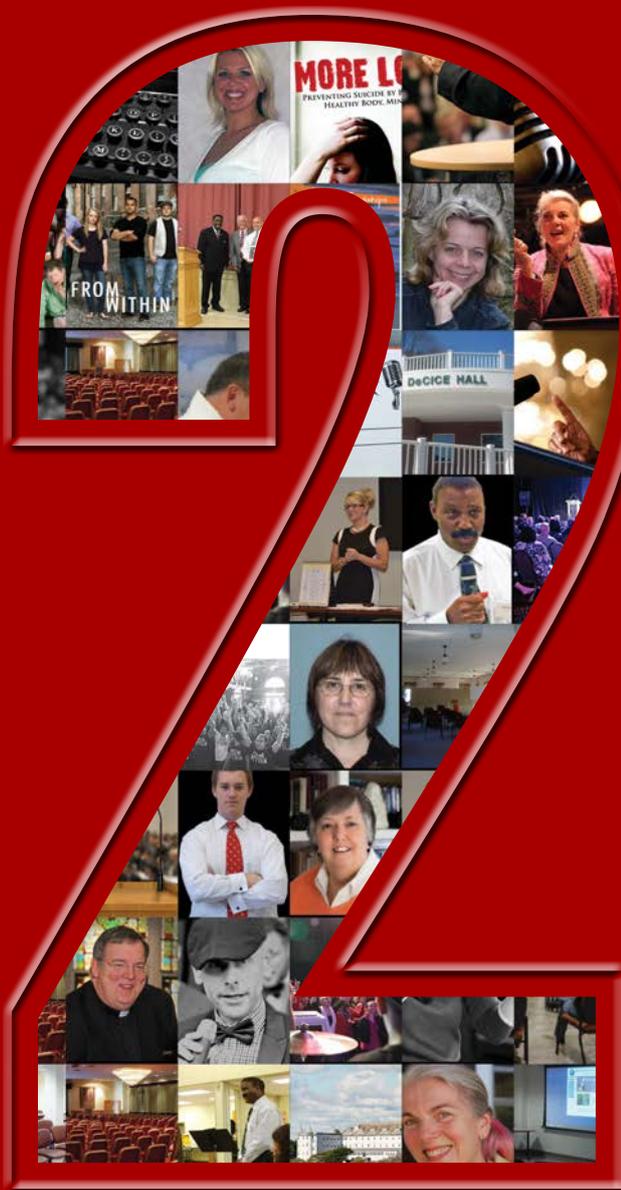


# VOICES

# and Venues

**IN THIS ISSUE:**

**Music To Your Ears**  
*A Leap of Faith For Young Musicians*



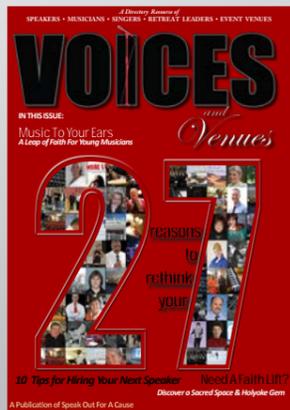
reasons  
to  
rethink  
your  
next  
event

**10 Tips for Hiring Your Next Speaker**

**Need A Faith Lift?**

*Discover a Sacred Space & Holyoke Gem*

## ON THE COVER



## ON THE COVER

*It all adds up! 27 Reasons to rethink your next event: Thirteen speakers, two venues, one music group, ten tips on choosing the right speaker and one mission to serve others. We believe we have the best speakers, ideas, musicians, and tips to share before you plan your next event.*



**OUR MISSION** is to create a directory resource of professional messengers of inspiration, motivation and education throughout Western MA.

We hope to encourage a dialogue of diversity by making others aware of the quality of speakers outside their normal realm of experience. Through this resource, we hope to encourage a cross cultural exchange between diverse communities.

Through this collaboration, our efforts provide financial support to organizations who seek to improve the quality of life for others.

## VOICES AND VENUES 2016

Produced and published as a publication of Speak Out For A Cause, a non-profit project.

### Speak Out For A Cause

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# Welcome

We are pleased to be able to present our inaugural edition of Voices and Venues, a publication of Speak Out For A Cause. Our aim is to highlight the great voices of inspiration, education, and motivation available for hire to conference and event planners in Massachusetts and Northern CT. Our publication consists of four categories of information:

1. **DIRECTORY**

A resource directory of talented voices available for hire. This section continues to grow daily and will be updated frequently. Speaker's donations offer them a permanent listing in the directory.

2. **SPEAKERS: ON TOPIC**

Articles of interest to conference and event planners as well as articles relating to the topic of speaking as a career. These articles will change regularly to continue to provide interest.

3. **VOICES IN PRINT**

Articles written by our speakers on current hot topics of interest. Whether your interest is business, spirituality, music or finance, we will present our voices in print. This affords you the opportunity to not only be educated on what people are talking about, but also to gain better insight into the speakers available for hire. These articles will change regularly to bring you new voices in print. From time to time we will also highlight books written by our speakers.

4. **MINISTRY PARTNERS**

Our financial support goes to "feet on the street" efforts which provide direct services to the housing, food and healthcare challenged of our communities. Each organization has applied to be considered as a ministry partner and has met the criteria for funding. Our funding cycle begins each August. We are not a 501c3. We are simply a conduit for generating funds and all checks are made payable to the charity, thereby allowing the donation to be tax deductible.

We are resource directory not a speaker's bureau; all speakers should be contacted directly as they negotiate and retain their own fees. When hiring a speaker be sure to check references in order to assure their talents meet your needs. Only directory listing donations support the ministry partners. Many have expressed the desire to make a donation again, if contracted as a result of this publication.

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in Voices and Venues are those of the authors as listed and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of Voices and Venue. Any content provided by our authors is certified by them to be their own work.

"If you don't like what's being said, change the conversation."

- Don Draper



# My Voice

*"If you don't like what's being said, change the conversation."*

If you were not a fan of the highly popular television show *Mad Men*, then you probably won't recognize the quote as coming from a hard drinking, dashing, sixties era Madison Avenue ad man, whose womanizing ways, broken past and lavish lifestyle, made him a symbol for all the successful bad boys of his time. Every man wanted to be him, every woman wanted to marry him.

However, it really wasn't Don Draper or any of the other colorful cast of characters that drew me in week after week, but rather the genius behind the masterful manipulation of words aimed at the buying public. The brilliant graphics with even more brilliant phrases were my opiate. I have always been fascinated by words. I am a self proclaimed logophile who, as a young child read the dictionary daily. Words have a power that can be an amazing catalyst for change. I learned that at an early age and it never left me as I forged a successful career in marketing.

It is the love of words that brought me here, launching the inaugural edition of **Voices and Venues**, a publication of **Speak Out For A Cause**. Our motto is "where words meet action in our community."

Year after year, attending conferences for church events, parish retreats, community gatherings, fund-raising galas, and conventions, I began to realize the conversation was the same. There was a local cache of highly utilized speakers, who in their own right were good, but tediously overused. Parishes were using "Pastor So-and-So" for every event because it was all they knew. Civic groups were falling back to the same community leaders because they were well known, so invariably the conversations became a one note perspective. Fresh ideas and challenging thoughts were at a premium.

I didn't like the conversation so I decided to change it. In my nearly six decades of living, I have had the experience of meeting so many talented voices who inspired me, motivated me and made me a better person. I felt the world was missing out on these hidden treasures. It was that notion and the realization that there was no real source for finding these good people, which gave birth to this new project.

But for me this wasn't enough. How can I make these words work for the betterment of the community? This question led me to the other nagging problem that I was eager to help solve: lack of adequate funding for small groups who care for those facing food, housing and healthcare challenges. Small groups addressing these needs do big things, but finding a continuous source of funds to maintain it, can be difficult. So why not build a directory of speakers who are eager to be engaged, and request a donation to be listed, which goes directly to the charities who have applied for funding? The response was great and "Voices and Venues" was born. One hundred percent of directory listing fees and donations go directly to the charities. Because it is a true labor of love, no funds are ever used for administration or other costs.

Our free online directory features speakers, musicians and venues for hire. Along with the wide array of speakers, we will be offering helpful articles, ideas and inspiration to assist you with your next event. One unique aspect will be articles written by our listed speakers, helping you to gain better knowledge on the subjects they specialize in while offering a more in depth insight into their abilities. We welcome voices of all faiths, all walks of life and all perspectives to participate in this endeavor.

So join me in welcoming the outstanding list of professionals who lent their voices to this project. They are some of the most respected individuals in their fields and will guarantee the success of your next event. They not only made their donations to be listed here, but many are willing to make a good faith donation again when contracted through their listings in this publication. Words meet action in our community and it's time we "Speak Out For A Cause!"



# Speaker Selection: Clues & Caveats

By Karin Schroeck-Singh

Imagine ... you have an important event and you need to look for the right speaker. You are thinking of that special person, who can create powerful connections with the audience and who leaves a long-lasting impression. The person who makes your company and sponsor look good, and where participants will be genuinely thanking you for this opportunity. This is the speaker, who is able to make their participants leave the event with fresh ideas, increased motivation and at the same time having been entertained, informed and challenged.

You know that hiring the right speaker is so crucial, it can make or break your event. But where should you start? Bear in mind that there are two different types of speakers: those who work through a speaker's bureau and those who you can hire directly. No matter who you choose, make sure you take your time and do your research thoroughly. These are 10 things that will help you in the process of hiring the right speaker for your next event.

## # 1 – Does the speaker have the "PASSION" factor?

PASSION about a certain subject matter is something that every speaker should have. The audience should be able to instantly see, hear and feel the enthusiasm that the speaker has for the topic presented. If there is no passion, it will be impossible to motivate and engage any audience.

## # 2 – Does the speaker present the right topic to the right audience?

Make sure your speaker presents the right topic to the right audience. Often it is a solution that the speaker provides as an answer to a problem that the audience is facing. The speaker should therefore be a real expert in their chosen field, who has lots of experience and first-hand knowledge on how things work in real life (personal or professional life). The person should make an effort or be made aware in advance who the audience is. This approach will help the speaker to deliver a more effective, targeted and helpful speech. But also the uniqueness and customization of the content for each individual speech is of paramount importance. This approach will allow it, to meet program goals and not be just a routine speech, that has been already presented exactly the same way to lots of other people in the past.

## # 3 – What is the speaker's personality and delivery style like?

Are you looking for a professional



speaker or an expert in a certain field who can speak? No matter who you choose, make sure the speaker is able to grab the audience's attention right from the beginning. How original and attention grabbing is the start of the speech? You could ask for examples as to how the speaker started

several of his/her past speeches. It would surely give you an additional insight, whether you are focusing on the right person or not.

A great speaker also needs to be aware of what

the goal of the speech is and deliver the speech using the appropriate style. Is it to educate, to inform, to entertain, to motivate or to initiate a change in peoples' behavior? The speaker should be able to turn the speech into a highly engaging conversation with the audience. Good speakers do this by asking thought-provoking questions and involving

...hiring the right speaker is so crucial, it can make or break your event.



the audience as much as possible.

Be aware of speakers who try during their speeches to sell aggressively their products or additional services. If that is something you do not wish at any costs, you need to inform the speaker about it. Look instead for someone who is audience-centered and not focused on his own best interests.

## # 4 – Does the person share personal experiences with the audience?

The power of storytelling is a further MUST. Make sure your speaker has some impactful stories, personal episodes to share, which the audience can easily relate to and will remember for a long time. Not many speakers are able to make every attendee in the audience feel as if they would just talk to them on a personal level. If you find a speaker who is able to connect on an emotional level with the audience, many unforgettable experiences for your attendees will be created. Remember, people love listening to personal stories, they are so much more memorable!

## # 5 – Does the speaker have video demonstrations to show?

If a picture can tell thousand words, what do you think can a video do? Ask for video material that allows you to see how the speaker interacts with the audience. Focus on the way the speaker presents themselves regarding attire, grooming, attitude, content and charisma. This will allow you to get a better picture of the speaker's poise, manners and language used.

## # 6 – What references does the speaker have?

Never underestimate the power of references. Make sure you check the speaker's references which should be verifiable. How many

speaking engagements did the person have in the past? What were the topics and are there any impressive testimonials available? If you are looking for a particularly entertaining speaker, don't hesitate to ask for previous references, if clean and appropriate humour was used at all times. You surely don't want to hire a speaker who includes racial, off-color or other inappropriate jokes. Remember, this would be instantly a complete turn-off.

## # 7 – What are the speaker's fees?

A speaker's fees can vary quite considerably, from zero to many thousands of Dollars for one single performance. Find out if the speaker's fee is competitively priced on the market. Does your company's budget match your speaker's fee? If the speaker's fee seems too high, see if there is anything else that you can offer in return that adds value. For example, an impressive testimonial, choice of date/time, a multiple performance contract, products, services, paid expenses for spouse travel ticket/meals, additional publicity, extra night accommodation etc. Ask for the payment terms of the speaker's contract. Usually a 50 % deposit is the norm in order to get a speaker's commitment.

## # 8 – How approachable is the speaker afterwards?

Hire someone who is approachable and prepared to engage more with the audience also after the event is over, such as offering a Q & A session, possible book signing or a planned reception attendance.

## # 9 – Does the speaker provide any handouts?

Does your speaker provide some handouts or learning materials to give out to the audience after the event? Attendees would surely

appreciate receiving the key points of the presentation/speech as a printout rather than having to take their own notes.

## # 10 – What does a post-evaluation reveal?

Should you consider hiring a particular speaker for further speaking engagements, make sure you conduct a post-event evaluation. Ask yourself the following questions:

- Was the speaker able to add value to the event?
- Did the speaker meet the organizer's and the audience's expectations?
- How well did all of them respond?
- Would they love to listen to this speaker again?

Whether you are planning a retreat for ten or a conference for a thousand, the pre-event preparation is key to ensuring its success. Take your time, do your homework and leave your participants with a memorable experience.



Author

Karin Schroeck-Singh is a passionate

Public Speaker, e-book Author, a Career Blogger and a freelancing Online Content Producer. She has an MBA from the University of Leicester (UK) and gained 20 years of international work experience in Italy, the UK and India in several different industries. Her motto is always "Learn from anyone, anywhere, anytime!"

karinso.uk



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## Author

Did you believe you had life figured out at a young age—only to realize you still had a lot to learn as hardships and loss became the norm? Author Nancy Butler knows how you feel. She married at age 15, had two children, and sixteen years later, she found herself in the process of divorce without any child support or alimony. Having limited professional skills, she set out to find a career that would not only support her children, but would also help other people. Told in practical anecdotal fashion, you will be inspired by Butler. Grow with her during her struggles as a young bride, and mother. Learn from her as she finds a profession in which she not only finds success, but also helps countless people design their own future plans. Laugh with her as she shares funny moments from family life. Hurt with her as she loses her father and other loved ones, and then honors their legacies. Rejoice with her as she finds a second chance at love. Butler built her financial planning business to close to \$200 million in assets under management and then purposefully chose her successor before leaving the business to pursue other endeavors. She has been quoted in many local and national publications including the USA Today and The Day. She has been a speaker for major corporations such as Pfizer, General Dynamics, and Dow Chemical.

### Licenses

National Association of Securities Dealers #6  
State of CT Variable Annuities

National Association of Securities Dealers #7  
State of CT Health Insurance

Multi-State License #63  
State of CT Accident Insurance

Several Florida Licenses  
State of CT Life Insurance

DPP & Gas, Real Estate Lmted Partner #22  
National Associate of Securities Dealers #34

### Certifications

- Certified Financial Planner® (CFP)
- Certified Divorce Financial Analyst™ (CDFA)
- Certified Long-Term Care Specialist (CLTC)

# Nancy D. Butler, CFP® , CDFA™ , CLTC



Nancy D. Butler, CFP®, CDFA™, CLTC is the owner of “Above All Else, Success in Life and Business”, a national professional motivational speaker, award-winning author, business coach and continuing education instructor. After twenty-five years building a very successful financial planning and asset management practice, in 2007, Nancy sold her practice and now uses her knowledge and experience to help others reach greater levels of success in their personal and business lives. She helps business owners do a better job for their clients and improve their bottom line and helps individuals live more successful, fulfilling lives and realize their dreams.

Nancy has been quoted in Money magazine, The National Business Institute, The New England Real Estate Journal, The Financial Planning Association magazine, USA Today, AARP, The Chicago Tribune, The Day and many more. She has been a speaker for major corporations such as Pfizer, General Dynamics and Dow Chemical as well as high schools, organizations, associations and many others. Nancy has also been a guest on many radio and television shows.



## Motivational Speaker

### TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Simple Steps for Achieving Greater Success in Life and Business
- Maintaining Your Independence As You Age
- Anchoring your clients to you – How to be the company of choice
- Sales – efficiently and ethically increasing sales
- Balancing life and business successfully
- Developing an effective business plan
- Ways to make resources last - stretching your retirement savings
- Money Management – good habits from the start

“

September 16, 2014

You were fantastic! Thank you for being with us. We had so many ‘raving reviews’ from advisors about the session. There was also great feedback on the Marketplace along with the FC Table and what you provided. Your partnership is appreciated!  
-Jody

”



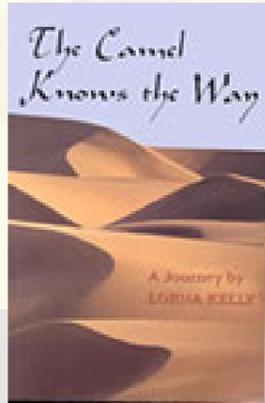
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## Author

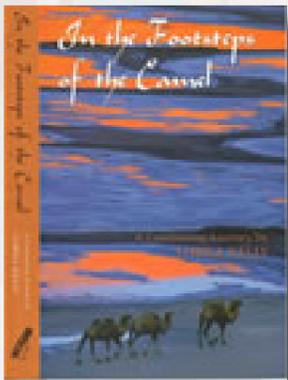


**The Camel Knows the Way** is a candid account of an extraordinary and ultimately thrilling quest for God. Lorna Kelly's odyssey from middle class British school girl to glamorous, New York Sotheby's auctioneer to volunteer in the slums of Calcutta is a trek that is sobering, inspiring and breathtakingly compelling. En route Kelly confronts alcoholism, divorce, a growing sense of spiritual disquiet and her own "dark night." What emerges from that spiritual thirst is a buoyant and compelling affirmation of our common humanity.

**Contact:**  
**Lorna Kelly**

**P.O. Box 33 • New York, NY 10028**

[lornakelly@lornakelly.com](mailto:lornakelly@lornakelly.com)



**In the Footsteps of the Camel** continues Lorna Kelly's extraordinary journey begun her first memoir *The Camel Knows the Way*. Lorna has faced death at an execution in Texas and first-hand through her own medical struggles back in New York. *Footsteps* reveals an intimate portrait of a life affected by alcoholism and offers insights into long-term sobriety. *In the Footsteps of the Camel* is at times funny, at times thought-provoking, but always engaging and compelling as it illuminates and celebrates the possibilities of the human experience



# Lorna Kelly

## Auctioneer

Born and raised in England, Lorna Kelly moved to America and became the first female fine arts auctioneer in America at Sotheby's. At a turning point in her life, Ms. Kelly was inspired to travel to India to meet Mother Teresa and to work with her sisters, the Missionaries of Charity — tending to the poorest of the poor in Calcutta. Lorna currently primarily works as a charity auctioneer - using her Sotheby's **auction experience**, special talents, and unique voice to raise funds and awareness for many causes. A first-rate charity auctioneer, Lorna understands how to generate

**excitement** with an expert's professional touch and a flair for **fun**—adding just the right amount of sophistication and compassion. One organization which holds special meaning for Lorna is Broadway Cares, Equity Fights AIDS. As a benefit auctioneer, she has helped that organization raise more than **\$5 million** through its benefit auctions.

She looks forward to helping you turn your charity auction or benefit gala into a financial, philanthropic and entertainment **success**.



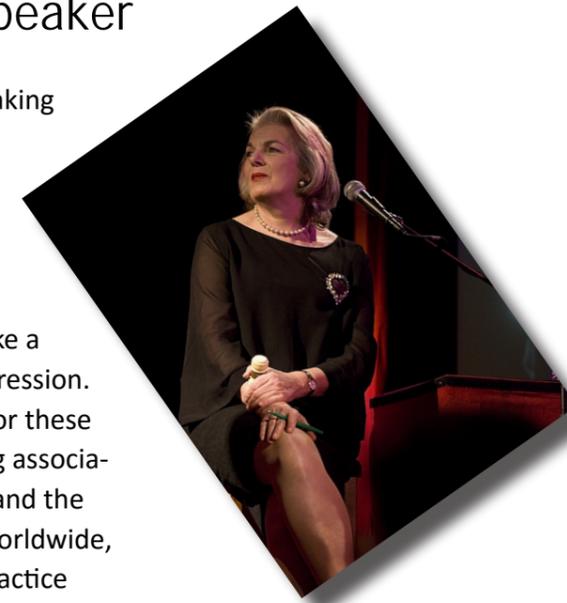
## "Lorna Kelly is MAGIC!"

She encourages bidders in a seductive way that makes them feel privileged to be a part of the event, and the auction becomes an exhilarating experience."

Dr. Thomas Stretto  
Cabrini College, PA

## Motivational Speaker

Lorna Kelly has been speaking on leadership, personal growth and spiritual topics for more than 25 years. Her practice of self-examination, growth and service to others make a profound and lasting impression. Much of her inspiration for these talks comes from her long association with Mother Teresa and the Missionaries of Charity worldwide, 35 years of meditation practice and her own battle with cancer. These experiences are especially poignant when contrasted with Lorna's work as an Auctioneer and department head at Sotheby's in New York.



“

*Your professionalism, your wit and your grace under pressure were wonderful to watch. And the results matched your efforts. We raised more money at this auction than ever before.*

Philip McGee  
St. Anthony High School, NJ

”



# Karen A. Thomas

**Certified Etiquette & Civility Trainer • College Instructor**

**Author • Speaker**



Karen Thomas is the “go-to” **etiquette expert** in Connecticut. Attracting individuals who value the importance of integrity, proper decorum and civility, Karen provides techniques proven to increase sales and advance leadership skills. Clients emerge as polished professionals who outclass their competition and increase their bottom line. A well sought after speaker, known for her professionalism and humor, she authored a chapter in the best-selling book “From the Soapbox to the Stage—How to Use Your Passion to Start a Speaking Business” by Bill Corbett. Karen’s clients include ING Corporation, Aetna, Cox Radio Network, as well as numerous corporations in the tri-state area. Karen teaches at 10+ colleges across the state of Connecticut, preparing graduates for entrance into corporate America; UCONN, University of Saint Joseph, Quinnipiac University and many more. Karen appears regularly on WWLP - Mass Appeal, as well as WFSB, WVIT and WTHN - CT Style - television shows imparting her etiquette expertise. Karen also appears on radio including WPLR, WDRC and WAPJ. Karen studied Business Administration in college and holds certification as an etiquette/civility coach, trained in business etiquette, **corporate leadership** and **educational advancement for youth**. She resides in Connecticut with her husband Ken, 3 children and her exceptionally well-mannered black lab, Kenworth.



**CORPORATE TRAINER**

*Karen offers an excellent presentation as well as the passion and knowledge and knows how to engage a crowd.*

- Steve Harvey, Harvey & Associates

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**Contact Karen at (860) 387-1282**

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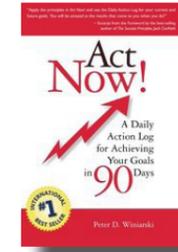
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# Peter D. Winiarski

Peter D. Winiarski is the founder and CEO of Win Enterprises, LLC. He is a speaker and the author of the #1 international best-selling book, Act Now! A Daily Action Log for Achieving Your Goals in 90 Days. His company, Win Enterprises, LLC, helps business leaders transform their results with a team of resources who are experts in business transformation, process improvement using “lean” principles, organizational culture, leadership, and goal achievement. The team applies the Win Holistic Transformation Model™, Win’s proprietary framework that helps business leaders ensure maximum, long-term results. Win clients experience fast results, lasting change, and huge ROI working with Pete’s team.



CEO & Founder  
Win Enterprises, LLC

**win Enterprises, LLC**  
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**Learn more at**

[www.CompleteBusinessTransformation.com](http://www.CompleteBusinessTransformation.com)

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860-651-6859



Jeff Davis , a.k.a. Mr. Mountaintop®, graduated from McDaniel College with a B.A. in Economics and Mathematics, receiving all-college Honors and Honors in Economics. He went on to receive his M.S. Finance degree from Johns Hopkins Graduate School of Business, completing a two-year program in one year while working and writing a book. He has worked with fascinating and top-notch companies in Connecticut, Maryland, and Budapest, Hungary, from start-ups and County Government to a Fortune 500. He has demonstrated ability to positively affect others.

Jeff Davis has worked with **YOUTH GROUPS, COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES, NON-PROFITS, BUSINESSES**, and various organizations, leading them from the valley to higher levels of personal achievement, satisfaction, and fulfillment. He teaches practical strategies on how to handle difficult situations, better manage time, lead from within, simplify work tasks and life, develop and maintain greater communication skills, and make the right life choices. He also has expertise in college success. Jeff’s talks are filled with content-rich insights and ideas. Jeff is also actively involved in his community. From Newtown, Connecticut, he volunteered for four years with the Bridgeport Rescue Mission in Bridgeport, Connecticut. For more detailed information about Jeff’s work, please contact his assistant Meg via [meg@jeffdspeaks.com](mailto:meg@jeffdspeaks.com) or visit his website [www.jeffdspeaks.com](http://www.jeffdspeaks.com).





# Deacon Roger Carrier

Roger has been a servant leader most of his adult life, first as an IT executive in the financial services industry and later as a deacon in the Catholic Diocese of Springfield, MA. A dynamic speaker, educator, and retreat leader with degrees in engineering and theology, Roger finds inspiration in blending his disparate experiences like corporate leadership and discipleship or technology and spirituality.

Roger currently serves as a spiritual director, assistant chaplain at WSU, and parish pastoral leader. He also leads seminars and facilitates formation for lay ministers and the diaconate. Roger is passionate about discipleship, in his own ongoing discernment and in encouraging others to discover their giftedness and their grounding faith experience so their lives may be a more authentic expression of their truth.

Deacon Roger and his wife, Carol, have been married for 35 years. They have two daughters: one a married architect and the other a Sister of Mercy (RSM).

- BS Computer Engineering
- MA Theology

**Speaker ~ Retreat Master ~ Spiritual Director**

*Deacon Roger is available to speak to your group on the following topics:*

Discipleship  
Evangelization  
Liturgy  
Bible Study  
Ministry  
Social Justice

Spirituality  
Prayer  
Worship  
Leadership  
Goal Setting

Mentoring  
Volunteerism  
Community Service

Contact Deacon Roger

413-562-5477; 860--558-0986

[roger.carrier@att.net](mailto:roger.carrier@att.net)

# Deacon Bill Toller

Deacon Bill Toller, was ordained a Deacon for the Diocese of Springfield MA in 2001. In addition to his duties as a deacon with the Catholic Church, Deacon Bill serves on the Board of Directors for Just Faith, a non-profit organization that forms, informs and transforms people of faith by offering programs and resources that sustain them in their passionate commitment to build a more just and peaceful world. Bill's personal passion is being invited to speak on how the Just Faith program can enrich and grow the spiritual life of any congregation.



*Deacon Bill Toller in his ministry work at Ludlow Correctional Facility, Ludlow MA.*

“***The gift of community, which forms during each cycle of JustFaith Ministries' programs, continues to be both humbling and inspiring.***” - Deacon Bill Toller



*JustFaith Ministries Board Member, Bill Toller, and friends, participating in the Sandwiches for the Homeless Ministry at Holy Cross Parish.*

JustFaith is a process that provides a context in which participants can grow in their commitment to care for vulnerable people and become advocates for justice. During this extended formation and justice education process, groups employ books, videos, guest speakers, discussion, prayer, retreats and hands-on experiences. Participants also form a community and share a journey of faith and compassion that is life giving and challenging. JustFaith is available in two versions – JustFaith Catholic, and JustFaith designed for Christian denominations and ecumenical groups. Learn more at [www.justfaith.org](http://www.justfaith.org)

“***Once you experience this formation program, you can't go back. You have to do what Jesus asked us to do.***” - Just Faith Graduate

Contact Deacon Bill

413-783-4111, Ext. 116; 413-372-6237

[wm.toller@verizon.net](mailto:wm.toller@verizon.net)

# Jo Ann Bourquard

- Skilled in planning spiritually –based programs
- Experienced and knowledgeable in assisting individuals and families in the bereavement process
- Background in ecumenical and interfaith belief systems
- Committed to developing various means of personal growth for societal transformation
- Demonstrated experience working collaboratively
- Effective and engaging public speaker
- Spiritual Director
- Supervisor of Interns in Spiritual Direction Formation
- Educator



“ I hope to companion others to see God in all things. ”

BS French/Secondary Education  
*Westfield State College*

MA Ministry  
*Hartford Seminary*

Certificate in Spiritual Direction  
Certificate in Supervision  
*Spiritual Life Center, Bloomfield, CT*

Educational in Ireland  
*National University Galway, Ireland*

## **Jo Ann Bourquard**

Offering Individual Spiritual Direction

Marian Center

1365 Northampton Street

Holyoke, MA 01040

(413) 789-6164

[jbourqua@hotmail.com](mailto:jbourqua@hotmail.com)

Also offering group direction, retreats & days of reflection, and supervision of spiritual directors. Please call or email for more information.

## WHAT IS SPIRITUAL DIRECTION?

In Spiritual Direction a trained person accompanies individuals as they attempt to deepen their relationship with God in daily life.

The person seeking direction shares stories of his or her encounters of the divine, or how he or she is experiencing spiritual issues. The director then listens and asks questions to assist the directee in his or her process of reflection and spiritual growth.

Spiritual direction develops a deeper relationship with the spiritual aspect of being human. It is not psychotherapy, counseling, or financial planning.

Spiritual direction is not limited to any religious denomination. It can be particularly effective for those searching for the Holy or for a particular faith community.

## GROUP SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

Group Spiritual Direction is a process in which people gather together, with a trained spiritual director as a facilitator, on a regular basis to assist one another in an ongoing awareness of God in all of life. They are seeking support for their responsiveness to God and they agree to support others in that same responsiveness.



Biddeford Pool, ME Photo by "God In Focus" ©

## RETREATS AND DAYS OF PRAYER

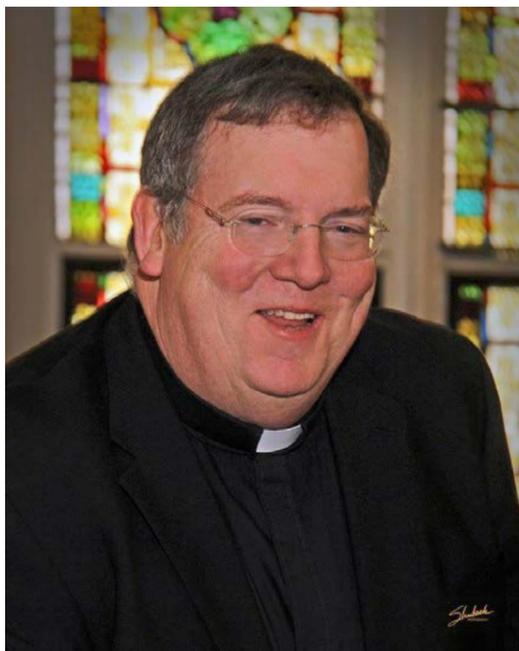
Days of Prayer for groups can be arranged about a mutually agreed upon topic such as Ways to Pray, Praying with Psalms, Advent Reflections, Grieving toward Healing, Healing after Divorce, Forgiveness, etc.

I have extensive experience with bereavement issues and have trained members of the Beginning Experience Ministry in New Hampshire.

I am available for parishes, groups such as pastoral ministers, religious education coordinators, associates of religious communities, etc.

**For More Information:**  
[jbourqua@hotmail.com](mailto:jbourqua@hotmail.com)  
[www.spiritualdirectioninwesternmass.com](http://www.spiritualdirectioninwesternmass.com)

# Fr. Frank Lawlor



Fr. Frank Lawlor graduated from Notre Dame High School in West Haven, Conn., in 1974. He then attended Providence College in Providence, R.I. and Southern

Connecticut State College. He earned his bachelor's degree in philosophy from St. Mary's Seminary and University in Baltimore in 1978.

Lawlor was an All-Conference, All-New England and All-American swimmer. In 1976; he was ranked fourth in the United States in his event, and participated in the 1976 Olympic trials.

Fr. Lawlor, who was previously married, has three grown children. Before entering the seminary, he worked for more than 20 years in the financial investment field, employed as a first vice president at Connecticut Complex Manager for Gruntal & Co, LLC, in New Haven, Conn., and also was a first vice president, New England complex manager, for Ryan Beck & Co., Inc.

Just prior to entering the seminary, Lawlor was the development director for the Newman Catholic Center at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. He received his theology degree at Blessed John XXIII National Seminary in Weston and now serves as the Pastoral Administrator of St. Mary's Parish, Westfield MA.

Topics: Spirituality, Evangelization, Social Justice

Contact Fr. Frank : flawlor@stmsaints.org • 413-562-5477

“**The Church's first duty is not to hand down condemnations or anathemas but to proclaim God's mercy to call to conversion, and to lead all men and women to salvation in the Lord.**”  
**Pope Francis' final address to the Synod on the Family**

# Chris Clark, DHM



Sr. Chris Clark, DHM is a religious professional who fosters awareness, practice, and inter-religious dialogue in college communities. As the Catholic Religious Advisor at Amherst College Office of Religious and Spiritual Life, Sr. Chris works with clergy and the faithful for the regular celebration of liturgy and other offerings, advises the Catholic student group (Newman Club), ministers to students and staff, and raises awareness about the faith.

Additionally, Sr. Chris is currently the Director of DeCicé Hall at the Marian Center in Holyoke MA., Catholic Advisor and Adjunct Faculty at Elms College Institute for Theology and Pastoral Studies and Faculty for the Diocese of Springfield, MA Permanent Diaconate Formation Program.

Topics vary, please inquire.

- Practical spirituality
- Mary, mother of Jesus
- Advocacy and faith
- Catholic Church history
- Mercy
- Inter-religious dialogue
- Christian Scripture

Formats:

- Workshops
- Reflections
- Occasions for reflection and retreat
- Lectures
- Prayer services

Credentials: experience with campus ministry, collaborative work, conversations on tough topics, RCIA, pilgrimages. Degrees in theology.

Contact: Email: cclark@gmail.com

Voicemail: 413-687-1858



“*I'm a Catholic woman religious. I'm 'claimed by Christ' in a way particular to women religious. And that means that I live simply to love, in Christ. It's a 24/7 life with prayer at the center and work as one expression of the love generated by God's grace.*”

# Carol Pirog



Carol is the founder of Speak Out For A Cause, a new venture to highlight talented speakers in the community. Through this effort, funding and support is provided to small ministries doing great things for those facing healthcare, housing and food challenges.

Carol's passion and ministry is serving the needs of the less fortunate utilizing talents along with experience gained in the business world. While working for a very large oil company, Carol managed Boston Marathon Charity teams in support of Muscular Dystrophy. Through extensive program development this resulted in millions of dollars raised, three national television appearances and an invitation to speak before the Massachusetts Senate.

As a certified Spiritual Director, Carol has led retreats, Christian book discussion groups, women's spirituality conferences and day long seminars on women in the Church.

Carol is currently employed as a Marketing Manger for a national bakery where she is in charge of brand imaging and tradeshow development.

- Over 20 years experience:
  - Fundraising & Development
  - Grass roots fundraising
- Non Profit Board Leadership
- Certified Spiritual Director

Certificate: Spiritual Direction  
Sacred Heart University, CT,  
Religious Education & Pastoral Studies

Certificate: Faith, Media, & Values  
Dayton University

**TOPICS OF INTEREST:**

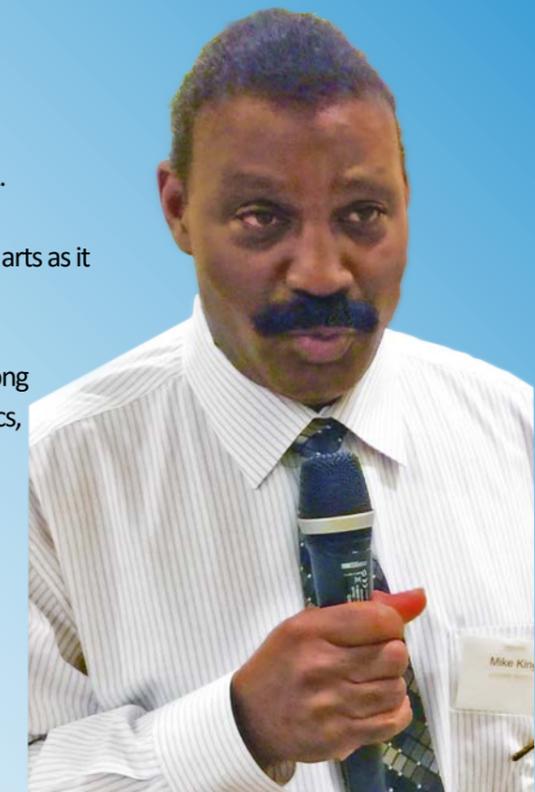
- Techonology and the Church
- Developing women's ministry in your church
- Starting a book dlscussion group
- Fundraising in the 21st Century
- Social Justice: What Jesus Would Do
- Journaling, for adults and youth

**Board of Directors/ Non-profit Experience:**

- Speak Out For A Cause, Founder
- Lorraine's Soup Kitchen & Pantry, Co-Chair Fundraising to build new facility
- Cathedral In The Night, Northampton
- Springfield Catholic Diocese Bishop's Council, Chairperson
- Springfield Dlocese Web Development Mentoring Program, Founder

**Carol Pirog**  
(413) 427-8534  
cpirogcsd@gmail.com

# Mike King



Mike is the owner an operator of Mike King Property Management, Springfield MA.

With a passion to facilitate religious education classes, his strong background in fine arts as it relates to religious practices, engages and captivates any audience.

As a highly active participant in many social and civic committees, Mike brings a strong sense of community to any discussion. Mike specializes in team and group dynamics, bringing people together to work for the common good.

• Studied at:

- New England School of Fine Art , Boston
- Cheyney University, Pennsylvania, Fine Arts
- Western New England University

- Fine Arts
- Religion
- Team Dynamics
- Group Facilitation



Mike King can be contacted at:

(413) 548-2074

mk.mike@cloud.com

# Nancy Rose, NTP

Helping YOU to fulfill YOUR God-Given Destiny with Abundant Health & Energy

# Nancy Rose, NTP

- Nancy L. Rose, NTP, CHFS, CSCS, CGP
- President, Get At The Roots Weight Loss, LLC
- Creator of the Get At The Roots Weight Loss Programs & Optimal Mental Health Nutrition Program
- Nutritional Therapy Practitioner
- Certified Healing Foods Specialist
- Certified Strength & Conditioning Specialist
- Certified GAPS (Gut & Psychology Syndrome) Practitioner
- B.S. Exercise Science



Nutritional Therapy

## Nutritional Therapist

Nancy is a Certified Nutritional Therapy Practitioner, Healing Foods Specialist, Strength and Conditioning Specialist, and a GAPS (Gut and Psychology Syndrome) Practitioner with over 20 years of experience in the fitness and nutrition field.

passionate about her mission to provide people with information they can use to live a joyful and purposeful life, and enthusiastically shares wisdom and strategies they can use to become active participants in reclaiming their own physical and mental health. She has held over 100 nutrition seminars at various locations including fitness and wellness centers, Niagara University, Mill Middle School, weight loss groups, and churches. Nancy has a desire to help people fulfill their God-given destiny with abundant health and energy!



**Physical.** In this book you will discover how Nancy found total freedom from mental illness, how there are root causes to mental health problems and how you can find freedom for yourself!

## Author

In her book, *No More Loss: Preventing Suicide by Building a Healthy Body, Mind, and Spirit*, Nancy shares her own personal story with bipolar disorder and an attempted suicide. She has spent her life studying mental health, nutrition, fitness, and the word of God in order to find freedom from mental illness. This book addresses the five components to optimizing mental health: *Spiritual, Emotional, Neurological, Nutritional, and*



Nancy Lost 50 lbs.!

To Schedule Nancy to Speak to Your Church or Organization:  
[nancy@nomoreloss.org](mailto:nancy@nomoreloss.org)  
[www.NoMoreLoss.org](http://www.NoMoreLoss.org)  
[www.GetAtTheRoots.com](http://www.GetAtTheRoots.com)

### Reaching Optimal Mental Health

You were born for greatness! You were born to accomplish many things and to live a joyous, stable, secure, productive, fulfilling life! In order to obtain total freedom from mental illness it is important to address five components to healing: Spiritual, Emotional, Neurological, Nutritional, and Physical Fitness.

Any one of these addressed by itself can only bring you so far. All five areas need to be addressed and maintained on a regular basis in order to obtain true health and freedom from mental illness.

“Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well.” — 2 John 1:3

Contact Nancy Rose:

Nancy L. Rose, NTP, CHFS, CSCS, CGP

Phone: 860-877-0414

E-mail: [info@getattheroots.com](mailto:info@getattheroots.com)

## Inspirational Speaker

Nancy's main drive to study nutrition was to heal her own body and has a powerful testimony to the impact that nutrition and the power of prayer can have. She is

**NO MORE LOSS**  
Preventing Suicide By Building A Healthy Body, Mind & Spirit



# Let Your Voice Be Heard



## Wanted!

**SPEAKERS • MUSICIANS SINGERS RETREAT  
LEADERS • EVENT VENUES**

Voices and Venues is a publication of Speak Out for a Cause, an independent effort listing only qualified voices who speak from sincerity and personal experience and share our vision for dialogue which promotes and encourages communication and education while supporting nonprofit organizations charged with the task of providing services to the homeless, hungry and impoverished. One hundred percent of your directory application fee goes to support these organizations. This is our way of encouraging and supporting diversity, mission and education in our own communities. We also welcome listings from venues capable of hosting conferences, retreats and seminars.

Contact us today to learn more about how you can be a part of this dynamic online resource.

**Two Page Spread • Full one page • half page  
1/3 pages are available.**



[info@speakoutforacause.com](mailto:info@speakoutforacause.com)

[www.speakoutforacause.com](http://www.speakoutforacause.com)



## Five Tips for **Conquering Your** Fear of Public Speaking By Thom Fox

For some people, being eaten by fire ants is a preferable alternative to public speaking. We all have different reasons why we fear speaking. Some of us get self-conscious in large groups. We fear appearing nervous, or that people are judging us. Though to be told, most people aren't even paying attention to you, per se. They're paying attention to your information.

I struggled like everybody else when I started speaking. I thought I didn't have anything offer, and I was tremendously nervous about how people would receive me. At the time, I was a high school dropout and about 50 pounds heavier than I am now. Needless to say, I was uncomfortable in my own skin. What I learned, over time, was that people cared less about my academic achievement, and barely recognized my portliness. What they were focused on was my message.

A public presentation is a conversation, albeit a large one. If you put together a powerful presentation, all your audience will remember is what you helped them learn. What I learned was that people truly appreciated my preparedness. They were eager to learn. Hungry for new information. Excited to bring new tools and resources back to their organization.

It occurred to me, my audience is my customer. Just like any customer, they had expectations. If you meet those expectations, they'll love you. If you don't, I reckon public speaking will remain among the things that go bump in the night. That being said, here are a couple of tips to help you prepare for your next public speaking engagement:

1. Know your material: This goes without saying. Be sure to practice; because practice makes perfect. The more prepared you are, the more natural you'll come across.
2. Dress for success: Remember – all eyes will be on you. Besides, the sharper you look, the more polished and professional you'll feel.
3. Relax and enjoy: No matter what, a speech is just a speech. No one is going to remember if you flub a line or two. They will remember how you made them feel.
4. Look people in the eye: People trust others who look them in the eye. It's okay to use notes, but you're more engaging when focused on your audience.
5. Pay attention to your body language: Body language will give you away all the time. If you're not confident in your ability, or your message, the audience will pick it up.



*REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION*

*Thom Fox is a Strategy Consultant providing solutions to business and nonprofit leaders. Acknowledged as an expert resource, Thom's advice is featured by media outlets such as Forbes, U.S. News & World Report, and The Huffington Post. He is also Host of The Engine airing on WHYN NewsTalk 560. Learn more about Thom at [thomfox.com](http://thomfox.com)*



# FROM WITHIN



## FROM WITHIN MINISTRIES

As a ministry we are incredibly passionate about leading people into worship! It is so much more than music, it is a time of connecting our hearts with God as we lift high His name, and as we draw close to Him, His return is drawing close to us! Whether it be a church service, worship night, out reach, convention etc. we would be honored to come join with you as lift the name of Jesus together and see lives changes for Christ! For more information on how to book us

feel free to reach us at:

[FromWithinMinistries@gmail.com](mailto:FromWithinMinistries@gmail.com)

or (781) 367-1320



Christ is looking for a people who will worship Him in Spirit and in truth. Our goal as a ministry is to lead our generation back to its original purpose, to worship God, not just with songs or lifted hands, but with our hearts; a true genuine worship that can only come From Within. We want to connect the body through worship and convince the world through wonders. Through our worship we hope to create an atmosphere where the loving-kindness of the Holy Spirit can draw people unto Himself, so that people can have an opportunity be set free and find new life in Christ. We desire to be used by God in the supernatural gifts of the Spirit so that people might see

the love and power of the living God. Ultimately, we desire to give thanks to Jesus for changing us, transforming us, giving us life and life more abundantly. From Within is nothing more than a group of great friends who love music, worship, serving and love leading others closer to Jesus. Most of us met while studying for the ministry at Northpoint Bible College. We also traveled on the school's traveling worship team together. We quickly realized that there was a connection between all of us and maybe God had

something more in store for us, and well, He did! Who would have known a few years later we would be doing what we were called to do and loving every second of it! People have been healed, people have come to know Jesus as Savior and we are privileged to do it all for the glory of God! We are so grateful that God would use ordinary people like us to do extraordinary things for the Kingdom! We

desire to give thanks to Jesus for changing us, transforming us, giving us life and life more abundantly.



Music Ministers

“Our goal as a ministry is to lead our generation back to its original purpose, to worship God, not just with songs or lifted hands but



# DeCicé Hall at the Marian Center 1365 Northampton Street, Holyoke MA

# Space for Your Community, Business, Faith Non-Profit, or Affinity Group Gathering

Venue



Presentations on Scripture, spiritual living, and service

**Mission.** The DeCicé Hall mission is to provide a hospitable center for spiritual and religious development, a respectful space for ecumenical growth, and a seedbed in which our common humanity may be nourished.

DeCicé Hall is a ministry of the US Province of the Daughters of the Heart of Mary. Visit us online at [www.decicehall.org](http://www.decicehall.org) and [www.dhm.org](http://www.dhm.org)

**Donations.** DeCicé Hall is supported in part by facilitators' donations and benefactors' gifts. The suggested donation for one-time events: \$100 for several hours; \$150 half day; \$300 full day. For repeating meetings or multi-session events the donation is adjusted in conversation with the facilitator.

**Welcome.** Groups need not be 'spiritual' to make use of DeCicé Hall. Note: we do not accommodate family events. We are happy to recommend other local venues.



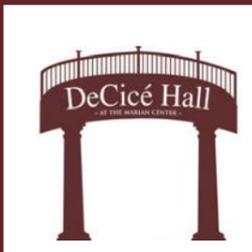
Opportunities for dialogue with local leaders



Film screenings and conversations on timely topics



- Dialogue
- Discuss
- Meet
- Offer a Workshop
- Organize
- Retreat
- Screen a Film
- Reflect
- Renew
- Try Something New



Playing traditional Irish music with Lower Valley Irish Slow Session

- Amenities Include:**
- Easy access from I-91, Rte. 141, Northampton St., Holyoke
  - Meeting space for up to 60 seated; 25-30 around tables
  - WIFI throughout. Comfortable conference tables and chairs
  - State-of-the art multimedia center with internet, ceiling-installed projector, screen and speakers
  - Hospitality kitchenette: refrigerator/freezer, sink, prep space
  - Keurig beverages and spring water provided
  - Presentation boards, microphones available
  - Personalized assistance with programming
  - Parking on site with HP ramp and spaces
  - Full HP accessibility throughout the Hall



Professional development and in-service training



Gathering and sharing together



**Contact:**  
Chris Clark, DHM, Director  
Email: [decice.hall@gmail.com](mailto:decice.hall@gmail.com)  
Voicemail: 413.539.5924  
Location: 1365 Northampton Street, Holyoke MA  
Website [www.decicehall.org](http://www.decicehall.org)  
"Like Us" on Facebook: DeCiceHallAtTheMarianCenter



# TYPES OF RETREATS OFFERED

- **Weekend Guided Retreats are led by a facilitator with a specific theme.**  
Prices may vary and are listed along with the retreat theme in the brochure. Cost is per person, per day, includes room and meals.
- **Week-long or Multiple-days Retreats, mostly Silent, with or without a theme**  
Offered throughout the year, for Religious and/or Laity.  
Specific information for each is outlined in the brochure. Prices will vary accordingly.
- **Private Retreats**  
Allows time for self-directed reflection and prayer.
- **Directed Retreats**  
Include daily sessions with a spiritual director in order to share one's prayer experiences and to discern the Spirit's movement in their lives.
- **Silent Focusing Directed Retreats**  
Similar to Directed Retreats and are offered for a period of three days.  
Focusing is a body-centered experience meant to carefully attend to how the body is carrying the experiences of life. When a person attends to the feelings of life in this way, it is truly a sacred moment.
- **Quiet Days of Prayer and Reflection**  
Allows an individual to come and spend the day in quiet prayer with no over-night accommodations. Hosted Retreats are for groups that use our Center and provide their own facilitator. Prices and schedules vary according to group needs.
- **Hosted Retreats**  
For groups that use our Center and provide their own facilitator. Prices and schedules vary according to group needs.

\* Individuals can come for private or directed retreats at any time, space providing.  
Reservations must be made in advance.



Marie Joseph Spiritual Center is owned and operated by the Congregation of the Presentation of Mary. The Spiritual Center has a unique setting in a cove off the coast of southern Maine, located in Biddeford Pool where one can wake to beautiful sunrises and taper off the days with gorgeous sunsets. This "Sacred Space" is situated between two small ponds and is sided by the beautiful Atlantic Ocean and has beachfront access, convenient parking and is surrounded by nature's beauty providing an opportunity for silence, healing and a prayerful atmosphere for those seeking renewal in spirit.



Venue

## MARIE JOSEPH SPIRITUAL CENTER

Nestled along Maine's southern coast, Marie Joseph Spiritual Center, owned and operated by the Congregation of the Presentation of Mary, offers a spiritual haven for many. Refreshment for spirit, mind and body is available for persons seeking a sacred space, silence, healing and a deeper relationship with their God. The Center's sustaining inspiration and zeal find their roots in that of the Congregation's foundress, Blessed Marie Rivier, whose desire was "to make Jesus Christ known, loved and to light the fire of God's love everywhere".

The Center welcomes lay and religious women and men of all faith traditions who value time for reflection in the peaceful presence of a praying community. Guests are welcomed at daily Eucharist and Morning and Evening Prayer. Once a week there is adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. Two dining rooms afford the choice of a silent meal or one where conversation is shared. In addition to welcoming retreatants, the Center's staff designs and hosts programs fostering themes on spiritual growth, healing and support.

Marie Joseph Spiritual Center  
10 Evans Road ~ Biddeford, Maine 04005-9561  
Phone: 207-284-5671 weekdays only 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM

Saturday & Sunday the Registration Office is closed.

Contact Us: [mariejosephcenter@yahoo.com](mailto:mariejosephcenter@yahoo.com)

Website: [www.mariejosephspiritual.org](http://www.mariejosephspiritual.org)

### VISION STATEMENT

*"A Sacred Space" for persons seeking to encounter God in solitude, in stillness, in the beauty of nature, in the healing rhythm of the ocean and in the presence of a praying Community.*

Messengers Business  
 Food Home **Speakers**  
 Kindness Community  
 Motivational  
 Caring Inspiration Words  
 Mission Youth  
 Challenges  
 Funds Leadership  
 Partners Information Venues  
 Education Shelter  
 Events Musicians  
**Ministry**  
**Voices** Action  
 Singers Etiquette  
 Faith Spirituality  
 Transformation  
 Healthcare

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

# SPEAKOUT

Where Words Meet Action  
In Our Community

For  
a  
cause:



[www.speakoutforacause.com](http://www.speakoutforacause.com)

### What is it?

Online Resource Directory of professional speakers, musicians, soloists, groups as well as venues which can host events. Speakers range from spiritual to business, to political, all topics, all perspectives.



### Mission

Our mission is to create a directory resource of professional messengers of inspiration, motivation and education available for hire to Western MA.

We hope to encourage a dialogue of diversity by making others aware of the quality of speakers outside their normal realm of experience. Through this resource, we hope to encourage a cross cultural exchange between diverse communities.



Through this collaboration, our efforts provide financial support to organizations who seek to improve the quality of life for others.



**2016 Ministry Partners**

**Our Lord's Pantry - First Central Baptist Church**

50 Broadway Chicopee, MA 01020  
Richard Sanders (413) 592-5353

We believe that as a church our primary responsibility is to meet spiritual needs; however, it is our desire to follow Christ's command in providing essentials such as food and clothing for needy families. Our Lord's Pantry and Clothing Closet show Christ's love to people in a practical way. God has used this ministry to open doors, bringing people to know about Jesus Christ, our Savior. These ministries are open every Tuesday from 9:00 am to 11:00 am, year round (except the 2nd Tuesday of each month, when we are open 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm).

**Holy Cross Sandwich Ministry**

221 Plumtree Road Springfield MA  
Deacon Bill Toller (413) 783-4111

Since October 2006, parishioners and other interested groups have gathered every Sunday 11:45 am at Holy Cross Church Springfield MA, to make 400 ham and turkey sandwiches for Springfield's homeless. To date over 130,000 sandwiches have been provided for our homeless brothers and sisters. In May 2011, this ministry began to provide clothing as well as the lunches.

**Renate's Pantry - A Ministry of St. Anne's Church**

30 College Street, Chicopee, MA 01020 Phone #: (413) 532-7503

Renate's serves a small community providing that little helping hand when things get tough.

**St. Stanislaus Sandwich Ministry**

566 Front St. Chicopee MA  
Deacon Joe Peters (413) 561-3470

St. Stan's Sandwich Ministry provides brown bag lunches, clothing, and other items to the needy. They service the downtown Chicopee MA area every Sunday.

**Take and Eat Program - A Ministry of St. John the Evangelist Church**

833 Main St. Agawam MA 01001  
David Picard (413) 786-8105

Prepares and delivers, free of charge, hot meals to the home bound elderly on weekends and three day holidays.

One hundred percent of revenues received from speaker's listing in our directory support small programs within our communities who serve food, housing and healthcare challenged individuals. Charities may apply to be a funds recipient. Our next funding application cycle will begin in August of 2016.

**What projects are considered?**

- Non profits addressing the challenges of food/shelter/healthcare insecurities in the four counties of Western Massachusetts through direct services
- Requests for new or existing programs
- Temporary or one time service projects which meet eligibility requirements

**Eligibility:**

- Organizations must be a nonprofit charity with IRS designated 501 (c)(3) status or sponsored by such organization.
- Project must benefit the residents of Franklin, Hampden, Hampshire, Berkshire counties in Massachusetts.
- Organizations must serve with equal treatment, inclusion and respect for all people regardless of their age, race, class, ethnicity, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, and religion.



[www.speakoutforacause.com](http://www.speakoutforacause.com)