

Vocations Placement Service

Gratefully Serving Since 2001

Vocations Placement
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Dear Vocations Directors

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Peace and joy in Jesus!

On Protecting Charisms and Avoiding Dissolving from Within

In 2007, in an address to the International Union of Superiors General (UISG), Pope Benedict XVI said that the path to ending the vocation shortage was a direct **return to the origins and the spirit of the founder.**

I would like to add a caveat to this. One of the greatest writers of all time was Bill W. (Founder of Alcoholics Anonymous). In the 12th tradition there is a phrase that reads **principles above personalities.** “Principles” meaning safeguarding the life bearing power of the charisms rather than:

- a. Focusing on personal disagreements or drama.
- b. Forgetting to surrender to honesty and humility, in favor of safeguarding the potency of the spirit of the founders.
- c. Endangering the delicate, pure, and collective presence of the charism within the community by taking sides or attacking individual community members.
- d. Giving credence to power struggles, ego, fame, or individual ambition.

These principles (origins) which are the life-bearing dynamics of the charisms (also known as fecundity) cannot be fully replicated (nor their potency sustained) outside of the community.

We are amongst the church militant. In a situation where spiritual lives are at stake, quite frankly, who cares about personality conflicts, our small personal and often petty grievances. The big picture is “what did the founders say”. In our immersion

in the God-given charisms we enjoy the power to bear and sustain spiritual children with and for God. Our Father, THE Father of our eternal family.

P.S. Our websites are in the process of complete modernization using the latest technology. We are also creating new apps for easier cell phone use. There will be new features for both discerners and vocation directors. We will let you know when it is completed, tested, and ready for use.

If you have not donated lately:

Vocations Placement depends on donations from vocations directors. We operate according to Acts 4:32 “whereby all give what they can and take what they need”. Give online at the link below. Simply put “1 item” and the amount. You can use Paypal as a “guest” if you don’t have an account.

<https://vocationsplacement.org/DonateToVp.asp>

Or mail check to the address above in the newsletter heading.

Love to serve!

Natalie, Brad, and staff