



Office of the Bishop

## DIOCESE OF LITTLE ROCK

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September 10, 2015

Dear Pastors & Diocesan Department Directors,

Pope Francis had declared 2015 the Year of Consecrated Life, and we have tried as a diocese to focus special attention on Religious Vocations. Although the Year doesn't technically end until February 7, 2016, it is waning as we prepare for the Year of Mercy. I would like us to bring the Year of Consecrated Life to a great climax by all of our parishes and diocesan departments putting their energies into celebrating the National Week for Vocations November 1-7.

At a minimum, I would ask that from November 1-7 each parish have a homily on vocations to consecrated life, an intercession at every liturgy, a holy hour for vocations, and a prayer for vocations to be shared with families to take home. The readings for November 1 are for All Saints Day, so that could tie in to the homily since Religious life has served as a path to holiness for many saints.

The Commission for the Year of Consecrated Life has been working on many projects that have or will be coming to your attention. I ask that you consider promoting them. Among the projects will be the "Adopt a Religious" program to connect a parish with a Religious, and the Serra Club's Sacred Heart Vocations program for every parish, akin to the visiting chalice program used in some parishes. The Commission has prepared the attached list of some resources to assist in your celebration.

Please give prayerful consideration to how your parish, school, youth group, etc. can join all Catholics in our nation from November 1-7 in promoting and praying for vocations to Consecrated Life. If that week doesn't work for you, then please choose a week near that time.

Gratefully,

+Anthony B. Taylor  
Bishop of Little Rock

## Resources for National Week for Vocations Nov. 1-7, 2015

### Commission for the Year of Consecrated Life - Diocese of Little Rock

- Homily suggestions - <http://www.vocationnetwork.org/articles/show/486> or <https://nrv.net/275/article/for-pastors-7285>: Spanish: <http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/vocations/parents/los-diez-puntos-mas-importantes-para-promover-las-vocaciones.cfm>
- Petition suggestions - <http://www.vocationnetwork.org/articles/show?id=485>
- Prayer for Vocations – “Lord of the Harvest” – e.g. print cards or in bulletin  
<http://www.vocationnetwork.org/articles/show/489-prayer-card-pope-francis-prayer-for-vocations>  
Spanish: <http://www.dolr.org/prayers/espanol> or <http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/prayers/oracion-para-discernir-una-vocacion.cfm>
- Holy Hour for Vocations
  - <http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/adoration/holy-hour-for-vocations.cfm>
  - <http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/adoration/holy-hour-for-vocations-without-priest.cfm>
  - <http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/adoration/holy-hour-for-vocations-with-priest.cfm>
  - Spanish - <http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/adoration/hora-santa-para-vocaciones-espanol.cfm>
- Make a poster – from web - <https://nrv.net/275/article/year-of-consecrated-life-logo-4925> or <http://www.vocationnetwork.org/articles/show?id=432>
  - Have children make posters (e.g. of themselves as a Religious)
  - Hold an art contest by children that is judged. Tie the artwork into the homily.
- Song - <https://nrv.net/275/article/song-wake-the-world-with-dawning-joy-5216>
- Invite - suggest to a single person in your parish to consider a religious vocation.
- Show a movie - <http://www.ranker.com/list/best-nun-movies-list/all-genre-movies-lists>
  - 3 minute videos - <http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/vocations/consecrated-life/year-of-consecrated-life/year-of-consecrated-life-videos.cfm>
  - video by Hispanic Ministry – [www.dolr.org](http://www.dolr.org)
- Teaching resources:  
[https://gallery.mailchimp.com/96b8e1e46c9ef9109c94db1bf/files/Year\\_of\\_Consecrated\\_Life\\_Resource\\_v3.pdf](https://gallery.mailchimp.com/96b8e1e46c9ef9109c94db1bf/files/Year_of_Consecrated_Life_Resource_v3.pdf) or <https://nrv.net/265/article/classroom-resources-823>