

The Parish Visitor

1925-2025

Consecrated



The Parish Visitor

Through our Baptism, we are all called to a life of holiness — a call that can take many different paths. “Those who follow a call or vocation to consecrated life witness to values that transcend personal possession, marital love, and the rights of independent action.” (cf. *The Consecrated Life: Living Vows of Poverty, Chastity and Obedience*, an ACM handout.)



In this issue, we highlight the life of consecration as lived by the Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate. Sister Marie Michelle consecrated herself through her first profession of vows on May 31. Several Sisters participated in a Tertianship program in June to renew their lives of consecration, and Mother Maria Catherine celebrated fifty years as a Parish Visitor this year in July.

In the Oxford Learner’s Dictionary, we read the definition of “to consecrate:” “To give yourself to a special purpose, especially a religious one.” Used in a sentence, the example that followed was, “She consecrated her life to God.” We will hear from the Sisters themselves about the joy of living as a consecrated Spouse of Jesus Christ.

If you feel that the Lord is calling you to a life of holiness as a vowed religious through a life of consecration, we would love to hear from you. Call Sister Theresa Marie at 845-542-1086 or email pvmi@frontiernet.net.

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Every time you **smile**
at someone, it is an action
of love, a gift to that person,
a beautiful thing.

—Mother Teresa

A SMILE – The Sign of Hope

By Mother Maria Catherine, PVMi

I recently received a book called “On Hope” by Pope Francis. I decided to randomly open it before sitting down to write this article. I read the following:

“One of the first things that can happen to people who distance themselves from God is that they are people who do not smile. Perhaps they can break into a loud laugh, a joke, or a chuckle, but their smile is missing. Only hope brings a smile: it is the hopeful smile in the expectation of finding God.” (p. 4)

There are so many things in this world that would take the smile off anyone’s face! And, for people of faith, that is true, to some extent. However, when we forget that God is in control of the world – of our very lives – or, as the Pope said: “...we distance ourselves from God,” the smile is wiped right off our faces!

We have many things to smile about: the beauty of creation, the fact of being alive, being in the wonderful Catholic Church,

which provides us with true encounters with God through the sacraments given to us by Jesus, family, friends, and this beautiful country of ours. These are things for which to be grateful. And, I believe, a grateful heart is a heart that allows the face to smile!

Are you smiling yet? Why not? How is your relationship with God? Have you spoken to Him recently? Have you allowed Him to speak to you?

I have to admit that I forget to smile, and when I come before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament in our Chapel, He reminds me to smile at Him! I can unburden myself, giving Him all the concerns of my heart; entrusting to Him all my endeavors.

This past weekend, we hosted our annual “Youth Day” at our Motherhouse at Marycrest. There were lots of smiles as the young people arrived, registered, and began to mingle, meeting old and new friends.

The day was filled with time for prayer, confession, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, fellowship, fun – and, of course, lots of good food which was all donated by generous stores and people. The young people also had the opportunity to “walk with the saints”: Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, Blessed Carlo Acutis, both of whom will be canonized on September 7, 2025; the Blessed Mother made an appearance, as well as our very own, Servant of God, Mother Mary Teresa Tallon!

Father Chris Argano presented the keynote speech to the youth, based on Pope Francis’s letter to them, in preparation for the Jubilee of Hope for Young People. What a gift it was to be united with the young people at the Jubilee of Hope for Youth in Rome with our American-born Pope Leo XIV! Our young people were able to view and listen to the Holy Father’s words, addressed specifically to them. He asked them to be witnesses of hope – to be salt and light to the world – to be bearers of peace!

Watching young people have fun put smiles on the faces of the Sisters and the adults who were chaperones and volunteer helpers.

Mother Mary Teresa, our Foundress, Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta, and Pope Francis all agree that there is no such thing as

a sad saint! Since by our Baptism we are all called to be saints, if we are not smiling, if we are filled with sadness, we need to return to the source of all joy – Jesus! Someone took the letters of the word JOY and wrote this: J = Jesus; O = Others; Y = You. If we put Jesus first in our lives, others second, and ourselves last, we will be filled with the joy that knows no end – because we will be fulfilling the promise we made at Baptism: to live for God alone.

I would like to share with you some of the words of Pope Leo XIV to the young people at the closing Mass of the Jubilee for Youth.

“There is a burning question in our hearts, a need for truth that we cannot ignore, which leads us to ask ourselves: What is true happiness? What is the true meaning of life? What can free us from being trapped in meaninglessness, boredom, and mediocrity?

In recent days, you have had many beautiful experiences... You also approached the Sacrament of Penance and received God’s forgiveness, asking for his help to live a good life.

Through all this, you can grasp an important point: the fullness of our existence does not depend on what we store up or, as we heard in the Gospel, on what we possess (cf. *Lk* 12:13-21). Rather, fullness has to do with what we joyfully welcome and share (cf. *Mt* 10:8-10; *Jn* 6:1-13). Buying, hoarding, and consuming are not enough. We need to lift our eyes, to look upwards, to the “things that are above” (*Col* 3:2), to realize that everything in the world has meaning only insofar as it serves to unite us to God and to our brothers and sisters in charity, helping us to grow in “compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience” (*Col* 3:12), forgiveness (cf. *ibid.*, v. 13) and peace (cf. *Jn* 14:27), all in imitation of Christ (cf. *Phil* 2:5). And in this way, we will grow in an ever deeper understanding of what it means that hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit Who has been given to us (cf. *Rom* 5:5).

Dear young people, Jesus is our hope. It is He, as Saint John Paul II said, ‘who stirs in you the desire to do

something great with your lives [...] to commit... to improving yourselves and society, making the world more human and more fraternal.' (XV World Youth Day, Prayer Vigil, 19 August 2000). Let us remain united to Him, let us remain in His friendship, always, cultivating it through prayer, adoration, Eucharistic Communion, frequent Confession, and generous charity, following the examples of Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati and Blessed Carlo Acutis, who will soon be declared saints. Aspire to great things, to holiness, wherever you are. Do not settle for less. You will then see the light of the Gospel growing every day, in you and around you.

I entrust you to the Virgin Mary, Our Lady of Hope. With Her help, as you return to your countries in the coming days, in every part of the world, continue to walk joyfully in the footsteps of the Savior, and spread your enthusiasm and the witness of your faith to everyone you meet! Have a good trip home!"

My friends, all of you who read our magazine, I challenge you to "desire to do something great with your lives." "Do not settle for less." "Aspire to great things, to holiness" of life. These are the realities which will give each of us the greatest of joys, and THAT joy will put a smile on our faces. Begin to smile, and the whole world will smile with you.



"My Soul Proclaims the Greatness of the Lord,

by Sister Marie Michelle, PVMI

my spirit rejoices in God my Savior..." (Lk 1:46-47). In union with Mary Immaculate, our patroness and Mother, I praise God for the tremendous grace and blessing I received in professing my first vows on May 31, 2025, the feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin.



Perhaps what moved me the most was the words in the vow formula, "*Called by the Holy Spirit to a greater perfection of love in union with Jesus...*", for this is the deepest longing of my heart and soul that has been growing within me for many years. It was a great joy to give myself to God completely through the vows of Chastity, Poverty, and Obedience, yet one that humbled me, since I am not worthy to do so. The most important aspect, it seems to me, is to grow in the perfection of love for God and for the salvation of souls. The feast of the Visitation so clearly exemplifies these two aspects of the consecrated life, and particularly the voca-

tion of the Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate. For the Virgin Mary first received the most perfect union with God and love for Him that any creature had ever or would ever receive, when she gave her "Fiat," and Jesus, the Son of God, took flesh within her womb. Yet, as Servant of God Mother Mary Teresa Tallon expressed in *Conferences on Feast of the Liturgy*, "The Blessed Virgin left Her pleasant home to do an act of charity for God's sake... Her journey was one of sacrifice, but She made it gladly because of the motive that inspired Her. The motive was the love of Her neighbor for God's dear sake...It was enough that God willed something from Her, and She went gladly and wholeheartedly to do it." For this, I believe, truly expresses the work of the Parish

Visitors, to rejoice in their consecrated life as spouses of our Lord Jesus Christ, yet, out of pure love for Him and in union with the love of His Sacred Heart, to go out in charity and obedience to God's will, to work for the salvation of their neighbor.



However, this is an impossible task which I could never accomplish on my own, to live faithfully the vows of Chastity, Poverty, and Obedience, according to the Rule and Constitutions of our Congregation, as well as the spirit and charism of the missionary apostolate of the Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate. Yet, it is in my consecration to Mary Immaculate that I find my strength, and which I believe led me to the Parish Visitors. Before I entered, I made the Marian consecration of St. Louis de Montfort, and later, through the consecration formula of St. Maximilian Kolbe. So, I was delighted to hear celebrant Father Christopher Cicero say, as he blessed and gave me our community medallion. "Receive this emblem of the Immaculate Conception as the pledge of your consecration to that glorious patroness of your Congregation, and merit Her protection by imitating Her virtues."

Therefore, I seek to rely on my mother, Mary Immaculate, through frequent prayer to Her, to live as a Parish Visitor of Mary Immaculate. It is in this way that I find great peace when I reflect on the words of Mother Mary Teresa Tallon regarding Blessed Mary Immaculate, "...She will procure for them a share in Her

own personal sanctity... since the Parish Visitors depend not on their own merits or efforts but on the powerful intercession of a Patroness who never fails, who is always eager for the sanctification and salvation of souls... and who is always mighty in Her petitions before God."

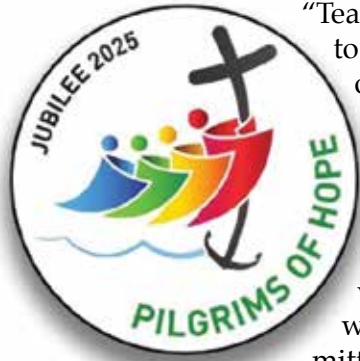


In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Called by the Holy Spirit to a greater perfection of love in union with Jesus, I desire to give myself totally to God in this Congregation. For the honor of Almighty God, and under the protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and our holy patron, St. Joseph, I, Sister Marie Michelle DiCarlo, before you, Mother Maria Catherine Iannotti, our General Superior, vow for two years to live the Gospel Counsels of Chastity, Poverty, and Obedience, according to the Constitutions of the Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate, and I promise, with God's grace, to observe them faithfully.



Sister Marie Michelle with her family.

JUBILEE WEEK



"Team Jubilee" worked for most of a year to create an experience for the Sisters of the Jubilee "Year of Hope." Comprised of Parish Visitors from various convents, they met via Zoom, shared ideas, discussed, and refined them until the final version was presented at Marycrest from July 1-6. A wonderful group of lay volunteers, who also served as a fundraising committee, helped plan and provide meals during two major events.

We opened Day One with prayer and a procession with the Jubilee Cross from the Motherhouse, outside around Rosary circle, and into the Chapel. Sisters from each of the continents on which we serve carried it. Later, we "travelled" to our first pilgrimage site – Our Lady of Lourdes shrine.



On the Second Day, we celebrated Mother Maria Catherine's 50th anniversary of entrance. Notice the Jubilee Cross on the right.



We resumed our Jubilee pilgrimage the next day. The destination was St. Joseph's shrine. The committee beautifully decorated each location.



There was time for recreation, too. Twelve Sisters tried their hand at miniature golf at "The Castle." They came home with tales of several "holes in one!"



On the fourth of July, we celebrated the freedom we enjoy as Americans with a traditional barbecue. "Al fresco" dining was available under the tent.

On July 5, we hosted family members, associates, and benefactors. We were honored to welcome over fourteen members of Mother Mary Teresa Tallon's family. Among them was Derek Bloomfield, his wife, children, and grandchildren. Derek, along with his brother Douglas, was an altar server for Mother Foundress's funeral in 1954. Most of his extended family had never seen Marycrest before, and they enjoyed the tour of the Chapel, Motherhouse, and Mother Mary Teresa's room with its archival artifacts. The photo below was taken in front of Mother Mary Teresa's sarcophagus.



Jane Bogan Brown and her daughter represented another branch of Mother Mary Teresa's family.

Joseph Barrese entertained the Sisters and our guests in honor of his mother, Sarah Marie Barrese. For many years before her death this past year, Sarah Marie sang in venues all over the world, often accompanied by Joseph. They have been Community friends for many years.



Listening to Mother Maria Catherine on the tour of the Chapel



Our final pilgrimage took us to the Calvary shrine, where we pose for a group picture.

So did some of the "setter uppers."



We closed our Jubilee Week with a festive thanksgiving meal, grateful for all the blessings of our communal Consecrated life.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO



Sister Mary Berchmans, then a Holy Cross Sister, received a singular grace from God on July 2, 1900, while she was on her annual retreat.

She wrote about it and referred to it often during the years that followed. That grace culminated in the foundation of a new Religious Community in the Church, the Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate.

Here are Mother Mary Teresa's own words:

A Memoir of 1900

"I went to the retreat with a prayerful mind and found the period a special grace of God. I had always had a clear conception of God and of the things of faith, but not as luminous as I received at that time...the abundance of God's grace came to me in such a torrent that I was nearly swept out of the Chapel by its force.

If the retreat master had said much more at that time, I felt I should burst out weeping. I was not given to hysterics, thank God, but I recognized the divine visitation at this retreat –

...and then there came the profound lesson of humility along with the outpouring of God's goodness, the clear understanding

of my own nothingness, my own unworthiness. I kept quiet; ... The favor seemed like the mystical marriage of which we read ... I thought of the love of God and of the humble condition of the creature, and was so impressed that I resolved to spend my summer meditating on humility." – *from A Holy Ghost Retreat: God's Love Reciprocated August 13, 1946*

Later, she wrote:

"I date the spiritual foundation of the Community as the year 1900, a Jubilee Year in the Church; the feast of the Visitation that year was really the beginning of our Community.

Just as Advent precedes Christmas, so does that foundation feast of 1900 precede the material foundation. The foundation in 1900 was the spiritual inspiration conceived by the Foundress from Him who said: 'I will show you what great things you must suffer for My name's sake.'

St. Paul reasoned according to the folly of the cross. To Mother Foundress, as to the apostles, it was sweet to be counted as nothing, to become a fool for Christ." -August 18, 1928



The Faithfulness Of The Lord Endures Forever

By Mother Maria Catherine, PVM

I was all set to write a beautiful article on my vocation story! And this might end up being a “vocation story”! However, yesterday, the first day of my home visit, was most unique – and, yet, somewhat typical of experiences each Parish Visitor of Mary Immaculate has had!

It began with Mass at a beautiful little Church of Saint Gertrude’s in Bayville, NY. Following Mass, I remained to pray the Rosary with a small group of mostly women. As he walked past my pew, an elderly gentleman reached over with something in his hand, which he put into mine and said, “Thank you.” Two minutes later, another gentleman came into the pew and shook my hand, saying, “Thank you.”

Last evening, my family and I attended a Mets baseball game! As my brother and I waited for his children to come outside, a man approached me and said, “Mother, please pray for me,” and handed me 2 bills. Walking away slightly, he came back, reached into his pocket, and said, “Please pray double for me.”

In one day, I received three donations, simply for being who I am: a Consecrated Religious! It is not the money that has given me much cause for reflection since last evening. Rather, the beauty of the consecrated life I live! Certainly, I am NOT worthy of such a tremendous gift of grace. It is simply that – GRACE – a GIFT – given to me by God – for OTHERS!

What is it that causes people—men, women, and children—to approach a Sister in the supermarket, on the street, or anywhere she can be seen? What is it that inspires people to ask for prayers, for little children to instinctively come to us and want to be near us, and for people to say, “thank you for your witness”? Certainly, for those of us who wear an identifiable habit, it is a sign that we are “set apart” for the work of God. It is a symbol that “God is with us,” manifested in the person of this consecrated religious woman. People recognize a special connection to God in us, and they are often so hungry and thirsty for the Divine

Presence that they may not even realize their own hunger and thirst! It is our gift of consecration, which links us to our Spouse and led children in Albany, NY, to call us “Mrs. God”!

For me, it is a joy to be recognized as the Spouse of Christ, to be “set apart” for a life of loving Him, living with and for Him – and for 50 years!

Saint Catherine of Siena said, “*Be who God meant you to be, and you will set the world on fire.*” These experiences are reminders to me – to us – of who we are called to be and to Whom we belong. And, we do need to be reminded, daily, Whose we are and to Whom we are called to give witness.

If I truly live my life as a consecrated Bride of Christ, the world in which I live will be set on fire. Did not Jesus say: “I came to light a fire on the earth.”? That fire is the fire of loving union with God, and that is what each consecrated woman is called to. That is the beauty that attracts people to us wherever we are: the beauty of love!

On the day of my Perpetual Profession, I asked Sister Rita Mairlenes if I could bring up three red roses in the Offertory procession, to symbolize the vows of Chastity, Poverty, and Obedience. Sister said “No”. However, on the high altar that day, there were 2 vases, each filled with 7 red roses. I asked Sister Rita why the 7 and 7, she said, “Seven for the seven sorrows of Mary and seven for the seven joys of Mary,” to remind me of the necessity of remaining close to my Patroness, Our Lady of Sorrows!

Both joys and sorrows have marked the past 50 years. Yet, throughout all these times, Jesus has remained faithful to His promise to be with me and to grant me the grace to live only for God. As Saint Paul admitted, I am frail and weak, but I am not discouraged, because God, in His merciful love, reassures each of us as He did Saint Paul: “My grace is sufficient for you; for my strength is made perfect in weakness.” And Saint Paul says:



“Most gladly will I glory in my weakness that the power of God may be made manifest in me.” (cf. 2 Cor. 12:9 ff)

In the Office of Readings for the Feast of the Transfiguration, Saint Anastasius of Sinai, Bishop, says: “Jesus goes before us to show us the way, both up the mountain and into heaven, and – I speak boldly – it is for us now to follow Him with all speed, *yearning for the heavenly vision that will give us a share in His radiance, renew our spiritual nature and transform us into His own likeness, making us forever sharers in His Godhead* and raising us to heights as yet undreamed of...Let us run with confidence and joy to enter into the cloud...*Let us retire from the world, stand aloof from the earth, rise above the body, detach ourselves from creatures, and turn to the Creator* to whom Peter in ecstasy exclaimed: “Lord, it is good for us to be here.” ...Since each of us possess God in his heart and is being transformed into His Divine image, we also should cry out with joy: It is good for us to be here – here where *all things shine with divine radiance*, where there is joy and gladness and exultation; where there is nothing in our hearts but peace, security and stillness, where God is seen. For here, in our hearts, Christ takes up His abode together with the Father, saying as He enters: Today, salvation has come to this house. With Christ, our hearts receive all the wealth of His eternal blessings, and there where they are stored up for us in Him, we see reflected as in a mirror both the first fruits and the whole of the world to come.”

In our life of consecration, each Parish Visitor of Mary Immaculate yearns to radiate Christ by her life of fidelity. For this reason, we withdraw from the world to immerse ourselves in prayer, detach ourselves from creatures that we may be solely attached to Him “Whom our heart loves”. And it is this way of life that allows us to shine with Divine radiance and joy, going forth as the contemplative-missionaries we have been called to be by the charismatic grace given to our Foundress, Servant of God, Mother Mary Teresa Tallon.

So, with Saint Paul, we say: “For God, who said, ‘Let light shine out of darkness,’ has shone in our hearts, that we in turn might make known the glory of God shining on the face of Christ.” (2 Cor 3:7-4:6) This is the beauty, the dignity, the joy and the call of our consecrated lives!

Jubilee Day 2025

On July 2, Sisters, family, and friends joined to celebrate Mother Maria Catherine’s Golden Jubilee. She is pictured here with her brother Anthony and sister Connie. The theme of the day, so beautifully displayed, was “The faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.” These were Mother Maria Catherine’s sentiments when she prepared to celebrate this milestone in her Religious Life.



Faithfulness was the theme of the day, primarily God’s faithfulness, but also the fidelity of someone who responded with love to the One Who called her to follow Him in Religious Life. In his homily, Father John McKeever noted that Mother Maria Catherine’s faithfulness led her from her home in Brooklyn to her first convent home in another part of Brooklyn. Her repeated yeses took her further than she ever imagined, as she and Sister Margery Therese were asked to open our Nigerian

Mission in 1991. Whether as a formator in Nigeria or the US, Director of Religious Education, Youth Minister, General Council Member, or General Superior, Mother Maria Catherine has known the faithfulness of her Divine Spouse and responded with fidelity.

Bishop Gerardo Colacicco and Bishop Edmund Whalen, with nearly twenty priests, concelebrated the Jubilee Mass. They came

from the Dioceses in Ohio, Syracuse, and the Archdiocese of New York. One of the priests remarked that the number of priests present was a beautiful sign of the close association between parish priests and the Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate.



During the day, Mother Maria Catherine presented Dennis Buckley, a long-time community friend and benefactor, with the Mother Mary Teresa Tallon Award.

Consecrated for the honor of Almighty God

Consecrated Life is beautiful because the center and heart of it is the One Who is beauty Himself — God, where its life revolves and beauty radiates. One beauty of this life is experiencing the fullness of joy and peace in emptying and giving oneself to others. For its hidden treasures are found by one who denies herself and embraces sacrifices for the sake of God.

— Novie Grace, Postulant



I see the beauty of my Consecrated Life as it brings me so many avenues to be closer to God, to conform myself to Jesus, and to continue to strive to remain in His love. This life helps me seek God's face and fulfill my purpose to love and serve the Lord and His people.

— Sr. Maria Rowena

The beautiful and unique thing about my Consecrated Life is that I am a Bride of Christ, offering my whole self to Him within the Community of the Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate. I love Consecrated Life because I know that my Beloved loves me with undivided and unconditional love.

— Sr. Mary Imelda



Many people today feel lonely and isolated, or they want to isolate themselves, hide, and live apart from others. Our Consecrated Life is so beautiful because of our COMMUNITY LIFE, living together in imitation of the communion within the Blessed Trinity and following the example of the Holy Family. Life is never easy; we all have a cross to carry, but as Parish Visitor Sisters, we know that we never have to do it alone. The daily interactions with the Sisters we live with in the convent, the prayers of our Sisters around the world, the intercession of

Mother Foundress, and all our deceased Sisters, our entire PVMF family, will always be our faithful companions on the journey to holiness, so none of us has to face any trial alone.

— Sr. Maria Leah

I find beauty in my Consecrated Life because our contemplative-missionary way of life is vowed to the practice of the evangelical counsels. My life of consecration is a treasured gift from the Lord to be lived and shared. It is a sharing in the mission of Christ and a participation in the life of the Holy Trinity, and this is what I love.

— Sr. Maria Arlene



If this life were not beautiful, I would never have embraced it! Even before I did, it had already embraced me, and this is the most unmistakable evidence of God's love for me! As a Bride of Christ, I put on my veil each morning, and this reminds me that I am truly His, He is mine forever, and nothing can separate me from His love, which motivates me to strive for greater union with God through holiness.

— Sr. Mary Emmadoña

Consecration: A life set apart for God. To live with Him in His Eucharistic Presence day after day and to bring that astounding love to all those in our apostolates and those with whom we serve.

— Sr. Carole Marie



In all walks of life, we need to be chaste. In Religious Life, our chastity is consecrated to God. -

— Sr. Julia Marie

Religious Consecration:

Jesus said, "I have Chosen You."

Thank You, Jesus...

I am His and He is mine, Forever.

"Come to Me." "Dwell in my Love."

"Go, and bear fruit."

-Sr. Mary Remias



For me, Consecrated Life is, as St. John Paul II described in *Vita Consecrata*, "A radical response in the following of Christ through acceptance of the evangelical counsels." This is particularly lived out as a Parish Visitor of Mary Immaculate by living the Holy Rule of our Congregation. In the *Spiritual Directory*, Servant of God Mother Mary Teresa Tallon explained: "All should know that the only certain way of perfection, as well as salvation, is the doing faithfully what the Holy Rule marks out."

— Sr. Marie Michelle

My consecration to Religious Life is like an eagle's wings spread over me, sheltering and lifting me. Beneath them, I am kept like a treasured gem, safe in the embrace of my Divine Spouse.

— Sr. Mylene Rosemarie



To me, being a Religious means answering a call to be Our Lord's Spouse and dedicating yourself fully to Him by living the Evangelical Counsels of Poverty, Chastity, and Obedience.

— Sr. Susan Marie

I am always filled with joy when I think that I am a consecrated Religious — a person chosen and set apart by God. At times, I ask myself, “Who am I that the Lord decided to choose me?” Therefore, if I am chosen and set apart, I must try my best to live out my consecration and be a light among His people. Our Foundress, Servant of God Mother Mary Teresa Tallon, said in *Religious Ideals*, “You are Religious, you must live out what your name implies.”



— Sr. Celine Marie Chinasa.



My vocation as a Consecrated Religious Parish Visitor of Mary Immaculate is the greatest gift of my life! To live for God alone and be spurred by that love to assist in the salvation of souls is the best way I can make as a return for the gift of my life.

— Sr. Rebecca Miriam

In Consecrated Life, we are set apart for God alone, professing Vows of Chastity, Poverty, and Obedience. It is a deeper way of being and living in, with, and for Christ in the Church and in our Community of Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate.



— Sr. Marie Meaghan



Our Lord calls women to one of three vocations: Marriage, Religious Life, or Single Life. He has led me to the Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate as a Consecrated Religious to love and serve Him faithfully through my vows in our apostolate and community life.

— Sr. Linda Jean Marie



“To be consecrated is to be set apart for God in every way. This means that all that I am and all that I do should be proclaiming God to the world. All Christians are consecrated to God through Baptism, but the consecration of Religious Life is a response to a further call to be set apart in this life as a visible witness to the goal of all humans: Heaven — life with God forever.”



— Sr. Theresa Marie



“Consecrated Religious Life belonging to my dearest and truest Friend — the One who has chosen me, loved me, given Himself for me, and invites me into a deeper and fuller response of love until I am totally consumed by Him in eternity. It is the life of opening myself more and more to absolute union with God through the living of the vows: in all that I am, in all that I experience, in all that I desire, and in all that I love. ALL is given, my entire life, forever.”

— Sr. Alina Marie

For me, Consecration opens a pathway to “Be” and “Live” according to God’s plan of love— love of God and love of all others for the Love of God. I consider myself fortunate to receive God’s love, goodness, peace, and joy, and to be able to share those with others.



— Sr. Mary Gemma



For me, Consecrated Life is the complete gift of oneself to God in love. We choose God as the only love of our life, the only desire of our hearts, and we spend every day striving to live in perfect communion with Him — meditating on His words, acting on His inspirations, and loving with His Heart.

— Sr. Debra Marie

I love my Consecrated Life because it allows me to freely follow the Lord and fulfill my dream to live in His Presence always and everywhere. What a joy to live the life of Heaven here and now through Religious Profession.

— *Sr. Mary Luchia*



Consecrated Life means that I have been called by name to be all His, despite my unworthiness. My life is now a response of love to the One who has loved me first.

— *Sr. Mary Eileen*

Consecrated Life is a deep and lasting encounter of Love with the Perfect Love Who is God, through the faithful living of the Evangelical Vows of Chastity, Poverty, and Obedience. The person called to Consecrated Life is deeply loved by God as His chosen Spouse.

— *Sr. Mary Praxedes*



In Consecrated Life, one is totally given to Christ, her Divine Spouse. She no longer lives, but as St. Paul says, "Christ lives in (her.) It is a life in which one who is nothing is wholly given to Christ, Who is her All, to be transformed in Him.

— *Sr. Maria Josephine*



Consecrated Life is to follow Our Lord more closely and faithfully. In our Constitutions, we read, "In a free response to a Divine call, (the Sisters) offer their whole lives to God Who consecrates them by their profession of public vows."

— *Sister Sophia Maria*



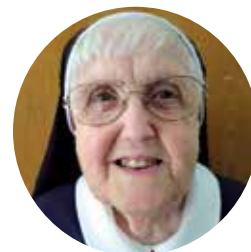
A Consecrated Person — a Religious — is one whom God has specially set apart and chosen for His own design, pleasure, and will. She belongs absolutely to Him.

— *Sr. Mary Anthonia*

God is so good to have called me from an ordinary life to Religious Life, to give myself to Him and His people. May I thank and praise Him forever! I especially love the prayer said when we are given our mission crucifix at perpetual vows:

"Accept this crucifix as a sign of your perpetual dedication to Jesus Crucified, that united to Him you may become a willing holocaust for the redemption of the most abandoned souls."

— *Sr. Dolores Marie*



I find joy as a Consecrated Religious because of the GREAT GRACE He gave me to answer his call. The call was so powerful, I had to respond.

— *Sr. Margery Therese*

To me, being consecrated means belonging to Jesus. Jesus is my life! Being disconnected or detached from Him means having no life at all.

— *Sr. Jhoan Marie*



I see my Consecrated Life as a lifelong pilgrimage, where I continuously allow myself to be conformed and more deeply rooted in the Paschal Mystery of Christ.

— *Sr. Mary Beata*



Chosen and called by name at Baptism, as a Religious, I am further consecrated to God by vows of Chastity, Poverty, and Obedience – a resounding “Yes” to the call He placed upon my heart.

— *Sr. Mary Josita*



“Silence is golden.”
Recollection is golden.
Religious life is golden.
We mine these golden treasures as
Consecrated Religious.

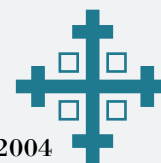
— *Sr. Maria Anne*

My first thought about becoming a Religious was when I was 9 years old and I wasn’t Catholic yet, but I had a desire to become Catholic, to love God with my life, and to live a life of prayer. Recalling a holy card of St. Teresa of Avila, which my friend showed me, I thought, “That’s what I want to be! But I’d better make my First Holy Communion first!”

— *Sr. Mary Beverly.*



We are joined by our Sisters



July 5 Sr. Mary Rosa Zimbisky, 2004
12 Sr. Jane Marie McCormack, 2007
14 Sr. Marie Therese Beaulieu, 1977
16 Sr. Mary Regina Brockhaus, 1996
19 Sr. Mary Veronica Powers, 1994
22 Sr. Joan Germaine Riley 2023
26 Sr. Mary Inez Sexton, 1970
26 Sr. Mary Valeria Laurich, 1994
28 Sr. Margaret Sylvia Noonan, 1986
29 Sr. Mary Anna Mullin, 1953
30 Sr. Jean Marie Furr, 2006

August 4 Sr. Mary Clarita Buonomo, 2006
12 Sr. Mary Kathleen O’Neill, 1994
15 Sr. Mary Lucy Lent, 1938
18 Sr. Mary Bernadette Hogan, 1980
19 Sr. Yvonne Therese LaRocque, 2008
22 Sr. Mary Celestine Shea, 1952
23 Sr. Mary Agnes Westlake, 1964
26 Sr. Mary Felicia Beckmann, 1976
27 Sr. Mary Vivian Brand, 1992
29 Sr. Avita Bridget Moran, 1987

September 1 Sr. Mary Margaret Smith, 1978
2 Sr. Mary Claver Dobie, 1946
2 Sr. Mary Virginia Davies, 1957
2 Sr. Mary Laurian Buitrago, 2000
10 Sr. Mary Eymard Corcoran, 2006
14 Sr. Margaret Mary Duffy, 1955
19 Sr. Mary Thecla Baljay, 1966
20 Sr. Mary Magdalen Frank, 1933
21 Sr. Mary Gervase Krieter, 1974
22 Sr. Mary Lawrence Crowley, 1945
23 Sr. Mary Benita Carey, 1985

.... In Praying for You.

“The Consecrated Life is important precisely in its being unbounded generosity and love... The Church needs consecrated persons who, even before committing themselves to the service of this or that noble cause, allow themselves to be transformed by God’s grace and conform themselves fully to the Gospel.” VC #105

Parish Visitor of Mary Immaculate
Contemplative Missionary Sisters



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