

# E-VōC

*evoke: 1. to call forth 2. to re-create imaginatively*



*Sisters of Charity*  
of Cincinnati

## CALENDAR

**January 2-6, 2018**

Come and Serve, New Orleans, Louisiana

**January 4, 2018**

Feast of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

**January 7, 2018**

Elizabeth Seton Award Mass and celebration, Motherhouse chapel, 2 p.m.

**January 7-14, 2018**

National Migration Week

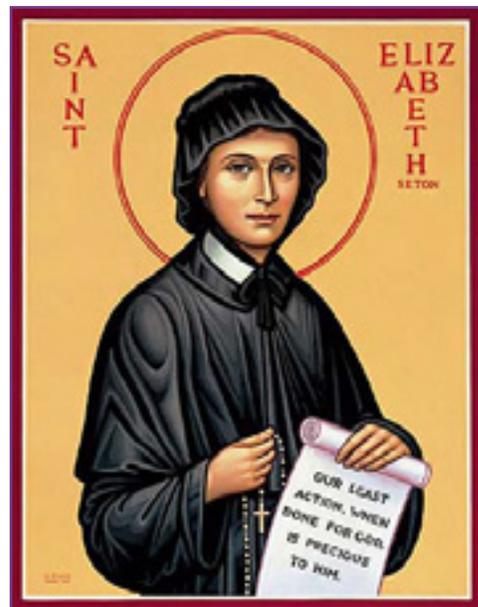


Congratulations to Sisters of Charity Apostolic Novice Romina Sapinoso, who on Dec. 21, 2017, took her oath as a citizen of the United States.

## The Mystery of Charism

*By S. Janet Gildea*

St. Elizabeth Seton, founder of the Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati, was a wife, mother, widow, teacher, convert to Catholicism and woman religious. She was given the rule of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul and Louise de Marillac in France to adapt to the realities of the newly independent United States of America. Elizabeth was a native New Yorker. She lived her religious life in Maryland. How then has her particular gift for living religious life sparked again and again in women from countries and cultures as diverse as China, Guatemala, Korea, Nigeria, the Philippines and more? That is the mystery of charism!



Charism is more than a cult of personality. There might be something about the founder that attracts followers. Especially in the early days of a community's life, the faith and commitment of the founder can draw others to join them and to share in the special focus of the congregation. Think of the rapid growth of communities around dynamic figures like Francis of Assisi or Teresa of Calcutta. In the Merriam-Webster dictionary the word "charism" signifies a powerful gift of the Holy Spirit for the good of the Church. The gift of a particular founder includes their spirituality, their way of discerning and responding to the needs of the times and the way of creating a common vowed life.

The charism is the founder's gift but it is also present in each person called to the congregation. It creates a sense of being one's best self within a specific community. One writer expressed it as being "lit from the same candle." Even without knowing the story of the founder or being able to relate to her/his historical or cultural reality, the mysterious connection of charism draws a community of diverse members into one body. It is something that can be discovered by spending time with those who live the charism today. So Elizabeth Seton's charism has blossomed in fields far from St. Joseph's Valley, in women who have fanned the spark into a flame of Charity all around the globe!

# Future of Charity Blog

## “Treasured”



Read the latest entry to the SC Federation's Future of Charity Blog. S. Romina Sapinoso discusses her “Treasured” relationship with S. Flo. <https://futureofcharity.blogspot.com/2017/12/treasured.html?pref=fb>

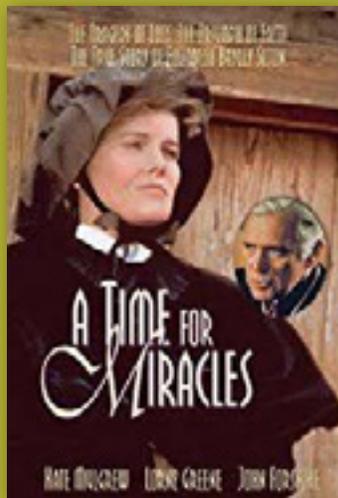
## Traveling the Path



Each month, a new Sister of Charity spiritual director will be interviewed to learn more about the practice and the women called to companion others on their journey. This month's Q&A is with S. Carol Brenner. Read more at <http://www.srcharitycinti.org/spirit/brenner.htm>

## A Time for Miracles

This is the life story of Elizabeth Seton, set in the context of the search for miracles in support of the cause for her canonization. It portrays her struggles as a young widow with five children, a convert to the Catholic faith, and a surprising choice to found a community of women religious. While sometimes overly dramatic (remember it was made for television in 1980), it captures Elizabeth as a woman of conviction and passion. You can watch it on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RQcz88alD-c>



## A Day in the Life of S. Andrea Koverman

Read more about the daily life of first professed S. Andrea Koverman, a program manager at the Intercommunity Justice & Peace Center (IJPC) in Cincinnati. <https://vimeo.com/241690078>



E-Voc is the electronic newsletter from the Vocations Team of the Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati for single women wondering what new thing God is calling forth in their lives. To join the E-Voc mailing list, contact Erin Reder at [erin.reder@srcharitycinti.org](mailto:erin.reder@srcharitycinti.org). To unsubscribe, [click here](#).

If you are interested in learning more about life as a Sister of Charity, visit our website at [www.srcharitycinti.org](http://www.srcharitycinti.org) or contact S. Monica Gundler at 513-504-5592.

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