



OFS Vocation Planted in Your Heart

by Jane DeRose-Bamman, OFS

In most of the country this time of year, our gardens are starting to bear fruit (and vegetables). It didn't happen by magic. You took time to prepare the soil and plant the seeds. Then you continued with the cycle of watering and weeding. Now you are starting to benefit from your efforts. How wonderful!

God has been working on us. He has planted a seed (our vocation) in our hearts. How has your vocation blossomed? Have you borne much fruit? Are you allowing the water (daily prayer, spiritual reading, fraternity) to permeate? Do you allow the weeds (distractions, sin, the lack of discipline) to be pulled?

"You are the ones that I have chosen, that people may know and believe me and understand that it is I." Is 43:10 If we are chosen, we should be sharing and inviting others to the experience also – planting the seeds in their hearts just as the seed was planted in ours. What are some ways you've planted the seed in others hearts this summer? Use the Q (whether you attended or not), *Laudato Si*, Joy of the Gospel: *Evangelii Gaudium* and other current events, as opportunities to share about your vocation. Allow those seeds to grow in your heart first and then once they burst into bloom, share with others.

Vocation Tip: Create a bookmark with the information about your fraternity on the back (and general information about how to find a local fraternity such as the 1-800-Francis

number). The bookmark can be used during Mass to mark pages in the missalette. Leave at the back of Church. Also, get listed in the parish bulletin if appropriate. (Michael Morley, OFS, St. Mary's of the Angels Fraternity, St. Johnsbury VT)

Send your comments to:
OFSVocationsCommittee@gmail.com.

"...as we live our lives today in the model of St. Francis, choosing daily to live the Gospel life, help us to help others... recognize their vocation as a Secular Franciscan that You have already planted in their heart." National Vocations Prayer, Marian Crosby.

