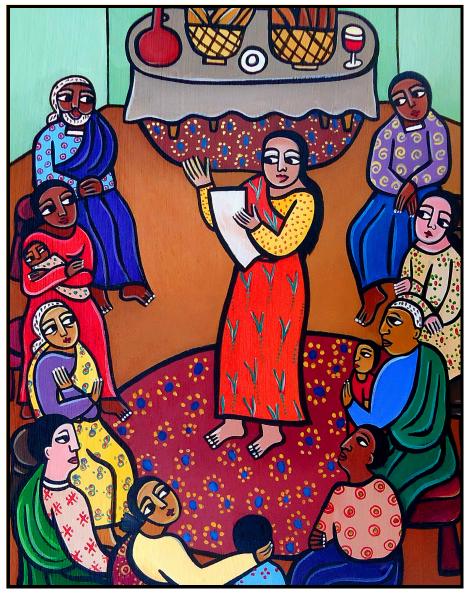
The Feast of Saint Phoebe

Virtual Prayer Service | September 3, 2020



St. Phoebe. 2008.

© Laura James. Used with permission. www.laurajamesart.com

In memory of Cynthia "Sam" Bowns and in celebration of her diaconal ministry.

I commend to you Phoebe our sister, who is a minister (diakonos) of the church at *Cenchreae*, that you may receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the holy ones.

> ST. PAUL Romans 16:1-2A

Through the intercession of St. Phoebe, we pray for the ministry of deacons, for the papal commission on the female diaconate, and for the church to again receive women as ordained deacons.

According to the Roman Martyrology and Orthodox liturgical calendars, the Feast of St. Phoebe is celebrated on September 3rd. This feast is not yet included in the universal calendar of the Roman Catholic Church, which informs which feast days are celebrated at Mass on that day. We pray for this inclusion, so that Catholics everywhere can learn about and celebrate St. Phoebe, the deacon (*diakonos*) that St. Paul commends in the Letter to the Romans (16:1-2).

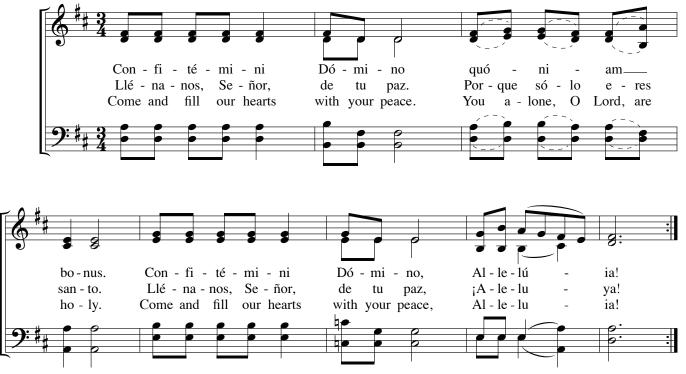
Order of Worship

Preparatory Hymn:

Confitemini Domino

Led by Claire Hitchins

Singer, Composer and Pastoral Minister



Latin Translation: Give praise to the Lord for he is good, Alleluia.

Copyright © 2014 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé Published and distributed in North America exclusively by GIA Publications, Inc.

Welcome & Introductory RemarksEllie Hidalgo
Pastoral Associate, Dolores Mission Church, Los AngelesReflections on St. Phoebe & InvocationSr. Donna Ciangio, O.P.
Chancellor, Archdiocese of NewarkProclamation of the WordRomans 16: 1-7, 15-16Barbara Guerin
Chief Information Security Officer and Doctor of Ministry

Taizé

Introduction of the Witnesses

Witnesses

Ellie Hidalgo

Kayla August Rector of Lyons Hall, Office of Residential Life, University of Notre Dame

Rose Lue Advanced Lay Leader, Spiritual Director, Diocese of San Jose

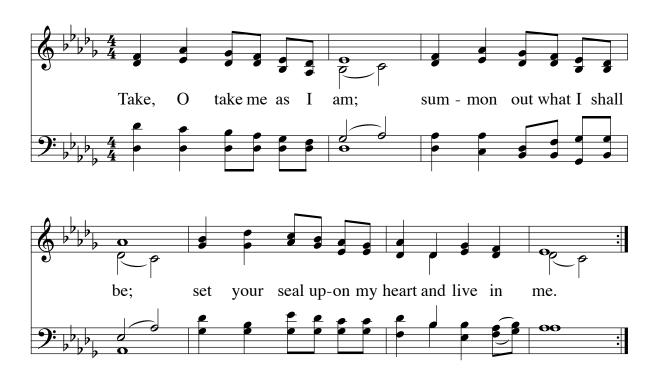
Maria McGuire Hospice Chaplain, Spiritual Director, Writer

Lydia Tinajero-Deck Pediatrician, Lector

Musical Interlude

Take, O Take Me As I Am

John L. Bell



Text: John L. Bell, b.1949 Tune: John L. Bell, b.1949 © 1995, The Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

IN MEMORY OF CYNTHIA "SAM" BOWNS

Remarks by Deacon Loren Bowns



ynthia "Sam" Bowns was an amazing woman that mere words cannot adequately capture. She loved her family, friends and faith with a fierceness. Throughout her life, she fought passionately for justice and equity for all people. She was recently recognized among 50 Inspiring Alumni of Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, where she earned her Master of Divinity. Sam also received certifications in spiritual direction from the Dominican Sisters of Racine and the Claret Center.

Sam's journey to the diaconate started as a young teenager when her boyfriend invited her to Mass. She spoke of being acutely aware of the small dust particles suspended in the light shining through the stained glass. She felt the Spirit all around her and realized she had found her Home. Her family, not being Catholic, discouraged her from joining the Church, but the Call never left her. When her youngest daughter was born, she took instruction from Father Joseph Burns and became Catholic. Being the passionate woman she was, Sam immersed herself in the local faith community, serving in any way she could. Her devotion was to food pantries, women's shelters and

educating others about our Faith, especially the historical ministries of women and the ways they continue to serve our Faith.

Encouraged by the community and Father Joe, Sam enrolled at CTU and caught fire! She was like a kid in the candy store. She couldn't learn enough or fast enough.

After graduation, Sam continued her many ministries and became active in the movement for women deacons. She shared her story wherever she could, published articles and helped facilitate conferences for women interested in the diaconate. She provided spiritual guidance to women who face many limitations in our Church, and to many men who are now ordained.

While Sam found great joy in serving our Creator, it was a painful journey. She loved her God and her Faith intensely, but was deeply hurt that our Church couldn't recognize her gifts and the gifts of many others. Sam embraced people and created community wherever she went. She lived her life and strove to be her best self and to make the world a better place. Maybe that is the best definition of diakonia.

Sam was buried in a deacon's stole.

to discern the diaconate as a couple. As we went through the program, I felt a deep understanding of diakonia growing. People in the parish thought I had been ordained with Loren. They recognized me as a deacon. Perhaps it was the spirit of God planting another seed in me. My pastor, on his deathbed, asked that the chrism be passed to me, so that I could anoint him. In the pain of losing him, he left with me an affirmation *I have never forgotten.* He envisioned me in the role I so desire: deacon. I *feel called to a ministry* that journeys with folks in a fully committed and sacramental way."

"Loren and I were asked

CYNTHIA "SAM" BOWNS

Litany of Deacons

Led by Claire Hitchens

The names for this litany are drawn from among the *female deacon saints* in the Orthodox liturgical calendar, male deacon saints in the tradition, and the lists of female deacons compiled by *FutureChurch* and the Wijngaards Institute for Catholic Research.

Prayers of the Faithful	Teresa Marie Cariño and Lisa Cathelyn
R. Come, Holy Spirit, and renew the face of	the earth.
Testimony from the Amazon	Introduction by Rev. Luke Hansen, S.J. Chaplain, Dorothy Day Center for Faith and Justice, Xavier University
	Recorded testimony by Leah Casimero Wapichan indigenous from Guyana, Educator, Participant at the Synod of Bishops for the Amazon
Announcements	Casey Stanton Minister, Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Durham, North Carolina
Closing Remarks & Benediction	Deacon William Ditewig Former Executive Director, Secretariat for the Diaconate United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Optional Fellowship in Small Groups After the Closing Song

Reflection Questions:

- What moved you in this liturgy?
- Is there anything you learned, or that surprised you?
- What's your sense for how you want to respond to the Spirit's movement? •



Permission to reprint and stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #A-701733. All rights reserved.