

# THE MOUNTAINEER



## THE MOUNTAINEER

“YOU ARE SPIRITUAL  
MOUNTAINEERS WITH A  
STIFF CLIMB BEFORE YOU.”

POPE PAUL VI,  
INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS  
1970 - ADDRESSING  
REPRESENTATIVES OF  
SECULAR INSTITUTES.

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

The Church’s mission now and from its beginning has been to spread the Gospel message, to help all to live according to Gospel teachings, to transform the world according to the plan of God. Each form of consecrated life carries out this mission in a unique way, according to its own charism. That is the special mission of all in consecrated life and that is our mission. Referring to secular institutes, *Vita Consecrata*, 10, states:

Through their own specific blending of presence in the world and consecration, they seek *to make present in society the newness and power of Christ’s kingdom*, striving to transfigure the world from within by the power of the Beatitudes. In this way, while they belong completely to God and are thus fully consecrated to his service, their activity in the ordinary life of the world contributes, by the power of the Spirit, to shedding the light of the Gospel on temporal realities.

If we look at conditions in the world today, I believe we will agree that we have much work to do to further Gospel teachings and to transform the world.

The media reminds us that the Church and her teachings are under attack by many and in various ways; indeed, Christianity is under attack. We see this not only in countries such as China but also in Britain, continental Europe and our own country. The Church needs secular institutes to further its mission!

Although we may be the fastest growing form of consecrated life in the Church, this growth does not appear to be taking place in the United States. Some secular institutes are experiencing a decline in vocations and the average age of members has increased. Unfortunately, our vocation is still little known and little understood in the U.S., even among some of the clergy.

“To seek ways and means to make better known, understood and appreciated the call to consecrated secularity” is one purpose of the

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USCSI (USCSI Statutes, Art. 3, a.) Each secular institute must make itself know, e.g., listing in arch/diocesan directories, participation in vocation awareness program; however, the fact is that there is strength in numbers. Secular Institutes united in the USCSI can have more impact than any single secular institute. Since its beginning, much has been accomplished by USCSI in furtherance of Article 3 but more needs to be done. At our Annual Meeting we want to review what has been done and what needs to be done. USCSI represents all member secular institutes; to represent each effectively we need the active participation of each secular institute, especially at our Annual Meeting at Betania II, Medway, MA, this October 22-24.

Sincerely,

Sue Ann Rice

## USCSI ANNUAL MEETING

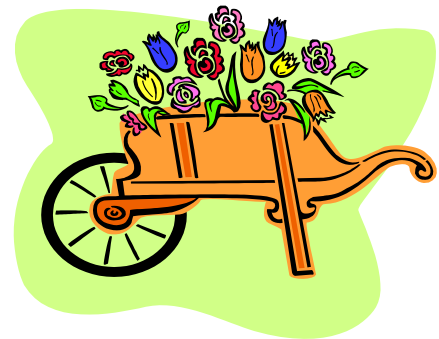
The Annual Meeting of the United States Conference of Secular Institutes (USCSI) will be held October 22 – 24, 2010, at Betania II, Spiritual Life Center, 154 Summer Street, Medway, MA, 02053. The Annual Meeting is the governing body of the USCSI. It is during our Annual Meeting that decisions are made which affect the USCSI and can affect each secular institute. At this meeting the Vice President and a Councilor will be elected. In addition to these elections, other matters relevant to the purpose of the Conference will be discussed, e.g., methods of publicizing our vocation. Our Annual Meeting provides an opportunity for exchange of information among all attendees. It is imperative that the leaders of our Institutes are present in addition to the delegates and other attendees.

The Retreat Center at St. John's in Michigan is no longer open; therefore, it was necessary for us to find a new location for our Annual Meeting. Betania

## USCSI MISSION STATEMENT

**The United States Conference of Secular Institutes (USCSI) shares in the mission of Jesus Christ in serving its member institutes by providing education, resources, and support for member institutes.**

**USCSI is an organization of member institutes committed to making known, understood, and appreciated the call to consecrated secularity in the Catholic Church. USCSI collaborates with other groups to present consecrated secularity as a viable option in today's Church**



II was selected by the Executive Council because it meets the criteria previously selected by attendees at our Annual Meetings and because of its location. Most members of secular institutes in the U.S. are in the northeast; thus, travel should be easier and less expensive for many of our attendees. As in previous years, USCSI is subsidizing the cost of the Annual Meeting in order to keep the cost as low as possible and to make the meeting more affordable for attendees. This is the one time during the year when members of many secular institutes have the

opportunity to meet with members from other secular institutes.

Medway is close to both Boston and Providence. Information pertaining to Betania II may be obtained by going to their website: [www.betania2.org](http://www.betania2.org). Information pertaining to transportation from Boston Logan International Airport is included with this *Mountaineer* and is on the website: [www.secularinstitutes.org](http://www.secularinstitutes.org). Our principal speaker on Saturday is Sr. Mary Dolorey who frequently presents programs at Betania II. She held many positions in the field of education and formation. Her topic is "Called and Chosen."

### PLEASE NOTE

This is the last issue of *The Mountaineer* that will be sent by mail. It is planned that future issues will be sent via the internet. In the previous issue of *The Mountaineer* you were requested to send your e-mail address to our Secretary, Jessica Swedzinski, at [rosary@schsrsmmary.org](mailto:rosary@schsrsmmary.org). If you have not sent your e-mail address, please do so. If you wish to receive your copy of *The Mountaineer* by regular mail, please inform our Secretary. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. We want to provide information in a timely and less expensive manner.

### What is a team?

-The team is the union of a number of persons in one body.

The team has one leader: The Holy Spirit.

-The team has one spirit: unity

-The team has one link: peace

-The team has one hope: to love one another.

-The team has one aim: to protect our vocation.

-The team is given to us to train our capacity to love, to understand, to listen, to build up confidence, to share responsibilities to build peace.

*In Intimacy with Jesus*  
By Rev. Louis Marie Parent, omi

### News from the Congregation in Rome:

I recently received a letter from the Undersecretary of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, in which Sr. Enrica Rosanna, F.M.A., acknowledged receipt of the minutes of our Annual Meeting and wrote: "We regret of the death of Theresa Cademartori and we join you in prayer for her and for the recovery from illness of Fr. Dieter Hass." She asked me to "...convey our thanks to Fr. George Hazler IVD for his contribution to the Conference.

Sue Ann Rice



## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT  
SUE ANN RICE

VICE PRESIDENT  
CLAUDETTE CYR

TREASURER  
EVELYN LOYOLA

SECRETARY  
JESSICA SWEDZINSKI

COUNCILOR  
CAROL WINKLER

### PLEASE NOTE:

*In order to keep the mailing list up -to-date please send the secretary any changes that occur in your address, telephone numbers and/or email addresses.*

*Please notify Jessica Swedzinski of any changes:*

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