

CONVERSATIONS at UISG 2017

WE HAVE BEGUN A SERIES OF CONVERSATIONS AT UISG INVITING SUPERIORS GENERAL, MEMBERS OF GENERAL COUNCILS AND SUPPORT STAFF TO MEET AND SHARE ON A VARIETY OF TOPICS.

Each conversation will be facilitated by someone who has experience in the area who will give a short introduction before the table conversations begin.

The introduction will be translated into Italian. Table conversations will take place in language groups.

Monday October 9th 9.30-12.00

New approaches to initial formation for sisters

Novitiate is at the heart and center of initial formation.

It is the privileged time and place for the novice to discover in a deeper way God's unconditional love for her and to discern God's call to her personally.

FACILITATOR:

SR. ROSEMARY HOWARTH SSND

NOVICE DIRECTOR OF SSND CONGREGATIONAL NOVITIATE IN ROME

Register online for this conversation: click [here](#)

FUTURE EVENTS

Next Conversation at UISG
October 24th - 9.30-12.00
(Rome Time)
The intercultural challenge
within Religious life

Speaker: Sr. Maria Theresia HOERNEMANN

To register click [here](#)

WEBINAR in English
November 16th - 3.00pm
(Rome Time)
New approaches to
Initial Formation for Sisters

Speaker: Sr. Rosemary HOWARTH

To register click [here](#)

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF SUPERIORS GENERAL - UISG

Piazza di Ponte Sant'Angelo, 28, 00186 Roma - comunicazione@uisg.org - www.uisg.org

#formation



New approaches to initial formation for sisters

Formation is fundamental to the future of consecrated life.

(New Wine in New Wineskins-The consecrated life and its on-going challenges since Vatican II - Guidelines #34)

How are leaders and formators called to accompany the men and women God calls to our congregations today? Consider the geo-political and ecclesial realities in this 21st century. 50+ years after Vatican II called all religious to renewal... and we are still responding!

This year CICALSAL published reflections and challenges in the form of GUIDELINES for our time. *New Wine in New Wineskins* invites us to look back and to look forward to the future of consecrated life.

UISG invites leaders and formators to engage in a second dialogue on formation. The first conversation was about religious life in China. This time the focus is on formation in the novitiate.

Novitiate is at the heart and center of initial formation. It is the **privileged time and place** for the novice **to discover in a deeper way God's unconditional love for her/him and to discern God's call** to her/him personally. Its purpose is to enable a life-decision. Everything in the novitiate program is designed to facilitate this discernment.

One growing question about novitiate formation is in relation to congregational, multi-cultural novitiates.

I wonder if establishing congregational novitiates that require skills for intercultural living and novitiate courses given through intercongregational courses may be a new wineskin for the new wine of our new members!

Could it be that a renewed focus on novitiate formation may influence the program of on-going formation? empowering all our members and communities to witness to the unity in diversity that our world needs to live in peace?

School Sister of Notre Dame, Rosemary Howarth, has asked herself these questions. Briefly she will share the experience of this past year as novice director of their first congregational novitiate here in Rome. Table conversation among the participants will follow, providing the opportunity to share experiences and questions, ideas and dreams, learnings and insights, advantages and challenges. The session will conclude by gathering the wisdom from the fruits of our focused conversations.



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