

Volume 4 Issue 2

WINTER 2014

631 MARKET ST.
CAMDEN, NJ 08102

WOMEN RELIGIOUS

2015 - YEAR FOR
CONSECRATED LIFE

On January 31, 2014, Pope Francis announced that the year 2015 will be dedicated to the celebration of consecrated life.

"First of all, this Year dedicated to consecrated life has been prepared in the context of the 50th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council and, more specifically, on the 50th anniversary of the publication of the conciliar decree on the renewal of consecrated life 'Perfectae caritatis'" said Cardinal Braz de Aviz.

The first objective of this celebration is to remember gratefully the contributions of religious to the life of the Church. Second is to "embrace the future with hope." And

third is to live the present passionately."

The year which will begin in the fall of 2014 and end on November 21, 2015 will be "an important moment for 'evangelizing' our vocation and for bearing witness to the beauty of the 'sequela Christi.'"

Archbishop Jose Rodriguez Carballo, OFM secretary of CICLSAL, outlined various international events planned for Rome: meeting with young religious, spiritual directors, an international theological conference on consecrated life dedicated to "Renewal of the Consecrated Life in Light of the Council and Perspectives for the Future." The Archbishop also spoke of

several documents that the dicastery is preparing. Among them is an updating of "Mutuae relationes" which addresses the relations between bishops and religious.

The instruction "Verbi Sponsa" which deals with the autonomy and cloistering of entirely contemplative religious is also being revised.

www.zenit.org/1/31/2014



"The Church needs you."

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY BISHOP SULLIVAN

Bishop Dennis J. Sullivan celebrated his first year here in the Diocese of Camden on February 12.

During this time, Bishop has been very active visiting parishes, schools, hospitals, convents and sharing meals and conversation. Bishop's support for

consecrated life encourages us to be ever more committed to the mission of evangelization through the living out of our various apostolic charisms.

Recent mergers have affected many of our ministries. In the future, we must be ready to offer realistic

proposals for service.

What do we have to offer? Give some thought to the locale where you live and work. Pray fervently and think creatively about ways of answering the call to evangelize so that we can support Bishop in his ministry here in South Jersey.

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Special points of interest:

- *Lenten Day of Reflection March 8th*
- *Next Holy Hours for Vocations: March 6th*
- *National Conference of Vicars for Religious in Chicago, IL—March 16-19th*
- *iRace 4 VOCATIONS April 27th*

WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE

2014

On February 1, the Diocese of Camden celebrated the women and men religious whose lives give witness to their fidelity to a vowed life over 25, 50 and 60 years. Bishop Dennis J. Sullivan celebrated Mass at Holy Family Parish in Sewell. Among the many priests present were Rev. John Picinic, the newly appointed pastor of Holy Family, and Rev. Bob Hughes the Vicar General for the Diocese. Following the Liturgy, the jubilarians and guests enjoyed a delicious meal in the parish hall.

25 years: Sr. Vilma Butron, FMIJ, Rev. William Weiksnar, OFM, Br. James Beamesderfer, SAC



50 years: Sisters Sheila Holly, SSJ, Patricis Agnes Tomlin, SSJ, Marty Gentilini, SSJ, Paula Randow, OSF, Daniel Marie Catherine, DM, M. Rita Deflavia, FMIHM, M. Dorothy Aloisio, FMIHM,

60 years: Sisters Mary Philomena Gini, RSM, Claire Sullivan, IHM, Mary Cradock, FDNCS, Maureen Cooper, OP, Nora Foley, OP, Janice Heery, OP, Bernardine Lolli, DM, Miriam de Lourdes, RSM, Mary Dolores Ferrecchia, MPF



Radical Discipleship: Religious Life and the Spirituality of Communion



Dennis J. Billy is a Redemptorist priest currently serving on the faculty of St. Charles Borromeo Seminary as the scholar-in-residence, professor, and holder of the John Cardinal Krol Chair of Moral Theology. Father specializes in the history of moral theology and Christian spirituality, and teaches courses in fundamental moral theology, virtue ethics, religious freedom and the relationship between spirituality and moral theology. Father Billy's published words include 30 books and over 300 articles in a number of scholarly and popular journals. Of particular interest to religious are: Living In the Gap; Religious Life at the Crossroads, The Way of the Pilgrim. Don't miss this Lenten Day of Retreat—March 8—St. Charles Borromeo, 176 Stage Coach Road, Sicklerville, NJ 08081 9:30-2:30 Cost: \$15.00

..... VOCATIONS.

In a communique from Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Chairman of CCLV, of the NCCB, the following information was published: A new initiative is being launched within the United States to bring greater visibility to the life and ministry of women religious. Recently, the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation awarded a grant to St. Catherine University in Minnesota to bring

national visibility to the contributions of women religious by dedicating a week to highlight the lives and works of Catholic sisters. St. Catherine's is developing several strategies, including a student-initiative to chronicle oral histories of a diverse array of sisters accompanied by the student's own reflective narrative, which will be stored on a digital archive. Other initiatives

include developing curricula for schools and colleges as well as providing materials for parishes, healthcare associations and social services. As Pope Francis has stated, those in consecrated life "can awak-



NRRO SEEKS APPLICANTS FOR TWO POSITIONS

The National Retirement Office received a grant from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation which will support its efforts to assist religious communities in addressing serious retirement-funding shortfalls.

NRRO is seeking a person to design and coordinate the property planning effort. The ideal candidate will have a thorough knowledge of issues related to religious institute property management. The project director could work from the NRRO

offices or from his or her current location. This position would require a three-year commitment and significant travel.



Thank you to all of the sisters who spoke at parishes this year.

NRRO is also seeking a full time staff person to serve as assistant director of retirement services. This staff member will assist religious institutes in identifying resources and in making sustainable choices about care delivery for the elder members. The work will focus particularly on those institutes with a high median age and/or few members. As a new position, there will be flexibility in developing the specifics of the job as it evolves.

Little Servant Sisters of the Immaculate Conception



As consecrated women religious, we follow the chaste, poor and obedient Christ with the Immaculate Servant of the Lord as our inspiration. The Eucharist is at the heart of our community with devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Attracted by the simplicity, love and good works of our Founder, we desire to make ourselves a gift to God's People. Our Sisters serve in the USA, Poland and five other countries in W. and E. Europe, four countries in Africa, Russian E. Siberia and the Philippines, with our Motherhouse in Poland. Our works of mercy include early childhood education and schools, religious education, pastoral ministry, care of orphans and the disabled, visiting home nursing, residential, assisted living and nursing homes, hospitals and clinics, care of homeless children and AIDS patients in the missions. The Little Servant Sisters have been in the USA since 1926.

Our Province of the Holy Trinity is represented in the Diocese of Camden with our Provinciate – Novitiate in Cherry Hill and our adjacent Blessed Edmund Early Childhood Education Center, the nearby diocesan St. Mary's Catholic Home and The Manor as well as Sacred Heart Residence for Retired Priests, besides pastoral care at Cooper Hospital in Camden, our St. John's Retreat House in Atlantic City, religious education in parishes in and out the diocese, prayer cenacles and youth ministry, plus assistance to the poor and immigrants. Our Province includes four other USA dioceses and one with our mission in the Philippines. Blessed Edmund reminds us: *Every good person is like a burning candle shining for others.*

How To Practice Lent

Once again Catholic Relief Services (CRS) will sponsor Operation Rice Bowl, a program to encourage prayer, fasting and almsgiving during Lent. In preparation CRS is hosting a webinar especially for religious educators and catechists. Registration:

www.surveymonkey.com/s/YYRH32P. Additional information about Operation Rice Bowl and CRS: www.crsricebowl.org/about/how-to-practice-lent.

On their web-site, you will find Power Point presentations.





DENNIS J. SULLIVAN, D.D.
BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF CAMDEN

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**“Religious life ought
to promote growth in the
Church by way of attraction.
The Church must be attractive.
Wake up the world!**

**Be witnesses of a different way
of doing things, of acting,
of living!**

**It is possible to live differently in
this world.”** Pope Francis, November 29, 2013

www.camdendiocese.org
Look under clergy and religious

VOCATIONS

The Office of Vocations presents



iRace 4 Vocations
Everyone has one ...
Which is your Road?

APRIL 27th 2014

Rohan University
Outdoor Mass with Bishop Sullivan - 1pm
Race Starts at 3pm
Free Will Donations Accepted
Register Online
Registration ends 4/16/2014




5K Run/Walk

www.camdendiocese.org



Thursday, March 6, 2014, 7:00 P.M.
Deanery 6 - St. Mary of Mt. Carmel,
St. Anthony of Padua Church,
Hammonton

Thursday, April 3, 2014, 7:00 P.M.
Deanery 7 - Parish of the Holy Cross,
Bridgeton

Thursday, May 1, 2014, 7:00 P.M.
Deanery 8 - St. Joseph, Sea Isle City

Thursday, June 5, 2014, 7:00 P.M.
Deanery 9 - Our Lady of Perpetual
Help, Church of the Assumption,
Galloway



Heavenly Father,
bless our diocese with the grace of
many vocations to the priesthood and
consecrated religious life. Through
the intercession of the Blessed Mother,
grant to those you have called the
willingness and generosity of spirit
to give of themselves in devoting
their lives and their talents to the
service of our Lord and to his
Church. Increase the faith of all
within our diocese, and particularly
the faith of those you have called and
will continue to call. We ask this
through your Son, Jesus Christ, our
Lord. Amen