



# Vocation & Formation Newsletter Winter 2009

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## "Search Your Heart" Volunteer/Discernment Program to begin in Syracuse, NY in September

The Brothers of the Sacred Heart are pleased to announce the beginning of our new volunteer and discernment program in Syracuse, NY.

Our Program offers volunteers the opportunity to participate in the community life, spirituality and mission of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart. Volunteers are also given the opportunity to discern their call in life. They are given individual guidance in their personal and spiritual development according to the tradition and charism of the brothers.



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**Goal of the Program:** Our Program offers volunteers the opportunity to participate in the community life, spirituality and mission of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart. Volunteers are also given the opportunity to discern their call in life. They are given individual guidance in their personal and spiritual development according to the tradition and charism of the brothers.

**Type of Placement:** A variety of ministries with young people; refugee settlement programs; GED programs; ESL programs for refugees.

**Length of Service:** One year.

**Requirements:** College degree or adequate work experience, single male; practicing Catholic; US Citizen; good physical and mental health; health examination (within last six months); be willing to live a celibate lifestyle during the experience; desire to work with difficult children; be required to follow all child safety regulations; interviews and references (3); ages 21-40.

**Financial Arrangements:** Room and Board; small monthly allowance; some transportation assistance; volunteer is responsible for personal travel and expenses.

**Living Arrangements:** Volunteers will live and participate in an established community of brothers. They will be expected to participate in the upkeep of the house; in communal prayer life and community meetings.

**Size of the Program:** 3 to 5 volunteers

**Application Deadline:** April 1st (for September Program)

# The Institute of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart

## Charism of the Founders

Let us pray continually; let us pray for one another as we often come together in the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, our refuge in all our needs. (Letter of Brother Polycarp, our 2nd founder, Sep. 5, 1856)

Jesus constantly in the presence of his Father, impresses on us the necessity of unceasing prayer. (R 129)



# VISION Launches Monthly Electronic Vocation Newsletter

From editors of Vision/Vocation Guide



THE NEED for information, inspiration, and encouragement go hand-in-hand with discerning a vocation and serving in vocation ministry. That is why the editors of VISION Vocation Guide have launched E-Vocation, an electronic newsletter intended to help you keep in mind and call to mind your call by providing you with insightful tips, trends, and resources.

We hope you find the articles and links in E-Vocation useful in your personal discernment or ministry.

We welcome your feedback and suggestions for items and features to include in future issues.

## New Circular from our Superior General, "Communion in Prayer"

Brother José Ignacio Carmona, S.C.

"In our prayer encounters it is always God who takes the initiative and begins to pray. First of all God appears to us, and then God speaks to us through the Word, through the events and experiences of our lives, as well as through persons. God is the one who asks us for a drink, for God is the one who thirsts for us (cf. Jn 19:28). Like a beggar God stretches out a hand for our love; then the same God offers us his own love. Our prayer begins the moment that we perceive that God wants to give us something very precious."



"As we have seen, one of the particular aspects of the prayer of Jesus is born of his immense love of the Father, a love unequalled, a love which finds expression in his intimate relationship with Him. Moreover, Jesus does not limit his prayer to specific acts of piety; he lives in a permanent state of prayer, always united to the Father, even at the height of his missionary activity. Even more, he often

withdraws to isolated places to experience an exclusive and intimate relationship with his Father. He spends several nights in prayer and this nourishes and revitalizes his filial relationship so intensely that, on the following day, we see him full of zeal."

**[Read the full Circular Here](#)**

## A Merton Vocation Prayer

MY LORD GOD,  
I have no idea where I  
am going.  
I do not see the road  
ahead of me.

I cannot know for  
certain where it will  
end.

Nor do I really know  
myself, and the fact  
that I think that I am  
following your will  
does not mean that I  
am actually doing so.

But I believe that the  
desire to please you  
does in fact please  
you.

And I hope I have that  
desire in all that I am  
doing.

I hope that I will  
never do anything  
apart from that desire.

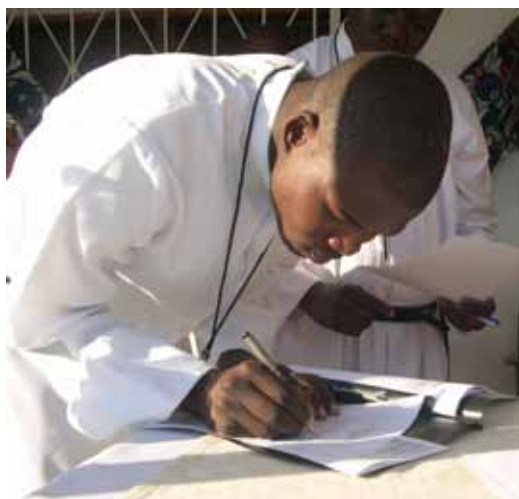
And I know that if I  
do this you will lead  
me by the right road  
though I may know  
nothing about it.

Therefore will I trust  
you always though I  
may seem to be lost  
and in the shadow of  
death.

I will not fear, for you  
are ever with me, and  
you will never leave  
me to face my perils  
alone.

- Thomas Merton,  
"Thoughts in Solitude"  
[click here for more prayers](#)

## We Welcome New Members to Our Community



In July and August, eight Brothers made their perpetual profession: Bros. Samuel Bama from the Province of West Africa, Paul Nantinda from the Province of Eastern and Southern Africa, Solofo Michel Andriatahina, Joseph Rakotomanga, William Tojo Ramanojoso, Jean de Dieu Rasolofoniaina and Jean-Michel Tsimanavaka from the Province of Madagascar and finally Bro. Moïse Coly from the Province of Senegal. Congratulations to those Brothers who were courageous enough to risk their future, for they committed themselves to the Lord.

Many first professions were celebrated during that same period. Here are the names of the new recruits. Bros. Bertrand Andoang, Jean-Claude Mbala, Mathirin Pataï, Daniel



Lhemma and Jean-Yves Mbaïndiguim from the delegation of Central Africa; Ayité d'Almeida and David Traore from the Province of West Africa; Christian Mulenga, Obbyshy Mangale and Thabang Ramaili from the Province of Eastern and Southern Africa; Obnel Augustin, Marc-Sony Chéry, Jean Colin, Guy Dalcé, Yveto Delbrun, Pierre François, René Raphaël, Gérald Robert and Jean Voltaire from the Province of Haïti; Hajaniaina Nomenjanahary, Edmond Randriamanampisoa, Jean Randrianarisoa and Aimé Philiane Rasolomandimby from the Province of Madagascar; Dimitri Batick and Arnaud Leingkone from the Province of Oceania and Cornelio Baguio, Rogelio Eneco, Diosdado Mondejar and Lamberto Solis from the delegation of the Philippines. In all, 29 new Brothers answered the Lord's invitation.

With those young men eager to put Christ in the center of their motivation and references, let us be grateful to the Lord who continues to invite men and women to walk in his footsteps.

## New Website for Africa

Brothers of the Sacred Heart from the United States have been committed to educating African youth for over seventy-five years beginning in 1931 when the first group of four Brothers was sent to staff the mission school in Gulu, Uganda. Within the next thirty years Brothers from the United States have founded or helped staff education institutions in Lesotho (1937), Kenya (1948), Zambia (1956), Zimbabwe (1961) and Uganda (1931).



[Click here for new website](#)

# Zambia 2009 Mission Trip

# Catholics On Call Partners



The Brothers of the Sacred Heart are now Partners with Catholics on Call!!

Catholics on Call is an organization out of the Bernadine Center at the Catholic Theological Institute in Chicago. It exists to assist young people who are in the process of discerning their "Call" in life and who are considering some form of service to the Church as a lay minister, priest, brother, sister or deacon. By clicking online ([catholicsoncall.org](http://catholicsoncall.org)) one can find many resources, reflections, forums, programs, etc that can help in an individual's discernment process. Retreat programs are held each summer for allying men and women who have been recommended by a partner. The retreat programs are free for all participants.



The Brothers of the Sacred Heart are proud to be in partnership with Catholics on Call. As partners we can also tap into the many resources, reflections and networking with other vocation directors, campus ministers, and pastoral ministers throughout the country. Partnership Conferences are held each year which help us to meet and share ideas and resources.

For more information check online at [catholicsoncall.org](http://catholicsoncall.org) or contact Bro. Dan, Bro. Chris or Bro. Mike through this web site.

## December Discernment Retreat on the Jersey Shore



The next Mission Trip to Zambia is scheduled for the last three weeks of June this coming summer. There are still a few open spots, so contact a vocation director near you as soon as possible if you are interested.



The primary focus of this years trip will be to make repairs and to paint the dorms that were damaged from severe storms that ripped through Malole this past November.

The group will also spend a few days at The Shitima School in Kabwe, the Brothers newest elementary school for street children.



# Contact A Vocation Director

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## Brothers of the Sacred Heart Discernment Retreats Now Every December and April



### Next Discernment Retreat

**When:** April 3-5, 2009 (Palm Sunday Weekend)  
**Where:** Rosaryville Spirit Life Center in Ponchatoula, LA  
**Who:** Men with a restless and searching heart  
**Cost:** Only your time

"Search Your Heart" Retreat is:

- Sponsored by the Brothers of the Sacred Heart Vocation Office
- A fresh, different atmosphere away from home, school, or job.
- An experience in community living in a prayerful atmosphere.
- Meeting with other young men who are experiencing a restless heart.
- Sharing with a spiritual director how you see yourself, your prayer, your dreams.
- Encountering the Sacred Heart of Jesus in your life every day!

[Click here to download Flyer and Application](#)  
[or just fill out the contact form here](#)

Send us a Question  
or Prayer Request  
by **Clicking Here**

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information about  
our community

