



DIRECTIONS

A QUARTERLY REPORT FOR CATHOLIC GRANTMAKERS

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\$6.9 Million Gift to Benefit Georgetown University's Catholic Programs

In late February Georgetown University announced that it received a \$6.9 million gift from the Thomas and Dorothy Leavey Foundation of Los Angeles to create and name three programs that will enrich the university's 220-year-old Catholic and Jesuit heritage.



Kathleen L. McCarthy

The Leavey Foundation is a member of FADICA and its chair Kathleen Leavey McCarthy serves on FADICA's board of directors.

Of the total, \$5 million will provide permanent financial support for the university's innovative Catholic programs in the Office of Mission and Ministry. The gift will endow programs and a new position that will provide expanded spiritual and educational opportunities for faculty, staff, students and alumni.

Programs will allow participants to gain a deeper understanding of the Catholic and Jesuit traditions from which the university gains its identity so members may live out Jesuit values, whatever their faith or role at the university.

Another \$1 million will provide need-based scholarship support, with preference to students from Jesuit high schools, including Cristo Rey schools, a national network of Catholic high schools that provide college preparatory education to urban young people who live in communities with limited educational options. Academic programs also will benefit from the Leavey Foundation's gift, including \$900,000 to help Georgetown recruit and retain outstanding Jesuit faculty members through the Leavey Distinguished Jesuit Scholars Fund.

The Leavey tradition at Georgetown is carried on by their daughter Kathleen. Her late husband J. Thomas McCarthy served on Georgetown's board of directors, and two of their children, John P. McCarthy and Colleen McCarthy Pennell, graduated from the university in 1984 and 1993, respectively. John McCarthy has served on the university's Board of Regents.

"The trustees of the Leavey Foundation are delighted to support Georgetown with this grant, which we believe goes to the heart of the university," said Kathleen McCarthy. "Georgetown's Catholic and Jesuit traditions are what distinguish the institution and keep it vital. We are honored to play a part in strengthening these core values and to help students, faculty and staff put their faith into practice during their time at Georgetown and beyond."

CALENDAR

FADICA Spring Board of Directors Meeting
The Leadership and Philanthropy of Women Religious: Global Partnership for Human Progress
Co-sponsored by the Conrad N. Hilton Fund for Sisters and FADICA
Los Angeles, California
May 14, 2010

FADICA Fall Board of Directors Meeting
The Leadership and Philanthropy of Women Religious: A Steadfast Presence in Underserved Territories
Co-sponsored by the Catholic Church Extension Society and FADICA
Chicago, Illinois
October 15, 2010

FADICA 35th Annual Membership Meeting
Naples, Florida
February 3-4, 2011



Catholic Sisters' Vocations Effort Hurt By Lack of Connection to Many U.S. College Campuses

“It’s very important for young women who are feeling called to feel support...it would be really great if, on college campuses, there were organizations that would support women who are feeling called to religious life.” So remarked Sr. Colleen Mattingly ASCJ, one of nearly a dozen religious women addressing FADICA members in late January. “I know on Florida State’s campus, there was even a men’s discernment house. But for women, I have yet to see this type of support,” Sr. Colleen reported.

The comments were part of a full day’s discussion on the leadership and philanthropy of women religious. As part of the exchange, FADICA members heard from five newly professed religious who entered religious life following college and in one case, in the midst of a professional career.

Universally, these women described the difficulty they experienced in their vocational discernment because present resources are weighted toward male vocations to the priesthood.

“When I was in school there were no discernment groups for women. There was no support for women who were feeling called to religious life, whereas the guys had lots of opportunities to discern religious life. I would say that I was pretty much on my own when I started feeling the call,” said Sr. Colleen.

Sr. Judith Mausser DC agreed. “If there were a connection (to the religious communities) on the campuses it would be most helpful,” she told FADICA.

Religious vocations for the sisterhood have been on a downward spiral for decades. The CARA research organization at Georgetown University found that of the religious institutes that have someone in initial formation (about two thirds of religious orders) almost half have no more than one or two candidates. More than nine in ten finally professed women (91 percent) were age 60 and over in 2009.

“I really believe that it is the vision of our respective communities, the passion for our charism that matters the most, not the numbers of people who profess commitment to that vision,” said Sr. Melissa Camardo SCL. “It’s the vision and how it feeds our inner hunger, how it stretches us and calls us to grow that I think is the work of God today.”

A complete transcript of *The Leadership and Philanthropy of Women Religious: A Tradition Embraces the Future* is available through FADICA.



Colleen Mattingly ASCJ and Loretta O'Donnell of the SC Ministry Foundation



Loyola Chicago and NCEA Collaborate on Essentials for Catholic Schools

As a direct outcome of a new university-based initiative to explore ways for Catholic institutions of higher education to collaborate in supporting U.S. Catholic elementary and secondary schools, Loyola University, Chicago, has announced that it is currently developing a list of essential operational standards for Catholic schools. The standards are to be developed in association with the National Catholic Education Association and can be used for accreditation and evaluation. At present no national set of standards exists.

Dr. Lorraine Ozar, Director of the Loyola Center for Catholic School Effectiveness, told FADICA that “a set of agreed upon standards for Essential Catholic Schools, endorsed by the bishops, would help clarify the ‘brand’ of ‘Catholic school’ and would provide a framework for school improvement and enhance public policy and advocacy efforts.”

The new standards will be ready by early 2012.

Past Recipient of FADICA’s Distinguished Catholic Leadership Award, Father Renato Poblete SJ, Dies

Renato Poblete Barthy SJ, honored by FADICA for his lifelong service to the poor of Chile, died February 18 during a retreat with fellow Jesuits. He was 85.

Chilean Catholics and government officials and friends around the world mourned the end of Fr. Poblete’s life as a priest that spanned an era of change in the church.

In 1968 he served as spokesman for the second general conference of Latin American bishops in Medellin, Colombia; the conference affirmed the Latin American church’s commitment to justice, education and greater collaboration among bishops, priests, religious and laypeople. Fr. Poblete taught at the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile, but was best known for his work with the Hogar de Cristo, one of the country’s largest charities, which he headed from 1982 to 2000.

Fr. Poblete helped plan a FADICA visit to Chile in March 1998. During that visit twenty-five members of FADICA and Cardinal Oscar Rodriguez, then president of the Latin American Bishops Conference, honored Fr. Poblete with the conferral of the Distinguished Catholic Leadership Award.



Fr. Renato Poblete SJ with Frank Butler and Peter Robinson



Foundation News

Soda Foundation and Catholic Medical Mission Board Welcomed to FADICA Membership

The Y and H Soda Foundation, a California philanthropy helping underserved populations of Alameda and Contra Costa Counties, was welcomed to FADICA membership January 28, along with the Catholic Medical Mission Board of New York, a grantmaking charity with global interest in the healthcare needs of the poor.

Conrad N. Hilton Fund for Sisters Honored by FADICA

The Conrad N. Hilton Fund for Sisters received FADICA's highest honor, the Charles Carroll Award in Catholic Philanthropy, in late January. The Fund has awarded \$75 million in grants for the ministries of sisters in over 130 countries.

Chicago-Based Catholic Extension Awards \$3.7 Million to 41 U.S. Dioceses for Hispanic Ministry

The Catholic Church Extension Society, a grantmaking agency helping home mission dioceses of the U.S., has announced a grants program that will focus on leadership development, and youth and family ministry programs throughout the U.S.

Publication Resources

The Leadership and Philanthropy of Women Religious: A Tradition Embraces the Future. Edited proceedings from a FADICA conference on the future of religious life in the U.S. FADICA, Washington DC. \$14.95.

To Nurture the Soul of a Nation: Latino Families, Catholic Schools and Educational Opportunity, Report of the University of Notre Dame. A new study showing that only 3 percent of Latinos send their children to Catholic schools due to the high costs of tuition. <http://catholicsschooladvantage.nd.edu>.

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