

Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace

Vocation Ministry

News & Photos

Spring 2010

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.csjp.org/olp

* Novice Sukyi Journeys With Us *

An Invitation!

If you are a single woman considering a call to religious life, I invite you to get acquainted with our religious community, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace. We commit ourselves to Christ's Gospel of Peace by promoting peace in the family, the church and in the world. We respond to God's people in need and promote social justice as a way to peace. Our life of prayer and ministry lived in community enables, sustains and challenges us in our mission.

I am happy to assist you in your discernment process: You are invited to come for a visit to our Province Center in Bellevue, WA. I can also send you more information. Our website is an interesting place to learn about our CSJP community and its many activities: www.csjp.org/olp

Blessings of Peace,

Sr. Jo-Anne Miller, CSJP
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On December 14, 2008 became a Novice for vowed commitment in Bellevue, WA. She has lived in Southern California for several years where she completed her studies and taught at South Baylo University in Anaheim. She is a Doctor of Oriental Medicine and Acupuncture.

Sukyi was born in Pusan, South Korea and became a Catholic after high school. Her family, all Buddhists, would prefer that she live in Korea but Sukyi says: "My calling is here— God's call— so I'm here."

Sukyi has moved to Washington from Anaheim, CA in order to have the opportunity to be involved in formation and CSJP activities and to become better acquainted with the CSJP community. She enjoys hiking, walking, listening to music and all kinds of movies.

In January 2009, Sukyi travelled to Englewood, New Jersey where she began the novitiate program. As part of her novitiate, she is volunteering at the Korean Clinic at our hospital and at our Home for the Blind in New Jersey.



Community Seeking Justice and Peace



Meet our New Members!



New Members:
Temporary Professed Dorothy Verna,
Sukyi Hur (novice);
Temporary
Professed Susan Francois
and Chero Chuma.

CONGREGATION NOVITIATE

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace Congregation Novitiate is located in New Jersey, overlooking the Hudson River and Manhattan. Novices from all areas of the Congregation come together for the novitiate experience.

As part of the first year novitiate, our novices study the vows, religious life, theology and scripture. They also volunteer at agencies that serves those who are poor, homeless or in some other situation of desperate need. During the second year of novitiate the novices spend time in the U.S., the U.K. or El Salvador in ministry experiences of a few months with those who are marginalized.



Temporary Professed Dorothy Verna

Dorothy professed first vows on Sept. 19, 2009 in Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey. Dorothy is from Montclair, New Jersey and is a geriatric nurse practitioner. She is also a massage therapist.

In photo, Sukyi and Chero visit Dorothy (on right), at her volunteer ministry site in Seattle— Jubilee Women's Center—transitional housing for homeless women sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace.

Temporary Professed Sister Chero Chuma CSJP,

a native of Kenya, has lived in Seattle, WA where she was a student at South Seattle Community College and Seattle University. She plans to pursue healthcare ministry.

In photo, Chero helps a child at our Home for the Blind in New Jersey where she volunteered as one of her ministry experiences during 2nd year novitiate.



Temporary Professed Sister Susan Francois CSJP,

a native of Washington, D.C., has lived in Portland, OR where she worked for the City of Portland as the elections officer. She has been active in peace and justice work. In the photo, Susan (on left) visits the grave of our founder, Margaret Anna Cusack in England with Sister Joan Ward (right). Susan is now on the staff at Intercommunity Peace and Justice Center in Seattle.

SCENES FROM CHAPTER 2008

Monmouth University, New Jersey



Our 2008 Chapter, a meeting of Sisters and Associates from our Congregation at Monmouth University, New Jersey, was an inspiring and life-changing event. Visit our Congregation website to find out more about our congregation and our commitments to peace and justice: www.csjp.org



Our New Peace and Spirituality Center in Bellevue, WA

See www.csjp.org/olp



Our New PeaceHealth Sacred Heart Hospital in Springfield, Oregon

Sister Monica Heeran (2nd from left), gives Chero and others a tour of the beautiful facility. See www.peacehealth.org



Recent Profession of Perpetual Vows: Sister Margaret Dimond, CSJP,

University of Washington professor emeritus in Geriatric Nursing, is now directing the home health services of the Sisters at St. Mary-on-the-Lake in Bellevue, WA, our regional center.

CHECK OUT

**blog of Sister Susan Francois CSJP:
Musings of a Discerning Woman:
<http://actjustly.blogspot.com>**

A 30-something Catholic woman discerning a call to "act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with God." Thoughts on my vocation discernment, community, the church, the world and life in general.



What are the steps in joining the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace?

INQUIRY AND EXPLORATION:

This is a time to pray, discern, ask questions, seek advice, explore a variety of communities, learn about qualifications. Through this process the inquirer is discerning if religious life is the best way for her to live out her life in a healthy, happy and holy way. She is also seeking to find a community where she feels 'at home' and where she identifies with the community's charism and spirit.

PRE-CANDIDACY:

When the inquirer wishes to make the initial step in the process of becoming a Sister of St. Joseph of Peace, she discusses her desire to become a Pre-Candidate with the Vocation Director and, with her encouragement, writes a letter to the Director of Initial Formation. The Pre-Candidate continues to live at her own residence and is self-supporting in the work of her choosing. The Vocation Director serves as her mentor and invites her to attend community events, retreat days, social activities and helps her become acquainted with the community and its members. After a period of six months to a year, the Pre-Candidate may apply to become a candidate. In preparation, the candidate fills out application forms and collects personal documents. Letters of recommendation, psychological assessment and medical/dental exams are also part of the application process.

CANDIDACY:

When accepted to candidacy, the candidate lives in a CSJP community household with other Sisters. She continues to be self-supporting. As a candidate, a mentor assists her in the ongoing discernment and introduction to religious life and community living. Candidacy usually lasts about one year. All personal debts need to be paid off by the end of candidacy. With the mutual discernment of the religious community and the candidate that the novitiate is the appropriate next step, the candidate becomes a novice.

NOVITIATE:

The novitiate, a two year period of prayer, study and ministry formation, takes place in a setting with other novices of the Congregation and the Novice Director. The novice is no longer employed at her previous job and is supported by the Congregation. After mutual discernment and acceptance, the novice celebrates profession of first vows: poverty, celibacy and obedience.

TEMPORARY PROFESSION:

The newly professed sister lives in community and begins a new ministry or continues her previous ministry. Perpetual profession of vows takes place three to six years after temporary profession.