



# DAVA

## DUBUQUE AREA VOCATION ASSOCIATION

Dubuque Area Vocation Association (DAVA) was formed in 2000 as a collaborative vocation ministry effort among various religious communities in the Dubuque, Iowa, area and the Archdiocese of Dubuque. DAVA members recognize, acknowledge and affirm the baptismal call of all Christians and they reach out to nurture, promote, encourage and help those who feel called to religious life.

### CISTERCIAN MONKS OF THE STRICT OBSERVANCE (TRAPPISTS)

As Cistercian Trappist Monks, we dedicate our time and energy in the midst of community life to a balance of prayer, sacred reading, and manual labor. In our vocation in the Church, we witness to the world that God is the center of our life.

Learn more at [www.newmelleray.org](http://www.newmelleray.org)

Email: [vocations@newmelleray.org](mailto:vocations@newmelleray.org)



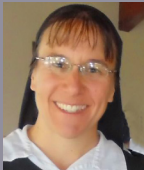
Br. Paul Andrew Tanner

### CISTERCIAN NUNS OF THE STRICT OBSERVANCE (TRAPPISTINES)

Our Lady of the Mississippi Abbey is a community of women who belong to the Order of Cistercians of the Strict Observance. Trappistines (our popular name) follow the Rule of St. Benedict and live a contemplative life built on the triad of prayer, spiritual reading and manual labor. Guests are welcome for times of retreat and to share the prayer of the sisters at any time.

Learn more at [www.mississippiabbey.org](http://www.mississippiabbey.org)

Email: [vocations@olmabbey.org](mailto:vocations@olmabbey.org)



Sr. Myra Hill

### CONGREGATION OF THE HUMILITY OF MARY (CHM)

The Congregation of the Humility of Mary is a group of strong, dedicated sisters and associates rooted in prayer and spirituality. Listening to the call of the Spirit as our world has changed, we have been involved in various ministries, with special emphasis on working for justice, helping to meet the needs of the poor and caring for Earth and all creation. Currently we sponsor shelter and housing programs for persons experiencing homelessness. Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat, which provides spiritual renewal in a quiet country setting is another significant community sponsored ministry.

Learn more at [www.chmiowa.org](http://www.chmiowa.org)

Facebook.com/HumilitySisters

Email: [searching@chmiowa.org](mailto:searching@chmiowa.org)



Sr. Lynn Mousel

### DIVINE WORD MISSIONARIES (SVD)

As Divine Word Missionaries priests and brothers, we are men of prayer and faith, serving where the Gospel has not yet been preached, or where the local church still needs assistance. Each of us is involved in a particular, unique ministry as we spread the Word of God. There are over 6,000 of us ministering in over 75 countries worldwide. We believe that His Mission is our Mission. Our international and multi-cultural communities are a witness to God's Kingdom.

Learn more at [www.svdvocations.org](http://www.svdvocations.org)

Facebook.com/divinewordseminary

Email: [luhal@dwci.edu](mailto:luhal@dwci.edu)



Mr. Len Uhal

### DOMINICAN SISTERS OF SINSINAWA (OP)

As Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa, we are called to proclaim the Gospel through the ministry of preaching and teaching in order to participate in the building of a holy and just Church and society.

Learn more at [www.sinsinawa.org](http://www.sinsinawa.org)

Facebook.com/sinsinawa

Email: [rffm@sinsinawa.org](mailto:rffm@sinsinawa.org)



Michelle Horton, Sr. Mary Ann Nelson,  
Sr. Mary Ellen O'Grady

### FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF PERPETUAL ADORATION (FSPA)

We are a community of vowed Franciscan women centered in Eucharist, committed to be a loving presence through prayer, witness and service.

Learn more at [www.fspa.org](http://www.fspa.org)

Facebook.com/franciscansistersofperpetualadoration

Discernment Blog: [www.fspa.org/showmeassign](http://www.fspa.org/showmeassign)

Email: [membership@fspa.org](mailto:membership@fspa.org)



Sr. Amy Taylor

### HOLY SPIRIT MISSIONARY SISTERS (SSPS)

The Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters are an international and a multicultural missionary community of more than 3,000 women ministering in 50 countries. Called by the Spirit, we embrace the world and are sent to people of diverse cultures, religions and backgrounds. To be a Holy Spirit Missionary at this time in history is both a gift and a challenge. We have been drawn together by the Holy Spirit from many nations as a community of sisters. It is quite an experience to live community in a little U.N. and as



Sr. Aprilia Untarto

international teams to work for the needs of the people to whom we are sent. Each of us has to be ready to stretch ourselves and think outside of the box as we spread God's love and joy to all.

Learn more at [www.ssps-usa.org](http://www.ssps-usa.org)

Facebook.com/holyspiritmissionarysisters-in-the-USA

Email: [Sr. Aprilia Untarto \(auntarto@gmail.com\)](mailto:Sr. Aprilia Untarto (auntarto@gmail.com))

### SISTERS OF CHARITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (BVM)

The Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary are a community of Catholic women. We follow in the footsteps of our Irish foundress, Mary Frances Clarke, who answered God's call to serve immigrants in the United States in 1833. Our core values of freedom, education, charity and justice guide our lives and choice of ministry. Today, we minister in 16 states and two foreign countries as educators, pastoral ministers, counselors and advocates for the elderly and immigrants. Our commitment includes joining with others to work for justice and to care for Earth.

Learn more at [www.bvmcong.org](http://www.bvmcong.org)

Facebook.com/bvmsisters

Email: [newmember@bvmcong.org](mailto:newmember@bvmcong.org)



Lori Ritz

### SISTERS OF MERCY (RSM)

Inspired by the life of Jesus and by our founder, Catherine McAuley, the Sisters of Mercy envision a just world for people who are poor, sick and uneducated. The Sisters of Mercy are women of faith who commit our lives to God and our resources to serve, advocate and pray for those in need around the world.

Learn more at [www.sistersofmercy.org](http://www.sistersofmercy.org)

Facebook.com/MercySisters

Email: [mbaldus@smumn.edu](mailto:mbaldus@smumn.edu)



Sr. Mary Jo Baldus

### SISTERS OF ST. BENEDICT (OSB)

As Benedictine Sisters, we promise to seek, listen to and be transformed by God all our lives ... and we promise to do it *together*.

We pray daily together. We live in community together. And while we go out for such ministries as education, parish work and outreach to those who struggle on the margins, we come home every evening for Vespers, dinner and time together.

Learn more at [www.smmsisters.org](http://www.smmsisters.org)

Facebook.com/BenedictineSistersStMaryMonastery

Email: [smacdonald@smmsisters.org](mailto:smacdonald@smmsisters.org)



Sr. Stefanie MacDonald

### SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS OF DUBUQUE (OSF)

Rooted in the Gospel and in the Spirit of Francis and Clare, we live in right relationships with all creation. In our personal, communal and public life, we commit to ongoing conversion as we deepen our relationship with Mother Earth and Sister Water; stand with persons who are poor; make peace and practice non-violence. This is who we are; this is what the global community can expect of us.

Learn more at [www.osfdbq.org](http://www.osfdbq.org)

Facebook.com/dubuquefranciscans

Email: [Sr. Pat Doody \(doodyp@osfdbq.org\) or Julie Tebbe \(tebbej@osfdbq.org\)](mailto:Sr. Pat Doody (doodyp@osfdbq.org) or Julie Tebbe (tebbej@osfdbq.org))



Sr. Pat Doody and Julie Tebbe

### SISTERS OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (PBVM)

The Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary are Catholic women dedicating their lives to the Gospel of Jesus Christ by living in community, vowing to live simply, celibately and with shared responsibility. Presentation Sisters nurture a relationship with Christian lay women and men through the Associate Partnership Program as they further the mission of Foundress Nano Nagle and foster the Presentation spirit and charism of hospitality. Each sister commits herself to the contemplation of God and to service within the church.

Learn more at [www.dubuquepresentations.org](http://www.dubuquepresentations.org)

Facebook.com/dubuquepresentations

Email: [vocations@dubuquepresentations.org](mailto:vocations@dubuquepresentations.org)



Sr. Jessi Beck



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### Vocation

EVERYONE HAS A VOCATION!

A vocation is a call from God to be the person you are most meant to be! Every vocation is sacred and is a way to give one's life to God. We speak of four basic vocations:

- » Married Life
- » Single Life
- » Ordained Life (priesthood and diaconate)
- » Consecrated Life (men and women religious)



### Discernment



DISCERNMENT is the process of making decisions based on where God is calling you. Primary tools of discernment are:

- » Prayer with an open heart to God's prompting
- » Reflection on your life's experiences in light of your gifts and the needs of the Church
- » Dialogue with those who know you well and can help you find your truest self
- » Dialogue with a spiritual director
- » Consideration of pros and cons of primary options

### Events & Activities



Members of DAVA are available for many vocation promotion activities:

- » Elementary, middle and high school presentations
- » Confirmation retreats/presentations
- » Religious education presentations
- » Vocation panels
- » Vocation awareness reflections
- » Presentations for Vocation Awareness Week, Catholic Schools Week, etc.
- » Vocation Fairs
- » Collaboration with youth ministers and youth activities