



The JOY of Catholic Living



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THE VOICE

Stages of a Legionary Vocation

In the popular television show *The Voice*, three judges sit in chairs facing away from the contestant, listening and deciding if they will press a button, turn their chairs around, and mentor an aspiring singer for a musical career. It's a momentous audition that can lead to a rewarding and exciting future.

In a reverse comparison, young men considering the priesthood are like the judges in *The Voice*. God is singing to them and the young men must decide if they will respond, turn around, and allow God to guide their future.

Appropriately, the word vocation entails responding to a call (*vocatio* is Latin for "a calling"). The first stage in a vocation usually takes place in the context of a faithful Catholic family, a local parish, or participation in a youth group or short-term mission.

Therefore, it makes sense that Fr. Michael Mitchell, LC, is not only a Vocation Director of the Legion, but also active in the apostolate of Mission Youth. "Through the missionary experience," says Fr. Michael, "the youth begin to understand what it means to be an apostle. After a week or month or year as a missionary, Jesus is able to awaken their hearts to give their lives for the mission."

A prospective Legionary will visit the novitiate in Cheshire, learning more about the religious life. After experiencing a "Test Your Call" retreat, some will attend Summer Candidacy to discern their vocation in greater depth. In mid-September, new seminarians are welcomed to the novitiate.



Young men from Ames, Iowa spent their spring break in Nicaragua with Fr. Michael Mitchell, LC, to build a school (Santa Maria del Mar). They also spent time helping out at a local orphanage.

A FATHER'S LEGACY

Betty and Roger Quall came to know the Legion through Betty's father, Andrew Kozak, who lived with them for ten years before his death at the age of 100. He supported the Legionary seminarians through the direct mail program for many years.

Before he died, some of the seminarians came to visit them and, according to the Qualls, "That was the beginning of a wonderful relationship."

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Over 40 Legionaries to Enter Diaconate Prior to December Ordinations

THE VOICE *(continued from front cover)*

Spirituality classes, meditation, Mass, Rosary, Adoration, and personal reflection, together with spiritual direction, help novices to learn and live the unique spirituality of the Legionaries of Christ and experience the transforming power of God's grace in their lives.

In the words of one novice, "Novitiate is living with Christ and growing in deep friendship with him; religious life is to then offer Christ to the world, loving him without reserve."

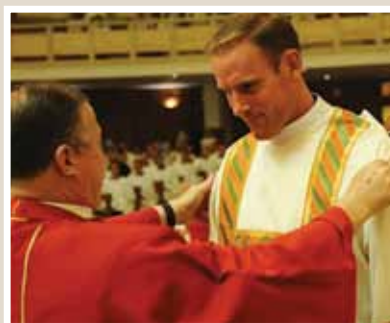
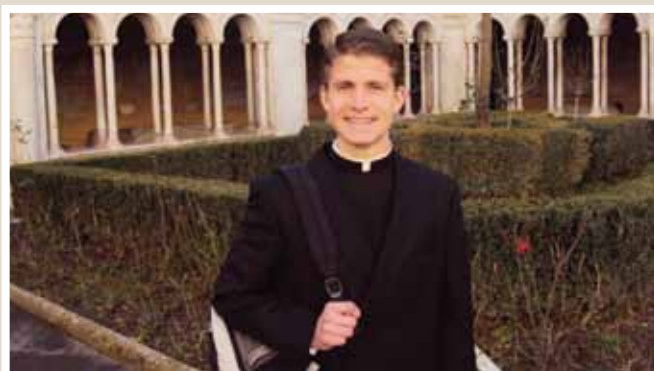
At the end of a two-year novitiate, a seminarian decides if he will continue his formation. It is then that they make their "First Profession" of poverty, chastity, and obedience. Although they have been living these promises as novices, their commitment takes on a new depth after their formal affirmation.

"The day a young man makes his first religious profession sends a huge message," says novice instructor Fr. Joseph Brickner, LC, "that following the call and mission of Christ is worth more than anything else in this world."

The newly professed Legionary continues listening and discerning for about twelve years during which time he will renew his vows twice more before ordination. In addition, he will earn an associates' degree in Classics in Cheshire and complete advanced studies in Philosophy and Theology at the Pontifical University Regina Apostolorum in Rome. In between their studies, they spend three years of internship experiencing first-hand the life of ministry that awaits them as priests.

The illustration of The Voice which began this article is imperfect because it implies that the young man chooses God. In fact, as Jesus tells his Apostles, "You have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that you should go out and bear fruit . . ." (John 15:16)

After a Legionary's ordination, all the listening, prayers, work, and fidelity of his formation will bear fruit in years of priestly service.



(Top row): Visitors at a recent Test Your Call retreat join novices for lunch at the Legionary's novitiate and college dining room.; Br. Andrew Lane, LC, holding his First Profession crucifix, poses for a picture with his diocesan seminarian friend from Philadelphia and family; Legionary seminarians in their chapel in Rome.

(Middle row): Fr. Joseph Brickner, LC, (second from right) Novice Instructor at our Cheshire seminary, speaking with a group of seminarians outside of the chapel; "There is nothing greater than being able to walk together with my brothers on the pilgrimage of faith, drawing strength from one another to change this world for Christ." Br. Jonathan Flemings, LC, who is studying at the seminary in Rome.

(Right): Fr. Paul Alger, LC, being vested at last year's diaconate ordination. This year's diaconate ordination in Rome was held May 2nd. The majority of the new deacons were ordained in Rome, but others were ordained in their home countries.

ETERNAL RETURN ON INVESTMENT (ROI)

The Real Bottom Line at His Way at Work

His Way at Work (HWAW) held its first annual conference at the Legion's novitiate and college seminary in Cheshire, CT on Feb 27-March 1. Founded in 2006 by Peter Freissle, president of Polytec Screen Corporation, the association is now comprised of 70 businesses with a total of 70,000 employees.

These companies are committed to creating a culture of Christian values in their workplaces. They consider financial profits (ROI – return on investment) important only insofar as it provides for eternal profits (Eternal ROI) in the lives of employees and customers.

The personal approach is key to HWAW. Companies form a "caring team" to oversee a fund for employee emergencies (car and home repairs, addiction recovery, etc.). Elected unanimously from among the employees, the caring team committee decides how money is spent.

Prior to forming His Way at Work, Freissle saw his employees as a resource – a means to an end. Today he sees employees as his "neighbor" and financial success as an opportunity to be a "Good Samaritan," glorifying God through caring for people's physical, emotional, and spiritual needs.

HWAW's Mission is to demonstrate how core values based on faith in God can lead to excellence in business environments by providing the tools to develop an inclusive, respectful Caring Corporate Culture (CCC) through our 10 Step Program.

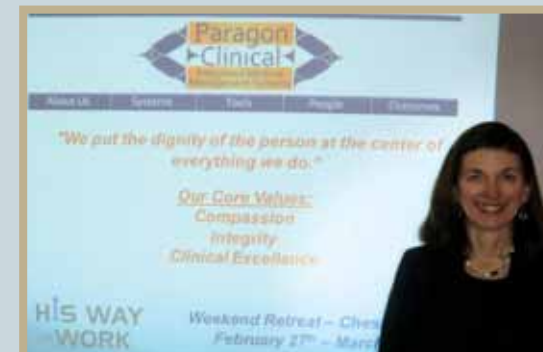
Most companies using HWAW hire a chaplain from Corporate Chaplains of America. Two statistics underscore the importance of having a chaplain: 1) 70% of employees in America do not attend church, and 2) 80% of adults come to faith through a crisis.

Freissle pointed out that everyone is either in crisis, just came out of crisis, or will be in crisis. Chaplains are the eyes and ears of the company to respond to the employee's needs.

Seminarians in their 3rd and 4th year of formation were able to attend the presentations which were videotaped for future viewing. Freissle felt it was important to have the conference at the seminary which he considers the "birthplace" of His Way at Work:

"My original conversion happened at a Legionary retreat and I feel deeply indebted to them for saving my life. I want to share with the seminarians the potential of a Legionary priest to help someone like me. They have a huge future and calling that can transform people like me who have the ability to transform their local communities. I want to encourage them in what God is calling them to do."

For more information about His Way at Work please visit www.hwaw.com



Top to bottom: Peter Freissle, founder of HWAW, with Fr. David Daly, Rector of the Legion's seminary; Armando Del Bosque Alanis, Executive Director of HWAW, with William Renfrow, owner/CEO of Renfrow Brothers, Inc.; Mary Beth Sutkowski, owner of Paragon Clinical, relating her experiences with HWAW; Seminarians in Cheshire learn about creating a Christian culture in the workplace.

THE SHIFT

Some commentators talk about a major shift coming in the world order. They expect this shift to be not unlike the startling pivot that Europe took in 1914 with the outbreak of the Great War. Or they foresee the transformation as something comparable to the Industrial Revolution or the fall of the Roman Empire.

Lots of factors feed this speculation: the rise of China, the spread of religious extremism, the growing gaps in wealth within societies, the privacy-wrecking ubiquity of Internet and social media, the global fall in birthrates, the breakdown in marriage and family life. The list goes on.

Could the commentators be right? Possibly. On second thought, though, the real surprise would be if a major shift doesn't come. After all, St. Paul's words have proven to be prescient time and again. "The world in its present form is passing away" (I Corinthians 7:31). This Pauline prediction, rather than disparaging the world, invites us to focus on the things that endure, the things of the spirit. Not for nothing did Jesus come among us devoid of political and economic ambitions. "Seek first the kingdom (of God) and his righteousness," Our Lord urged, "and all these things [food, clothing] will be given you besides" (Matthew 6:33).

These lines from Scripture aim to shake us from our reliance on things of this world. Attachment to ideas, material goods, lifestyles, political outlooks and cultural

Whatever shift might come, God is still in charge. His love for us is unchanging.



icons all skew our view of what is essential in life. That is precisely when the Holy Spirit seems to allow crises to arise and to bring our focus back to basics.

This is how the Spirit worked at Pentecost to breathe life into the nascent Church. The Spirit surprised the apostles and even more so the thousands who heard Peter and the others in Jerusalem that momentous morn.

This aspect of the Holy Spirit endures to this day, as Pope Francis reminded us in his first Easter Vigil Mass homily. "We are afraid of God's surprises! He always surprises us! The Lord is like that."

What this means is, whatever major shift might come, whether at the global level or at the personal level, God is still in charge. His love for us is unchanging, his desire for our holiness unwavering.

That is the kind of thing we need to keep our eye on. Other things will pass away. But not God. The Spirit of Pentecost remains with us, ever poised to renew the face of the earth. And he is here to remind us that the Almighty can shepherd us through any shift and keep us heading in the right direction. — Fr. Edward McIlmail, LC

A FATHER'S LEGACY *(continued from front cover)*

Last October, the Qualls took a long drive from their home in Nashville, TN to visit the Legion's seminary in Cheshire, CT. "When Dad passed away," said Betty, "we got him a brick on the Blessed Mary Memorial Walkway and I had always wanted to see it."



Betty and Roger Quall

But that wasn't the only purpose of their visit. They also wanted to see Fr. Simon Devereux with whom they had become friends. They attended his ordination some years ago in Rome and remained in contact in the years following often discussing the elements and beauty of the Regnum Christi Movement. During a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, their friendship with Fr. Simon and the Legion deepened even further, so much so that they decided to take the next step.

On October 14, Fr Simon presided for the Mass in which the Qualls were incorporated as RC lay members.

"We decided to join the Regnum Christi community to be one with the priests and brothers and consecrated men and women," said Betty.

Roger said that he will be looking for opportunities to tell other Catholics in Nashville about Regnum Christi. "It's exciting to be here," he said after the membership ceremony, "I can't wait to go home and put my faith to work."



Seminarians pray at the Blessed Virgin Mary Memorial Walkway.

IMPACTING GENERATIONS OF FAITH

Meet the Hodgdon Family

"I am so grateful to have discovered the Legion of Christ and the Regnum Christi (RC) movement 20 years ago through the Familia program," says Mary Hodgdon of Minnesota, "The rest, as they say, is history."

Mary had a spiritual awakening through a Protestant Bible Study in the early 90's but really wanted to understand her Catholic faith better. The Legionaries and Regnum Christi helped her to learn her faith and discover her baptismal call to grow in holiness and bring Christ to others. Living out both of these calls has brought abundant joy to her family's life.

"My boys became involved in Conquest boys activities with wonderful Legionaries," said Mary, "my non-Catholic husband (and now convert), joined them as chaperone on retreats and bus trips, and later my girls experienced Challenge club friendships and the guidance of lovely Consecrated women. Three of the children attended our RC school. Two of them served as Mission Corps volunteers between high school and college. One daughter-in-law served as a Mission Corps volunteer with me when I was Challenge coordinator. Another daughter-in-law and one of my daughters are currently serving as Team leader coordinators for the girls club at our school."



Photo by La Cattura Photography.

Mary and Kirk credit the LC and RC influence for their adult children's life of faith. They are all active apostles, finding ways to bring the faith to others. "My appreciation for the Movement," says Mary, "has only grown as I see the fruits stand the test of time in the generations of my own family."

New Website Worth Visiting!

Whether you are a long-time friend of the Legion of Christ and Regnum Christi or someone just learning about us, our new website has something for you. It is designed to be an "engagement center" for anyone hoping to better understand Christ's mission for their life: www.legionariesofchrist.org



LOVE IS OUR MISSION

RC at World Meeting of Families



Pope Francis will be in Philadelphia for the World Meeting of Families, including the Festival of Families on Saturday, Sept. 26 and a massive open air celebration of the Mass on Sept 27, 2015.

Regnum Christi (RC) will be there to support the message of the Gospel and authentic family values as taught by the Church. You are invited to pray and participate in five ways:

- 1. Twenty-four Hour Adoration** at the cathedral (from Sept. 20 to Sept. 25) organized in conjunction with the archdiocese.
- 2. Vocation Coffee House** is a café located in front of the cathedral to inspire young people to be open to following Christ's call through testimonies, music, and a place where they can gather and ask questions. Regnum Christi has organized vocation coffee houses at World Youth Day and other major events since 2002.
- 3. Love and Serve**, a ministry in Atlanta with RC and other members, will serve by distributing food, shoes, coats, and sleeping bags to the poor. Additionally, they are distributing business cards which offer a free mobile app with details about the papal visit, a Catholic Bible, prayer resources, papal documents, Church teachings, and much more.
- 4. Regnum Christi Reception** for members and friends held on Friday, Sept 25, from 2pm to 7pm, at Cathedral Hall.
- 5. World Meeting of Families Expo** – many ministries and movements, including Regnum Christi, will have exhibit booths at the Philadelphia Convention Center.

We look forward to seeing you there! Here is some additional information:



General information on World Meeting of Families:
www.worldmeeting2015.org

To donate or participate in Love and Serve:
contact Dave Sloan at davesloan@mail.com

For updated information on Regnum Christi participation at the event:

https://www.facebook.com/RCatWMOF2015?ref=br_tf

LINDA NASON: A DONOR'S TESTIMONY

I teach 6th grade CCD in my parish and each year I ask my students to think about their vocations. Several years ago, my parish priest told me about the Legion of Christ and I contacted them. Two of the seminarians offered to speak to my class and brought silver-colored coins with a vocation prayer written by Pope John Paul II for each student. I was very impressed.

Since then I have met with the Legionaries many times and visited their seminary where they study and pray. I wish everyone could visit



the seminary and see how central the Eucharist and Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament is to their daily life. The Legionary devotion to Jesus in the Eucharist and their daily focus on Jesus in prayer is a key reason for my support. Love for Jesus – that is what I know is important. That's why I want to do everything I can to promote their vocations – because without priests, there is no Eucharist.

I have been blessed to take five pilgrimages to the Holy Land, twice with the Legionaries. My friends ask why I go back, since I have already been there. However, each pilgrimage is a grace-filled experience. *In my most recent pilgrimage with Fr. Simon Devereux, we stopped at the Shepherd's Grotto in Bethlehem and saw a beautiful fresco of a shepherd with his sheep. I gave thanks to God for giving us many good Legionary priests who follow our Lord in being a good shepherd.*

God has given me many blessings, and I believe he asks me to open my heart in prayer by asking how he wants me to give back. After prayer and getting to know the Legionaries, I knew this is where God wanted me to give. I take joy in paying for their milk needs each month as well as providing for the Legion through their Legacy Program by remembering them in my estate plan.

Just like Linda, you too can help build the future with just a few words! A few words in your will or trust can allow you to continue your support for what you believe in—well beyond the years God will give you in this lifetime.

Bequests, both large and small, have been crucial to the Legion's financial health over many years. In addition to a simple will designation, there are many other ways to make a charitable bequest. These include the following beneficiary designations:

- **Your will or living trust**
- **Traditional or Roth IRA**
- **401K plan**
- **Life insurance policy**
- **Health Savings Account**
- **POD or TOD** (pay on death or transfer on death) in bank or brokerage account

Perhaps you would like to receive a useful guide entitled How to Use Your Estate Prudently to Give Thanks by Giving Back. Let us know and we'll send it out to you along with details about our Legacy Society.

Request for More Information – Plan today... Change the future!

- Please send me your brochure *How to Use Your Estate Prudently to Give Thanks by Giving Back*
- Please enroll me in the Legion of Christ Legacy Society. I have already remembered the Legion in my:
- Will Trust Other _____
- Retirement account Life insurance _____

NAME (please print): _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE #: _____ E-MAIL: _____

Schedule of Events

Atlanta Area

Retreats for men and women, marriage preparation and enrichment.

See website for dates: www.rcatlanta.org
Contact Beth Keller
770-837-2798 | news@rcatlanta.org

Bethesda, Maryland – Retreat Center

Retreats for men and women, marriage preparation and enrichment.

See website for dates:
<http://ourladyofbethesda.org/regnum-christi/>
Contact Melanie Baker re: retreats
301-365-0612 | info@ourladyofbethesda.org
or Jane Newstedt re: marriage preparation
301-365-0612 | jnewstedt@bethesdacfd.org

Chicago Area

Women's Triduum of Renewal

September 17-20, 2015
Refreshing encounter with God,
and a deeper knowledge of self
www.rcchicago.com/event-registration?ee=56

New York Area

Retreats for men and women, marriage preparation and enrichment

See website for dates:
<http://www.regnumchristiny.org/>
Contact Pamela Brown
914-244-3685 | info@loveyourmission.org

Missions

Mission Youth Mission – International Missions

See website for dates:
www.missionyouthmissions.com
Contact Katelyn Moroney | 708-738-4534
missionyouth@missionyouthmissions.com

Helping Hands Medical Missions El Salvador

See website for dates: www.hhmm.org
Contact 972-253-180 | mission@hhmm.org

Challenge Girls Summer Camps

Age Group: Youth Age 10–18
Program Type: Apostolic, Faith Formation, Leadership
www.challengeclubs.com/girls/events

Conquest Boys Summer Camps

Age Group: Youth Age 5–18
Program Type: Apostolic, Virtue Development, Faith Formation, Leadership
www.conquestclubs.com/cqcamp2014

On Line Spiritual Resources/Retreats

www.rcspirituality.org



REGNUM CHRISTI
LEGIONARIES OF CHRIST

INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

Fr. John Connor, LC
30 Mansell Court
Suite 103

Roswell, Georgia 30076
(800) 532-7478

www.regnumchristi.org
www.legionariesofchrist.org

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Our masthead: Br. Carlos Ramirez, LC, Br. Gustavo Arce, LC, and Fr. Thomas Murphy, LC

**VOCATIONS OFFICE
LEGIONARIES OF CHRIST**

Fr. Daren Weisbrod, LC
National Vocation Director
475 Oak Avenue, Cheshire, CT 06410
(203) 631-2894
vocation@legionaries.org

**VOCATIONS OFFICE
CONSECRATED WOMEN OF REGNUM CHRISTI**

Michelle Reiff
751 W. Drahner Road, Oxford, MI 48371
(214) 562-2565.
mreiff@regnumchristi.net

MASSES & NOVENAS

Barbara DiSpirito
475 Oak Avenue, Cheshire, CT 06410
(800) 532-7478
Barbara.DiSpirito@legionofchrist.org

OFFICE OF PLANNED GIVING

Andrew Bamber, CFRE
P.O. Box 1122, Cheshire, CT 06410
(800) 532-7478
Andy.Bamber@legionofchrist.org

Who We Are

The Legionaries of Christ, the consecrated men and women and all Regnum Christi members are a spiritual family who love Jesus Christ and, therefore, what He loves: His Church and souls. We commit to live out our baptismal call to holiness and to engage in apostolic action.

What We Do

Committed to establishing the Kingdom of Christ in every person and in society, we seek to evangelize culture, building a civilization of justice and love.

We form apostles by bringing God's love to them, inspiring them to fall in love with Jesus Christ especially through prayer and the sacramental life, helping them come to know better the truths of the Catholic faith and inviting them to participate actively in the evangelization of culture and society. We awaken people to their mission in life and in the Church. We seek to serve all people and the whole Church, working as Jesus Christ did who formed a group of apostles and then sent them out to the whole world.

Missionaries in Action | Kelly Suter

GOING WHERE OTHERS FEAR TO GO

Regnum Christi member Kelly Suter has worked as a nurse on relief missions in Haiti, Sudan, East Timor, and most recently on an extended mission in an Ebola clinic in West Africa, where she was featured on 60 Minutes.

As the oldest girl in a large family, caring for others began early. However, when Kelly's youngest sibling was born with Down syndrome, she realized that many people fail to see the

inherent value of every human life. She became determined never to follow that bad example.

"Not only do many people not value the life of others," said Kelly, "they don't see the value and capacity of their own life. Mission work allows me to bring compassion to those who are suffering unbelievable trials and it allows me to bring hope to those who have forgotten even their own self worth."

After high school Kelly spent two years as a volunteer missionary with the Regnum Christi coworker program (now Mission Corps). Although she loved the missions, she wanted to do more, which led to her career as a nurse.

"A nurse can serve anywhere, but not every nurse is able or willing to serve anywhere. I have been given the ability to do this kind of work, so it comes down to the question of whether or not I am willing. I do not go looking for the most dangerous jobs I can find, but I am willing to go where there are people in need and where others may fear to go."



We salute Kelly's Christian witness. For more information on mission opportunities, visit www.rcmissioncorps.org or www.catholicworldmission.com