

GATHER US IN 2009

**The Triumph of Forgiveness
Sharing Stories of Compassion**



**NOVEMBER 7, 2009
DCU CENTER
50 FOSTER ST.
WORCESTER, MA 01608**

**SPONSORED BY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN
DIOCESE OF WORCESTER**

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Immaculée Ilibagiza

Immaculée Ilibagiza is a living example of faith put into action. Immaculée's life was transformed during the 1994 Rwandan genocide where she and seven other women spent 91 days huddled together in the cramped bathroom of a local pastor's house. Immaculée entered the bathroom a vibrant, 115-pound university student with a loving

family - she emerged weighing just 65 pounds to find her entire family had been brutally murdered (with the exception of one brother who had been studying out of the country). Through prayer she eventually found it possible to forgive her tormentors and her family's murderers. Immaculée's first book, "Left To Tell: Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust" was released in March of 2006. Immaculée has most recently authored "Led By Faith", the title of her conference talk, and "Our Lady of Kibeho" which is the story of Mary appearing to three young girls in Rwanda.

Paula D'Arcy

Paula D'Arcy is a native of Massachusetts, currently residing in Texas. She is a writer, public speaker and retreat leader. Her talk is entitled, "Great Lessons From The Journey". Paula will share her experiences with us and the importance her faith has had in shaping her approach and outlook towards life. As an author she has inspired many through the gift of her written words. In what is perhaps her most self-revelatory book "Gift of the Red Bird" Paula writes of the impact a car crash and the resulting deaths of her young husband and daughter, Sarah, had on her life. Of that book Joyce Rupp says, "It is a powerful testimony of how the Divine woos the soul into a sacred embrace."



TWO WORKSHOP SESSIONS WILL BE HELD. EACH WORKSHOP WILL BE PRESENTED IN THE MORNING AND REPEATED IN THE AFTERNOON.

"Fan the Flame Living a Life Fueled by the Spirit"

Jaymie Stuart Wolfe has been active in many facets of Catholic evangelization. A graduate of Harvard, she completed a Master of Arts in Ministry degree at St. John's Seminary in Boston in 2006. In her "Loaves and Fishes Ministry", Jaymie performs inspirational concerts of music and reflection. Jaymie currently serves as Music Minister and Faith Formation Coordinator at St. Maria Goretti in Lynnfield, MA. At this workshop she will help us identify which fires in our life need to be put out and which fires need to be kindled as she integrates music with the spoken word.

"Women of the Bible: The Good Girls and The Bad Girls" (Old Testament Part II Delilah -Esther)

Linda Gray Kelley combines entertainment with research as she renders a contemporary interpretation of the famous and the infamous women of the Bible. Linda depicts legendary characters. Costumes of the period and language of the present combine to make this presentation refreshing, real, sublime, silly,

The Story of Sr. Dorothy Stang

A multimedia presentation by *Sister Ellen Dabrieo*; a member of the congregation of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur. Since returning to the Archdiocese of Boston, after serving as a missionary in Brazil, she has worked to address issues that arise in bi-lingual and bi-cultural parishes. Presently Sister Ellen works as a Pastoral Care Minister.

"Seeking Peace of Soul"

Virginia Blass is an experienced and certified spiritual director, preacher and retreat master. Among other degrees she holds a Doctor of Ministry degree from Graduate Theological Foundation in Indiana. She taught for many years in the area of special education. A publication entitled, "Loaves and Fishes: From Faith Experience to Empowered Community" authored by Virginia has been printed by Paulist Press.

REGISTRATION FORM

Please fill in all of the requested information and mail with your check to: Carolyn Black - 7 Overlook Dr., Westborough, MA 01581

Make checks payable to: Diocese of Worcester

Your cancelled check is your receipt.

Fee: \$45.00 \$20.00 for students (includes workshops and lunch)

For more information visit our website:

www.worcestercommissionforwomen.org

Please submit no later than October 27, 2009

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Parish _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Discount parking is available at the parking garage at 86 Central St. (corner Major Taylor Blvd. and East Central St.). A \$5 coupon to help defray cost will be given at registration.