

## Our Speakers for the Faith Formation Convocation 2019

**Fr. Sean Patrick Hurley F.P.O.** is a Franciscan Friar of the Friars of the Primitive Observance, a community of priests and brothers striving to live the original rule of St Francis. It is mainly through the witness of their community's Franciscan life of prayer, evangelical counsels and apostolic work that they hope to draw all to Jesus through the



immaculate heart of Mary. Fr. Sean joined the FPOs when he was 20 years old. He was impressed by the friars who had very little, but were joyful and seemed to have "something real, something deep." Fr. Sean was ordained to the priesthood on May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011 in the Archdiocese of Boston, by Cardinal Sean Patrick O'Malley. He is the oldest of four children of John and Mary Hurley, of Little Compton RI. His First Mass was celebrated at his home parish, of St. Catherine of Siena, in Little Compton, RI. He is fluent in Spanish, English, and Creole. He presently lives and serves the poor in Roxbury, Ma.

**Mrs. Mary Hurley O.P.** is the wife of John Hurley and mother of four children. She is a Homemaker, Educator, Catechist and a

Lay member of the Dominican Order of Preachers in the Eastern Province of St. Joseph. Mary is Fr. Hurley's mother.

### Poverty of Spirit, the Catechist and the Father's Tender Caress of Mercy

**Pope Francis** in his surprise Ted Talk, called for a "revolution of tenderness". How are catechists today to be on the front lines of this "revolution of tenderness", of a "love that comes close and becomes real"? The catechist' journey of Faith begins in an affective awareness of his/her poverty of spirit, and that the personal presence of Christ Jesus, is the Father's tender caress of mercy, His personal response to this poverty. "Blessed are the Poor of Spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of God." Mt. 5:3

"I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them; I ask all of you to do this unfailingly each day" Pope Francis, EVANGELII GAUDIUM, 3 (Joy of the Gospel)



**Doreen Engel**, Adjunct Faculty Member and Professional Development Consultant at The Andrew M. Greeley Center for Catholic Education at Loyola University Chicago

Doreen Engel has worked in Catholic schools for more than 30 years in a variety of roles, including teacher, principal, director of special education and assistant superintendent. She has taught students in every grade from PreK to Graduate school, as well as students served by every category of disability identified under IDEA 2004. Her new book, *Be Open! A Guide to Prayerful Reflection on Inclusion in Catholic Schools*, will be published by the National Catholic Educational Association in spring 2019. Doreen has experience living in a group home with those who have intellectually disabilities, as well as supervising a program for children and adults who are deaf and have intellectually disabilities.

Doreen holds a Bachelor in Music Therapy from Anna Maria College and a Master of Arts in Education with a concentration in Special Education from The Catholic University of America. She is a former board member of the National Catholic Partnership on Disability, and a current member of the Exceptional Learner Advisory Committee for the National Catholic Educational Association and the Diocese of Providence Exceptional Learner Task Force. She is an active Associate of the Sisters of Mercy, serving on the New England Critical Concerns Committee. Doreen tweets as @engelworks on topics related to the Catholic faith and the inclusion of persons with disabilities.

Doreen is proficient in ASL and conversant in Spanish.

### **Forming Family Support Groups**

Parents of children who are seriously ill or who have disabilities want their children to receive the sacraments and participate fully in parish life. Parents themselves need spiritual and practical support as they journey with their child. Doreen Engel will speak about her experience working the Special Needs Ministry of the Archdiocese of Washington, offering practical ideas on how to form a family support group at your parish.