

Associates of the Sisters of Saint Dorothy
of Saint Paula Frassinetti
North American Province

Informational Booklet

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I. Who We Are

We are a group of laymen and women and professed Dorotheans who desire to live more intensely our faith in the Goodness of God as Saint Paula did through her love and simplicity and in her desire to always follow the Will of God.

II. Mission Statement

As members of the Associates of the Sisters of Saint Dorothy, we are empowered to live the Dorothean charism authentically through a commitment to prayer, study, community, and apostolate. We are a catholic community who have committed ourselves to imitate Saint Paula in remembering how Good is our Good God, in living and working in simplicity, in following the Will of God, and in being as One Heart: One Soul in the Heart of Christ.

III. Introduction: Laity and Dorotheans

“God, who is present and active in the life of each person, chose Paula Frassinetti to establish in His Church the Congregation of the Sisters of Saint Dorothy which is totally dedicated to continuing the mission of Christ in our world. Paula’s affirmative response, made definite in Quinto, Genoa, Italy on August 12, 1834, lives on in the Congregation today through the deep spirit which gives it life: to seek always and in everything the greater glory of God by a greater service of humanity.” (Constitution 1)

The laity was at the center of Saint Paula’s mission. Evangelization and catechesis, especially in the service of the poor and the young, were her major concerns.

“Our participation in the mission of Jesus Christ is concretized in service toward the growth of the whole person by evangelizing through education. Since this

mission is carried out in a world divided by sin and agitated by many hopes and desires and a certain restlessness, we must be alert to discern God’s action in history and be willing to work with and for Him in each situation.” (Constitution 5)

The Dorotheans have helped to empower the laity to assume their rightful place in the Church and society. Today the General Government of the Sisters of Saint Dorothy has challenged each Province to invite the laypersons with whom its members work — the youth, the Associates, the Alumni/ae — to study the “sources,” the roots, of Paula Frassinetti in local and international encounters.

The 1997 General Chapter of the Sisters of Saint Dorothy stated the following goal:

“To live as a Congregation,
a journey that will bring us to a revitalization
of our IDENTITY in the Church
and to progressively re-express it
in the various cultures
with evangelical audacity
and in creative fidelity to Paula’s charism

**in order to become a transformative force
in today's unjust world."**

Today our Associate groups in the United States are found in New England, New York, and Texas. They continue to join the Sisters in spreading the charism of Saint Paula to all whom they encounter.

IV. Formation

Each candidate of the Associates of the Sisters of Saint Dorothy participates in a formation program. Formation is focused on the life and spirituality of Saint Paula, on prayer, and on the apostolate. During the year of formation the candidate is moving towards commitment. The candidate, together with the community, discerns the readiness for commitment.

For members who have made a commitment, attention is given to ongoing formation.

V. Leadership

The Associates of the Sisters of Saint Dorothy are guided by a leadership team consisting of president, vice-

president, treasurer, and secretary. The team is made up of lay representatives from each region and of professed Dorotheans.

VI. Community

The vision of Saint Paula — as shared by Dorotheans and by the Associates of the Sisters of Saint Dorothy — is to follow the Will of God in simplicity. Each member of the Associates commits, through his/her individual lifestyle and ministry, to witness to this vision. All members are responsible for their spiritual growth and nourishment through faithfulness to prayer, ongoing spiritual direction, spiritual reading, and participation in ongoing education and community-building.

As a community of laymen, laywomen, and vowed Dorotheans, we are drawn to the spirituality of Saint Paula and have a desire to share that spirituality with others. This is our central focus.

Our guides along the way are the Sacred Heart of Jesus, ever present in our midst; the Immaculate Heart of Mary; and Saint Paula Frassinetti, Foundress of the Congregation of the Sisters of Saint Dorothy.

VII. For Further Information

For further information on becoming a Dorothean Associate, please feel free to contact the region closest to you:

New York Region

Sisters of Saint Dorothy
New York Associates
c/o Virginia Vierling, S.S.D.
Saint Patrick Convent
3535 Richmond Road
Staten Island, NY 10306-1429

Tel. (718) 987-6315

E-mail: sginnysd@hotmail.com

New England Region

Sisters of Saint Dorothy
New England Associates
c/o Judith A. Costa, S.S.D.
Villa Fatima Convent
90 County Street
Taunton, MA 02780-3502

Tel. (508) 824-6581

E-mail: jjc@sistersofsaintdorothy.org

Texas Region

Sisters of Saint Dorothy
Texas Associates
c/o Maureen Crosby, S.S.D.
Saint Paula Frassinetti Convent
P.O. Box 147
Progreso, TX 78579-0147

Tel. (956) 565-9430

E-mail: mcrosby@cdob.com