflect on and articulate for yourself the gifts that God has given you. How boldly have you developed them? How will you continue to fan them into flame?

Spend a few minutes of silence reflecting on these words of Jesus, “Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.” [[Matthew 6:21](#)] When you’re ready, ask the Holy Spirit for help to open your heart and look inside. What treasure do you find there?



Not only is
another world
possible,
she is on her way.
On a quiet day
I can hear her
breathing.

- Arundhati Roy

Other Resources

Read this excellent article [How to narrow your vocation options](#) by Sr. Charlene Diorka. And don't miss the side bar at the bottom on *How to make sense of so many communities?*

To see some of the ways the Ursuline Sisters work to enliven our charism of peace-making and reconciliation, visit our Justice, Peace, and the Integrity of Creation [Justice in Action](#) page.

For more information, contact Sr. Elisa Ryan at elisaosu@gmail.com or Sr. Jean Hopman at sjeanosu@gmail.com. If you no longer wish to receive these e-letters, contact Sr. Elisa and she will remove your address.

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