

*The Commission on the Ministry of the Baptised
Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe
Vocational Discernment Weekend*

June 2018

Dear Colleagues,

We are already now in Summer planning for the Fall with the many joys and challenges it will offer us in ministry. Important among these, of course, is seeking God's will in our own lives and of guiding others to discover the ministry to which they are called.

"For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us". (Romans 12)

As clergy, you are in a unique position to recognise and encourage those persons who might best profit from participation in a time of exploration and prayer. Please seek out and encourage those women and men in your congregations whom you believe would profit from such a time. Please contact them early, so that they might plan on attending. Those who have attended previously might also be interested in returning.

**Vocational Discernment Weekend
Friday through Sunday, 9-11 November 2018
Centre Culturel St. Thomas
Strasbourg, France
Led by Brother Samuel, SSF
Friar of the Society of St. Francis**

Br Samuel SSF has been an Anglican Franciscan friar for the past 44 years, living at several different Franciscan houses over that period. Today he lives with brothers in the East End of London where the Society of St Francis is committed to working amongst those on the margins of society. In the steps of St Francis, he has a delight in and care for creation and seeks a sensitive engagement with Muslims. He also undertakes chaplaincy work and teaching at St Mellitus College in London and is guide to a number of people who are exploring a vocation to religious life.

During this weekend participants can begin to explore how and where God might be calling them to serve. It is expected that anyone considering ordained ministry or licensed lay ministry attend, but God's call is open to all for whom you think it would be helpful. Details concerning travel to the retreat centre will be sent to registrants. In the meantime, please see the attached flyer.

The weekend will begin with dinner on Friday evening and end with lunch on Sunday. The Convocation will pay 50% of the cost of room and board (i.e. € 75) and each participant is responsible for his/her travel and half the room and board (€ 75)

Blessings,

Mark Barwick (mark.barwick@gmail.com) and Mary Ellen Dolan
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