Have You Ever Thought About…

Latest updates! We had two women participate in the Come & Just Be. One has already turned in her paperwork for the discernment process, Hannah Houser, and the other asked for paperwork to begin the discernment process. Please keep these two women in your prayers.

The “Meet & Greet the Sisters” at Marian University was a huge success.  25 students showed up to meet several of us and to share in a meal and prayer. The students would like to continue this “Meet & Greet the Sisters” on a monthly basis. I will be asking for volunteers to go with me and share part of their story with the students in the following months. A big thank-you goes out to Sisters Olga, Monica, Jannette and Norma for being present during this event and sharing your stories. Another thank-you goes to S. Mary Beth for assisting with getting all the flyers out and assisting with social media in spreading the word.

During National Vocation Awareness week, we had 21 religious congregations gather at Marian University’s Vocation Fair. It was considered a huge success by students and the vocation directors. Several students asked very good questions, including what each congregation’s charism is and where did we think the future of religious life was going. It was good to see just how many students are considering religious/priestly life. It gave many of us hope for the future. Thank you, S. Norma and Associate Becky Koors for assisting with the Vocation Fair.

I was asked to do a presentation on vocations at St. Julie Billiart in Hamilton, OH with the CCD classes. There were two groups, 1-2-3 graders and then 4-5-6 graders. I was expecting around 10-15 children in each group. Much to my surprise, I spoke to over 100 children. Their questions were insightful and interesting, especially when asked why a woman could not be a priest! Thanks, to Hannah Houser for getting this set up with her parish.

The National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) took place in Indianapolis from Nov 21-23. 25,000 teens between the ages of 12-19 were present from all over the United States.  The highlight of the trip was when a few OA and Marian students came up to our booth to visit. A pleasant surprise was when several chaperones from all over the U.S. had our Sisters in school and how the Sisters were fondly remembered.

We spoke to so many young people about vocations and religious life. It does a heart good to hear how many young people are interested in religious life today. Special thanks go to Sisters Clare, Jannette, and Joan for assisting with the Vocation booth. Religious life may be changing from what we know today, but God continues to call others to this way of life. It has been a great two months!