

WORLD DAY OF CONSECRATED LIFE - FEBRUARY 2nd 2022

Following Pope John Paul II's invitation in 1997, the Church celebrates a yearly Day of Consecrated Life on February 2nd.



What is consecrated life?

Consecrated life includes all baptized men or women who have responded to the call of Christ and the Church to commit themselves through prayer and service to the people of God and to the world. Although in fact and in law, every Christian is “consecrated” to Christ by his baptism, this expression, when applied to a category of the faithful, stresses the public nature of their more radical commitment. This commitment may reflect a particular aspect of the ministry of Christ who makes himself close to the marginalized, who teaches, heals and, in silence and solitude, intercedes with his Father for humanity. Therefore, such a commitment can be embodied in various ways. Most consecrated persons share community life and take vows of chastity, poverty and obedience. Church Law distinguishes the following forms of consecrated life: apostolic religious life, monasticism, missionary life, secular institutes, societies of apostolic life, hermits, the Order of consecrated virgins and consecrated widows.

The Purpose of This Day

Pope John-Paul II wanted this day to be an opportunity to better know and appreciate consecrated life in its various aspects. He also gave it a character of thanksgiving. Celebrated on February 2 to echo the liturgical feast of the presentation of Jesus in the Temple, it takes on particular importance for every consecrated person.

Practical Suggestions

On the occasion of this day of February 2, 2022, let us give thanks to the Lord for the presence of consecrated women and men in our diocese. Let us try to reach out personally to say “thank you” to a consecrated person (or to a community of consecrated persons) in our parish or our neighbourhood. We could also pray for them. Finally, as a parish community, let’s highlight their presence and their commitment in our midst.