LIVING THE LIGHT

Summer 2026

Consecrated Life in the Archdiocese of Newark

"Every vocation to consecrated life is born in contemplation, from moments of intense communion and from a deep relationship of friendship with Christ, from the beauty and light which was seen shining on his face."

--Starting Afresh from Christ: A Renewed Commitment to Consecrated Life in the Third Millennium, no. 9

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Life is a
balance
Of holding on
And letting
go.

- Rumi -

Dear brothers and sisters, ……Even today, through your profession of the evangelical counsels and the many works of charity you carry out, you are called to bear witness to God's saving presence in history for all peoples (cf. *Lk* 2:30-31), even within a society in which false and reductive understandings of the human person increasingly widen the gap between faith and life. You are called to testify that the young, the elderly, the poor, the sick and the imprisoned hold a sacred place above all else on God's altar and in his heart. At the same time, each of them is an inviolable sanctuary of God's presence, before whom we must bend our knee, to encounter him, adore him and give him glory.

Dear consecrated men and women, today the Church gives thanks to the Lord and to you for your presence to be leaven of peace and signs of hope wherever Providence may lead you."

Pope Leo XIV Homily for the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord and 30th anniversary of World Day for Consecrated Life February 2, 2026

"This means that in the Church there is, and there must be, a place for everyone," Pope Leo reminds us, "and that every Christian is called to proclaim the Gospel and bear witness in every environment in which he or she lives and works." We are all one in Christ, and we strengthen and safeguard this gift of unity by doing our part to carry out the evangelical mission entrusted to us by our Redeemer: "Go into all the world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature" (Mk 16:15).

Cardinal Tobin April 23, 2026, **Rejoice in the Lord**

In Nigeria, Daughters of Divine Love give hope to abandoned children

https://www.ncronline.org/nigeria-daughters-divine-love-give-hope-abandoned-children

The Daughters of Divine Love minister here in our archdiocese at St. John's Parish in Orange, NJ.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) consecrated the United States to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This historic act took place on Thursday, June 11, during the Bishops' Spring Plenary Assembly in Orlando, Florida, coinciding with the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States

Prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

On the Occasion of the U.S. Bishops Consecrating the United States of America to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

O Most Sacred Heart of Jesus:

You know the longings of our hearts, and you desire that we enjoy friendship with you.
From your pierced side, you have poured out the wellspring of life, for which we thirst.
Your heart burns with love for all people to return to a right relationship with you.
We celebrate the abundant gifts you have given this nation, founded on the self-evident truths that our Creator has endowed all people with the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.
We make reparation for the offenses against you and against human dignity that have taken place in this nation.
May our hearts be united to yours, so that our families and communities enjoy peace and happiness; may broken relationships be reconciled, injustices repaired, and the wounds of our land be healed.
May your holy Catholic Church serve as a sign, pointing all people to your infinite love.
O Desire of Nations and Center of History, we ask you to bless these United States of America.
Who live and reign with God the Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, forever.
Amen.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us!
Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us!

A Note from Sr. Patricia

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

How time flies! Eight years ago, I began this ministry as the Delegate for Religious for Cardinal Tobin. These years have been a profound blessing in so many ways.

First and foremost, I am deeply grateful to Cardinal Tobin for entrusting me with this sacred responsibility. I cannot fully express how wonderful it has been to work with him. We have shared a deep love for the Church, especially for the Church here in our Archdiocese, as well as a love for our religious vocations. I appreciate his trust, honesty, encouragement, and willingness to listen—even when we did not always agree. It was synodality in action.

I am also deeply grateful to my own community, the Sisters of St. Dominic, who missioned me to this ministry and have loved and supported me throughout these past eight years. It is an honor and a blessing to be called their sister. They have continually sent me forth to preach the Gospel "in season and out of season," and their faith, encouragement, and support have sustained me in this ministry.

As I shared at the Mass for Consecrated Life dinner in February, I truly love what I do. It has been a great joy to meet and work with you, both as communities and as individuals, in so many different ways. Our archdiocese is richly blessed by the diversity of our charisms, ministries, cultures, spiritualities, and lived experiences. I treasure each of you and hold you all close to my heart. Thank you for your love and trust.

However, this September I will reach the age of 79. After much prayer and discernment with my Prioress, Sr. Luella, I have decided that the time has come for me to "let go" and retire from active ministry. While I certainly will not be staying home simply watching television, I will be stepping away from the regular responsibilities and demands of active ministry and embracing a freer pace of life. I will remain living in Caldwell with my community.

I also want to thank my Advisory Board and our Archdiocesan Religious Vocation Board for the time, dedication, and effort they have devoted to their work. I am especially grateful to my Advisory Board for their commitment to revising our Religious Personnel Policy. The policy is now in the final stages of approval by Cardinal Tobin and will soon be formatted, printed, and distributed.

Our Archdiocesan Religious Vocation Board are truly the unsung heroes in promoting vocations to the consecrated life. Composed of ten religious communities, they are deeply engaged in planning and participating in prayer and retreat experiences, spiritual and social gatherings for young adults, and outreach programs at our colleges and universities, especially at Seton Hall University. Special thanks to Fr. Nick Sertich, Director of Campus Ministry, for his support and collaboration.The Board also serves in countless other ways, many of which happen quietly behind the scenes and of which I am probably unaware. Their dedication and generosity have enriched the life of our local Church in immeasurable ways.

My replacement has not yet been chosen by the Cardinal. Please pray for him as he discerns the right person for this ministry. I am confident that whoever is chosen will bring gifts and graces different from my own, yet equally necessary to continue this important work.

Thank you, too, to all those who have companioned and worked with me at the Archdiocesan Center. Your kindness, thoughtfulness, patience, care, and the sense of community we shared nurtured my spirit. I will be forever grateful for the many ways you supported me. I hope I was able to do the same for you.

In reflecting on this year of 2026, we celebrated our Mass for Consecrated Life at St. Aedan's in Jersey City. Fr. Asiel and the parish community, along with Mr. Terry Matthews, principal of Hudson Catholic, were extraordinarily generous and welcoming in hosting us. I am deeply grateful for their kindness, hospitality, and support.

Finally, I have been privileged to share in both your joys and your sorrows—religious professions, ordinations, elections to leadership, visits to your communities, as well as moments of grief as you mourned the loss of so many members. Sadly, some communities have also had to leave our archdiocese as their membership decreases. All of these experiences are part of our shared journey.Through it all, our God journeys with us—rejoicing with us in moments of blessing and holding us close in the unknown and sometimes dark places along the way.

Thank you to all of you for all you are and do.. You have blessed my life in so many ways. Please keep me in your prayer and be assured of remembrance in mine.

Blessings,

Patricia

Sr. Patricia M. Wormann OP

Delegate for Religious

Reminders

In the interim, please be sure to follow up on these:

- ✓ If members of your community are transferred or are added, please be sure to let me know especially if they are on visas.
- ✓ Communities that have members of the clergy, please be sure that **anyone who celebrates the sacraments within the Archdiocese have faculties.** They are obtained through the Vicar General.
- ✓ **Those who work/volunteer in the Archdiocese of Newark** need to have filled out a Memo of Hire or Religious Volunteer form. They should be signed and the original sent back to me with the accompanying paperwork. (Proof of Virtus or Praesidium training within the past 5 years, background check, signed code of conduct, picture ID, job description, etc.). **There are people who are remiss in doing so. I appreciate your cooperation.**
- ✓ Information about events in the archdiocese can be found on our website: www.rcan.org

Thanks

Congratulations to our Jubilarians 2026

20/25 Years:
Sr. Susan Francois, CSJP
Rev. Maximilian Buonocore,OSB
Rev. Patrick Winbush, OSB
Sr. Renetta Oyego, DDL

30 Years:
Sr. Marcella Elise Gittrich, SC
Sr. Agatha N. Mathangani, SC

40 Years:
Sr. Monica Alvardo, HMCJ

50Years
Sr. Mediatrix AKujuo DMMM
Br. John Joseph Brice CFR

60 Years:
Sr. Gertrude Dunham, OP
Sr. Kathleen Mirenda, SC

65 Years:
Sr. Patricia Crowley, OP
Sr. Suzanne Janis, OP
Sr. Alice McCoy, OP
Sr. Geraldyne Yerg, OP
Sr. Mary Corrigan, SC
Sr. Rosemary Smith, SC
Sr. Marilyn Thie, SC

70 Years:

Sr. Breda Boyle, CSJP
Sr. Noreen Twomey, CSJP
Sr. Gloria Wall, CSJP
Sr. Luke Dworschak, OP
Sr. Miriam Kiernan, OP
Sr. Honora Werner, OP
Sr. Juleanne Burns, SC
Sr. Maureen Mylott, SC
Sr. Margaret Ann O'Neill, SC
Sr. Virginia Thomas, SC

75 Years:

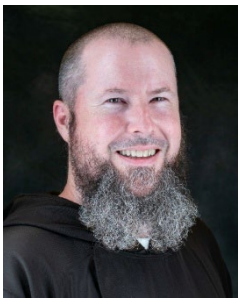
Sr. Johanna Dawrdowicz, CSJP
Sr. Beatrice Ryan, CSJP
Sr. Joan Doyle, OP
Sr. Mary Agnes Gore, OP
+Sr. Maeve McDermott, SC

80 Years:

Sr. Anne John O'Loughlin, OP
Sr. Thomas Mary Salerno, SC

Thank you for your loving response to God's call and for your many years of serving God's People especially here in our Archdiocese. Blessings as you continue the journey!

Congratulations



Fr. Brian Sullivan OFM cap. Who was ordained to the priesthood on May 31,2026
by Cardinal Sean O'Malley OFM cap retired Archbishop of Boston

Br. Bruno Mello OSB. Who will be ordained to the priesthood on July 11,2026
by Bishop Gregory Studerus retired Auxiliary Bishop of Newark

- To the Contemplative Missionaries of Charity who celebrate the 50th Anniversary of their founding.
- To Sr. Mariyam MC and Sr. Mary Guadalupe MC who will both celebrate their first profession of vows on June 12, 2026.
- To all who have been elected to leadership positions and have members living/ministering in our archdiocese.
- To the eight priests ordained for the Archdiocese by Cardinal Tobin on May 23, 2026

"YOU ARE the BODY of CHRIST."

In you and through you the work of the incarnation must go forward. You are meant to incarnate in your lives the theme of your adoration-you are to be taken, blessed, broken, and distributed, that you may be the means of grace and vehicles of Eternal Charity.

ST.AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO

We Remember….

Those suffering in any way, the poor, the elderly, the sick and the powerless, the immigrant, those in prison or living on our streets.

Those who have died and now share in the joy of the Resurrection:

Sr. Carol Ann Lockwood SC	June 10,2026
Sr. Mary Jo Ward, SC	June 3, 2026
Sr. Jean Ruppel, SC	June 2, 2026
Sr. Amelia Lamendola, SC	June 2, 2026
Sr. Janet Mc Laughlin, SC	May 2, 2026
Sr. Mary Jane Timmermans, SC	April 29, 2026
Sr. Mary Felicia Brodowski, CSSF	April 22, 2026
Sr. Marie Anna Stelmach, OP	April 8, 2026
Sr. Theresette Hunting, CSJP	April 5, 2026
Sr. Antoinette Moore, CSJP	March 18, 2026
Sr. Kathleen Quigley, SC	March 8, 2026
Sr. Carmel Livolsi, OP	March 7, 2026
Sr. Jo Ann Bromley, SC	March 7, 2026
Sr. M. Adrienne Fallon, OP	March 3, 2026
Sr. Joan Davis, CSJP	March 3, 2026
Sr. Maeve Mc Dermott, SC	February 3, 2026
Sr. Jane Frances Brady, SC	January 23, 2026
Sr. Emily Marie Walsh, SC	January 17, 2026
Sr. Hortensia Diaz, RSM	January 9, 2026
Sr. Lawrence Mahon, SC	January 8, 2026
Sr. Maureen Malone, SC	December 28, 2025
Sr. Jean Marie Stabile, SC	December 23, 2025

Those who mourn……

Those who have asked for our prayers……

NB: If you have members of your community who served in the Archdiocese and would like them to be remembered, please send the information to me. I will send you our form to complete. The information will be shared with the parishes in the archdiocese via email. Oftentimes parishes will include the names in their intercessions at Sunday Mass. It you have an obituary; it can be sent directly to: ***submissions@rcan.org***

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