

“If you are what you should be, then you will set the world on fire.”
Saint Catherine of Siena

March 7, 2018

Dear Friends in Christ:

My name is Sister Alma Marie and I am the Vocations Director for the Dominican Sisters of Hawthorne. A Vocations Weekend will be held at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Home, Atlanta from April 20-22, 2018 for women who are interested in learning more about Religious Life and our work as Hawthorne Dominican Sisters. It will be an opportunity to pray with the community and witness our apostolate of caring for incurable cancer patients who cannot afford the care they need. There will also be an opportunity to meet some of our Sisters.

St. John Paul the Great touched the lives of believers and non-believers alike. He instituted the Annual Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life to coincide with the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. In reflecting on what God is calling us to do, he wrote:

*In the first place I say this: you must never think that you are alone in deciding your future!
And second: when deciding your future, you must not decide for yourself alone!*

Do not be afraid of the radicalness of His demands, because Jesus, who loved us first, is prepared to give Himself to you, as well as asking of you. If He asks much from you, it is because He knows you can give much.

In reflecting on the Consecrated Life, he wrote:

If someone among you hears Christ's call to a complete gift of self in the religious life, do not reject such a noble, though demanding, proposal. Have the courage to say yes generously and firmly; this can give an incomparable depth of meaning to your whole life.

Although these words were penned many years after the Foundation of the Dominican Sisters of Hawthorne, they can be applied to the life and work of Mother Mary Alphonsa, Rose Hawthorne. Her mission of love continues in all of our Homes serving the cancerous poor.

I would be very grateful if you would share this information about the Vocations Weekend with your students and parishioners. If you have any questions or know of any women who are discerning religious life, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for all you do. Let us keep one another in prayer as we labor in the Vineyard of the Lord.

Sincerely in Christ,

Sr. Alma Marie, O.P.
Vocation Director