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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What you hear, then, is The Body of Christ, and you answer, Amen. So be a member of the Body of Christ, in order to make that Amen true. (Sermon 272, emphasis mine) St. Augustine

“What we receive when we receive Holy Communion is the same "Body of Christ" that St. Paul tells us we are. When we say “Amen,” we are committing to truly reflect the presence of our Lord in our daily lives and to share Him with everyone we encounter. In other words, when we receive the Eucharist, we receive Christ and agree to be Christ with and for others. “

Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin C.Ss.R.

Returning to Grace:
A Pastoral Letter on the Eucharist
February 2021

BROthers AND SISTERS,

Go Forth! Remember the beauty of your first call. Jesus continues to call you today with the same full love and untamed grace.

Go Forth! There is always more to do, to encounter, to be grateful for, to be astonished by. Begin and end with the joy of prayer - the marrow of consecrated life.

Go Forth! Each of us has a role to play in the Church. Witness and sow well each day, and look to tomorrow with hope.

Go Forth! Grow in love for God so that others will be attracted by the divine light in you. Welcome the new vocations the Lord sends to continue the work of consecration.

We ask this through the intercession of Mary, Mother of God and first disciple of her son, Jesus, our Lord. Amen.
Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I have a sign on my desk that says: “Just when I get my ducks in a row someone moves the lake!”. I had hoped to have this edition of the newsletter to you in February. As you can see, it is now the end of March and Easter is weeks away!

Much has happened since the last newsletter. Some members of our communities and families have been very sick or have even died of covid or other causes. We celebrated World Day for Consecrated Life and honored our jubilarians by livestreaming. Ash Wednesday was virtual or at least changed from other years and even the beauty of our Holy Week celebrations will be subdued by this pandemic!

As we begin springtime, our earth reminds us that there is hope! New life is beginning to spring up all around us as the darkness of winter yields to the dazzling light of springtime. The seeds buried in autumn and transformed by rain and snow are ready to burst forth with beauty. In Holy Week we will walk closely with the paschal mystery concluding with Easter - our promise of new life.

I miss all of you! Your visits to my office and my visits to your communities are a special part of my ministry. It is in those relational times that we best get to know each other, share our joys, sorrows, insights, and concerns. Hopefully by September we will be able to do that again!

Please feel free to call me and share your needs and concerns. Just a reminder - if you are leaving the archdiocese, or are a newcomer, please let me know. It is important that we know who the Religious women and men are who minister, study, or reside in our archdiocese. Thank you to all of you who keep me informed of the happenings in your communities. It is very helpful to me. Please note that information regarding archdiocesan policies etc. can be found on the archdiocesan website: www.rcan.org.

As we end our Lenten time and enter into the joy of Easter, be assured of my prayers for you and your loved ones. Please keep me in yours. May the Risen Jesus bring hope, joy, and new life to each of us!

Blessings,

Sr. Patricia Wormann OP
Delegate for Religious
Sr. Dong Hong Marie Zhang
SERVING THE CHINESE COMMUNITY

Sr. Dong Hong knows what it is like to feel the pull between her faith and the secular culture around her, and she seeks to share that empathy with Chinese Americans as she accompanies them through the challenges of faith, culture, and life.

As the Liaison to the Chinese Community for the Archdiocese of Newark, NJ, Sr. Dong Hong Marie Zhang is reaching out to the Chinese community as a companion, guide, and witness of the Catholic faith. Through this multi-faceted ministry, Sr. Dong Hong lives out the model of accompaniment and total availability set by Felician Foundress Blessed Mary Angela Truszowska.

Born in Jinning City in northern China, Sr. Dong Hong’s family celebrated their Catholic heritage. Her great grandparents had survived the Boxer Uprising in 1900, when a Chinese organization known as the Society of the Righteous and Harmonious Fists led a rebellion against the spread of Western and Japanese influence in China and killed many foreigners and Chinese Christians.

Having five priests and two nuns come from his family, Sr. Dong Hong’s father entered the seminary, but after it was closed by the local communist government, he entered medical school, where he met Sr. Dong Hong’s mother, also a physician. Following in her parents’ footsteps, Sr. Dong Hong also graduated from medical school and worked as a doctor of internal medicine at a teaching hospital in Wuhan City, but she felt that her Christian values were at conflict with the culture in which she lived and worked. She was afraid to share her faith even with her friends, saying that the popular opinion was that “religious belief was backwards and superstitious, and only illiterate and elderly people believed it. It was difficult to make my faith public since the hospital where I worked belonged to the government. My heart was aching, and I was searching for the meaning of my life. After numerous rosary prayers and discernment, I found His call — a call to a different path of life.”

Taking a leave from her medical career, Sr. Dong Hong worked as a lay missionary in the Philippines for two years, and in the fall of 2001, she came to the United States to pursue a master’s degree in pastoral studies at Loyola University in Chicago, IL. It was there that she was introduced to the Felician Sisters.

In 2017, Sr. Dong Hong professed her perpetual vows and the following year, she submitted a proposal to Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.S.s.R, of the Archdiocese of Newark, for the creation of a Chinese Apostolate, including a variety of outreach efforts designed to share the faith by putting it into action in the service of others.

Sr. Dong Hong’s role as the Liaison to the Chinese Community includes maintenance of a resource hub on the Archdiocesan website, coordination of Chinese Masses, translation of prayers and reflections, religious education, outreach to inmates at the Edna Mahan Correctional Facility for Women, youth program coordination with Asian Affairs of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, and campus ministry at Seton Hall University.

Beyond her formal role, however, lies perhaps the most rewarding aspect of Sr. Dong Hong’s ministry: a ministry of presence to the Chinese community. Among other things, she offers rides to appointments, help with translation, and guidance through the immigration process. One young man was so touched by the assistance she gave him during the pandemic that he told her, “Sister, I hope I can come back to the U.S. If I come back, I will get baptized in this church,” and recently, after a ride to JFK Airport, one woman told her, “Sister, through you, I see God. As soon as I return to China, I will look for a Catholic church.”

Learn more about the Chinese Apostolate for the Archdiocese of Newark at rcan.org/chinese-catholic-apostolate.
Sister Rosemary Smith, the Archdiocese of Newark's Delegate for Canonical Affairs, is seen in 2019 with Cardinal Joseph Tobin.

Sister Rosemary Smith, a Sister of Charity of St. Elizabeth at Convent Station, is the first woman to serve as a canonical adviser to the Archbishop of Newark. In effect, she’s the cardinal’s consigliere.

In that role, Smith advises Cardinal Joseph Tobin about what has to be followed in canon law on a variety of matters facing the archdiocese. Canon law, the equivalent of civil law for the church, was last revised in 1983 and guides the worldwide church on all aspects of governance. They range from laws pertaining to respecting rights of church members to more mundane matters like property.

One area Smith deals with regularly is the rental or sale of church property. When a request comes to the cardinal, Smith makes sure “that all processes are in place.” Factors include the length and monetary amounts of a lease and the total price of a sale. She would advise which local boards, like the College of Consultors or the Presbyteral Council, need to review any proposal and would sit in on those meetings when the matter is discussed and voted on.

There are also Vatican requirements that have to be met.

Other areas involve personnel matters, parishes and responding to requests for documents and information from the Vatican.

In the many positions she has held throughout the country, she has reviewed and published scholarly articles about the canon that governs when a layperson administers a parish and the canon that allows or prohibits secular, political involvement by clergy and religious.
Recall when the Jesuit Robert Drinan was forced by Pope John Paul II to resign as a Massachusetts congressman. He did not run for re-election and left Congress in 1981.

“There is a good reason for (the ban) and exceptions to it,” said Smith, who has published 15 scholarly articles on canon law topics. She noted that when a cleric or religious identifies with a political party, “they are less able to represent all of the people.”

The diocesan bishop has a tribunal of canon lawyers who routinely handle marriage annulments and other canon law decisions for the bishop and he can delegate other matters to them.

Smith received her doctorate in canon law from Catholic University in 1983 and went to the Little Rock, Arkansas, Diocese, which covers the entire state, to direct their tribunal and serve as vicar for religious until 1987. A third of her 60 years of religious life have been working with healthcare systems in Georgia, Virginia, Texas and New Jersey.

She is an expert on Catholic sponsorship and mission and has advised scores of institutions.

In 2018, Tobin personally recruited Smith knowing she was one of the most respected canon lawyers, and a woman, in the country. Before returning to the States, Tobin served as an archbishop for the Vatican’s office on religious life and stood up for the women religious in the U.S. when the Vatican was investigating them in 2010. He is a rock star among the nuns.

For his outspokenness, Pope Benedict banished Tobin to become the archbishop of Indianapolis.

“Tobin is a good leader and a good listener,” said Smith, whose office is in the cardinal’s suite. “I think he’s doing a good job and the morale of priests is better.”

Tobin’s chancellor is also a woman religious, but the late Archbishop Peter Gerety had the most women in administrative and pastoral positions.

Smith has also held several leadership positions in her community, which had 1,200 sisters when she entered in 1960, the largest in the state. Today, there are 200 and the average age is in the high 70s. She has been Assistant General Superior twice and was a province councilor.

She started out as many of her community did by teaching school, including three years at the now closed St. Aloysius High in Jersey City. She holds a Master’s in English literature from Montclair State and wanted another one in math until she decided on canon law. It’s a field dominated by men, and she was one of only a handful of women in the program at Catholic University. Most of her classmates had never been in a class with a woman before and for them “it took getting used to,” she said, adding, “some more easily than others.”

Smith’s dissertation was on laypeople in the liturgical life of the church.
Asked to name a significant need in the church today she said, “unpacking the clericalism in the church. It’s critical to the future.” Clericalism puts clergy on a pedestal, above the rest of the church members, with special privileges.

She has noted that religious life has changed from one where sisters staffed institutions “with a steady stream of workers” to one where the members “do good work wherever we can.”

When Smith entered religious life, there were hundreds of her sisters living and ministering in Hudson County, especially Jersey City, but there are perhaps a dozen today.

She lives in an intentional community with four other Charities in two apartments on Emory Street in Jersey City. It’s also a house of hospitality for Charities visiting from outside the state. They share common meals, prayer services and household tasks. Their chosen life mirrors the early Christian community of faith to be “a leaven for all.”

And Smith’s devotion to the law is to interpret it in the best pastoral light.

By Rev. Alexander Santora/For the Jersey Journal

As we, the Church, celebrate the Year of St. Joseph, we especially remember our Brothers and Sisters who claim Joseph as their patron and namesake:

Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace
Sisters of St. Joseph, Chestnut Hill
Sisters of St. Joseph of Mombasa

God of Great Love,
Your son, Jesus, was nurtured by St. Joseph.
May we look to Joseph as our model of justice,
gentleness, and humility.
May we, with Joseph, nurture the life of Christ in our lives and in the lives of others
Uniting all people and all creation with God and with one another.
May Joseph’s life inspire us to be a hopeful, healing presence within our world.
Amen.
– Joanne Gallagher, CSJ. © 1999
Archdiocese of Newark Celebrates World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life

Bowing to the pressures of the pandemic, the celebration of the World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life became a “virtual production” at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark, NJ, on Saturday, January 30.

The celebration of the Eucharist and presentation of the jubilarians for 2021 took place in a small side chapel of the basilica, that hosted only about a dozen participants, in stark contrast to a cathedral normally filled with religious.

Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, CSsR, DD, archbishop of the Newark Archdiocese, was celebrant and homilist. His assistants at the altar included S Dong Hong Marie Zhang.

In his homily, Cardinal Tobin recalled that 25 years ago, Saint John Paul II declared the World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life. For all who follow Christ in a visible way - religious priests, sisters, brothers, consecrated virgins and others - this is a day to reflect upon our vocations. He invited viewers to ponder whether they are responding with self-sacrifice as they try to follow the Gospel, their Constitutions and Rule. “At the same time,” he reflected, “we hear Jesus telling the disciples as the storm rocked the boat, did you not remember I am with you? ‘Why are you terrified? Do you not yet have faith?’”

Cardinal Tobin advised the religious as they reflect on their personal vocations, to remember their founders and foundresses who endured so much to build the foundations of their communities.

“Mary was told by the angel, ‘do not be afraid.’ Ask Mary to intercede to Jesus to transform our lives as we make our way to our heavenly homeland. May our lives give glory to God and hope to His people”.

Following the homily, the renewal of vows took place.

The entire program was planned by Delegate for Religious S Patricia Wormann, O.P. Sister Patricia also proclaimed the second reading of the Mass and announced the jubilarians of 2021.

The Felician jubilarians honored were SM Charitine Spitalniak and SM Pontia Zdzichowski 75 years; SM Adrian Jumbelic and SM Benedetta Laspata, 70 years; S Marie Victoria Bartkowski and S Maryann Kasica, 60 years.
Black History Month: America’s first black priest celebrates Mass in Hoboken

By Msgr. Robert J. Wister

Born into slavery in Missouri in 1854, Augustine (Augustus) Tolton was baptized into his mother’s Catholic faith. This required the cooperation of his parents’ “owners,” who were Catholic. The wife of the slaveholder served as Augustine’s godmother. While Augustine was very young, his father fled Missouri across the Mississippi River into Illinois. He served with the Union Army during the Civil War and died in a military hospital in 1864. Augustine’s mother escaped bondage during the Civil War through the “Underground Railroad,” also fleeing across the dangerous Mississippi River. She settled her family in Quincy, Illinois. Sadly, the family was not welcomed by local Catholics, quite the opposite. Young Augustine was driven out of the parish school by bigoted fellow-Catholic parishioners. Augustine held a number of jobs, including working at a cigar factory. In spite of the prejudice he encountered, he faithfully continued to attend Mass and other church services. The pastor, Father McGirr, supported Augustine’s family. McGirr was a man with whom you trifled at your own risk. He had no tolerance for the intolerant.

Noticing Augustine’s devotion and faithful service as an altar boy, McGirr asked Augustus if he had considered becoming a priest. He responded: “But how, I am a Negro.” A long process of application began. No seminary in the United States would accept Tolton. He even applied to the Propagation of the Faith Seminary in Rome but was rejected. Father McGirr and the local bishop supported Tolton’s applications, but to no avail. Finally, a Franciscan, Father Richardt, was moved by the sadness that rejection brought to Tolton. He decided to “appeal to the top,” or, almost the top, to a cardinal.

Father Richardt wrote a very long letter outlining Augustine’s journey in life and desire to be ordained a priest to the Minister General of the Friars Minor (Franciscans) in Rome, the magnificently named Father Bernardino Dal Vago da Portogruaro. Father Richardt asked the Minister General to ask the Cardinal Prefect of Propagation of the Faith, Cardinal Giovanni Simeoni, to admit Tolton to the seminary --- to be trained to be a missionary in Africa!

In agony, Tolton waited and waited for a reply. Tolton’s biographer recounts the story of his waiting and finally, the answer.

As the days passed, Augustine’s spirits revived. He recalled and, with steadfast faith, clung to the statement Father Schaeffermeyer (one of the local priests) had made many years earlier: “If God vonts you to be a priest, you vill be von.”

Then came that never-to-be-forgotten morning when Mrs. Tolton saw her son rushing up the street toward their shack.

“Mother,” he shouted, “I’m going to Rome. I’m going to be a priest.”

Mrs. Tolton looked at her son as though she had never seen him before. After a long moment, her eyes brimming with tears, she half-whispered: “Augustine, never forget the goodness of the Lord.”
The priests who supported him and the local bishop provided Tolton with just enough money to travel to Rome and to buy a cassock and necessary supplies. On Feb. 5, 1880, Augustine boarded a “Blacks Only” carriage on the train, beginning a journey that would take him, not to Rome, but first to Jersey City and to Hoboken. Franciscan Sisters whom he had met at their hospital in Quincy invited him to stay at their convent in Saint Mary’s Hospital in Hoboken while he waited to sail to Europe.

On Feb. 17, he arrived at the hospital to be greeted by Sister Perpetua, O.S.F.: “Gott sei Dank, Augustine, Komm herein” (Thank God, Augustine, come in!). Augustine, fluent in German, did not need an interpreter.

He stayed with the sisters, visiting the nearby churches in Hoboken and Jersey City, until his ship Der Westlicher, left from Hoboken on Feb. 21. Arriving in Le Havre on March 4, he went first to Paris and then by train to Rome where his journey ended on March 10. He records a simple prayer in the first church he visited in Rome: “My Lord Jesus Christ, I got here!”

The next six years of diligent study and daily discipline molded Augustine into a man of moral strength and courage. He would need these qualities. The day before his ordination to the priesthood, April 23, 1886, Augustine was surprised to be told that he would not be going to Africa, but to the United States. Cardinal Simeoni told the officials of Propaganda that, “America needs Negro priests. America has been called the most enlightened nation. We will see whether it deserves that honor.” Augustine wept bitter tears, writing: “Back to America? Back to the country where I was a slave, an outcast, a hated Black? Must I go back to America where I was not wanted as a priest? ...Lord, I can conquer ignorance weakness, and heathenism. But Lord, I cannot conquer the race hatred in America.”

The next day he was ordained, and the day after, arranged by Simeoni, he celebrated his first Mass at an altar usually reserved for cardinals in front of the main altar of Saint Peter’s Basilica.

Now it was back to America via Hoboken and Jersey City. He made his way to England where he boarded the Cunard liner Gallia in Liverpool and arrived in New York on July 6, 1886. The next day he fulfilled his promise to Sister Perpetua and celebrated his first Mass in the United States in the chapel of Saint Mary’s Hospital in Hoboken.

Tolton returned to Quincy where some priests said he should minister only to black Catholics. However, many whites, Catholic and Protestant, attended services he conducted. Unfortunately, he soon was subjected to vicious bigotry not only from anti-Catholic Protestants, but from his fellow Catholics. Some of the worst hatred, it is sad to say, was expressed by fellow Catholic Priests. They were jealous. Tolton’s preaching was so good that their white parishioners began to attend the Black church!

Tolton became frustrated with such bigotry and asked to be transferred to Chicago. He moved there in 1889 and ministered to an impoverished congregation of 600 African Americans. He still faced discrimination from fellow priests yet continued to minister to the destitute. At 43, in 103-degree heat, walking home from a three-day retreat, he suffered heat stroke and died.

On his ordination day, Venerable Father Augustine Tolton wrote:
"The Catholic Church deplores a double slavery – that of the mind and that of the body. She endeavors to free us of both. I was a poor slave boy, but the priests of the Church did not disdain me. It was through the influence of one of them that I became what I am tonight. I must now give praise to that son of the Emerald Isle, Father Peter McGirr, pastor of St. Peter's Church in Quincy, who promised me that I would be educated and who kept his word. It was the priests of the Church who taught me to pray and to forgive my persecutors... it was through the direction of a Sister of Notre Dame, Sister Herlinde, that I learned to interpret the Ten Commandments; and then I also beheld for the first time the glimmering light of truth and the majesty of the Church. In this Church we do not have to fight for our rights because we are black. She
had colored saints – Augustine, Benedict the Moor, Monica. The Church is broad and liberal. She is the Church for our people."
Elsewhere he wrote:
"As I look back on my life, I realize that every time I thought I was being rejected from something good, I was actually being re-directed to something better."
"We should welcome all people into the church, not send them away."
"Being configured to Christ means emptying ourselves so that God can fill us."

Notes:
Augustine Tolton was the first Catholic priest in the United States publicly known to be Black. James Augustine Healy, bishop of Portland, Maine, ordained in 1854, and his brother, Patrick Francis Healy, president of Georgetown University, ordained in 1864, were of mixed race, and their mixed-race ancestry was not widely known outside of a limited family and ecclesiastical circle.

Tolton’s biographer, Sister Caroline Hemesath, writes that Tolton was baptized “Augustine.” This was a common name among Black Catholics as Augustine was a saint from Africa. Many references refer to Father Tolton as Augustus. The Vatican adds to the confusion. In their news bulletin announcing that Tolton was “Venerable,” the English version refers to him as “Augustus,” the Italian version names him as “Agostino,” the Italian version of Augustine. We should follow Sister Caroline’s research.

Sister cites the baptismal record of “Augustine (Tolton) (Slave of Stephen Elliott) followed by the dates of his birth and baptism, April 1, 1854 and May 29, 1854.

Msgr. Robert J. Wister, Hist.Eccl.D. is a retired professor of church history at Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology, Seton Hall University. (Previously printed on the website of the Archdiocese of Newark)
Congratulations:

**Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin C.Ss.R.** our archbishop who was appointed by Pope Francis to the Congregation for Bishops.

**Aliceanne Sawyer** who celebrates 30 years as a consecrated virgin.

The Secular Institute of Missionaries of the Kingship of the Christ (SIM) on the beatification of their founder, Armida Barelli.

All those celebrating jubilees/anniversaries (see below)

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**Congratulations to our Sisters and Brothers who celebrate jubilees/anniversaries in 2021:**

**25 Years:**
Sr. Mary John of the Passion, O.P. (Dominican Nuns of Summit)
Sr. Francis Mary (Apostolic Sister of Saint John)
Sr. Agatha Mathangani, SC (Sisters of Charity)
Sr. Magadalena Chubwa, DM (Daughters of Mary)
Sr. Mariannette Evo-Esinwoke, DMMM (Daughters of Mary Mother of Mercy)
Sr. Appolonia Kingsley Uche, DMMM (Daughters of Mary Mother of Mercy)

**30 Years**
Aliceanne Sawyer (Consecrated Virgin)

**50 Years:**
Sr. Isabel Garza, FMA (Salesian Sister)
Sr. Domitila Lorri, DM (Daughters of Mary)

**Jesuits:**
*Fr. David X. Stump, SJ (Anniversary of Ordination)

**60 Years:**
**School Sisters of Notre Dame:**
Sr. Carol Tabano SSND

**Sisters of Christian Charity:**
Sr. Judith Blair, SCC

**Franciscan Sisters of Peace:**
Sr. Eileen Cullen, FSP
Sr. Dorothy DeYoung, FSP
Sr. Clare Kelleher, FSP
Sr. Kathleen O’Farrell, FSP
Sr. Elaine Sullivan, FSP

**Sisters of Charity:**
Sr. Mary Corrigan, SC
Sr. June Favata, SC
Sr. Rosemary Smith, SC
Sr. Marilyn Thie, SC
Sr. Carol Williams, SC

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**LIVING THE LIGHT**
60 Years:
**Felician Sisters:**
Sr. Maryann Kasica, CSSF
Sr. Victoria Marie Bartkowski, CSSF

**Dominican Sisters of Caldwell:**
Sr. Pat Crowley, OP
Sr. Suzanne Janis, OP
Sr. Alice McCoy, OP
Sr. Eileen McMahon, OP
Sr. Geraldine Yerg, OP

**Sisters of Saint Joseph of Peace:**
Sr. Monica Donohoe, CSJP
Sr. Maureen D’Auria, CSJP
Sr. Antoinette Moore, CSJP

65 Years:
**Dominican Sisters of Caldwell:**
Sr. Luke Dworschak, OP
Sr. Miriam Kiernan, OP
Sr. Justine Pinto, OP
Sr. Honora Werner, OP

70 Years:
**Christian Brothers**
Br. James Justin O’Connell, CFC

**Sisters of Christian Charity:**
Sr. Mary Catherine Slattery, SCC
Sr. Carmelita Smith, SCC

**Franciscan Sisters of Peace:**
Sr. Mary Daniel Bauer, FSP
Sr. Francis Goguen, FSP
Sr. Ann Smith, FSP

**Sisters of Charity:**
Sr. Anita Richard Heilenday, SC
Sr. Maeve Mc Dermott, SC
Sr. Maria Magdalena Studer, SC

**Felician Sisters:**
Sr. Mary Adrian Jumbelic, CSSF
Sr. Mary Benedette Laspata, CSSF

70 Years:
**Dominican Sisters of Caldwell:**
Sr. Bertrand Austin, OP
Sr. Joan Doyle, OP
Sr. Mary Agnes Gore, OP
Sr. Augustine O’Donnell, OP
Sr. Michel Rodgers, OP

**Sisters of Saint Joseph of Peace:**
Sr. Johanna Dawrdowicz, CSJP
Sr. Beatrice Ryan, CSJP
Sr. Ann Taylor, CSJP

75 Years:
**Sisters of Charity:**
Sr. Kathleen Koerner, SC
Sr. Mary Walter Dwyer, SC
Sr. Marie Gilligan, SC
Sr. Thomas Mary Salerno, SC

**Felician Sisters:**
Sr. Mary Charitine Spitalniak, CSSF
Sr. Mary Pontia Zdzichowska, CSSF

**Dominican Sisters of Caldwell:**
Sr. Helen Francis Coakley, OP
Sr. Anne John O’Loughlin, OP

80 Years:
Sr. Justine Marcucci, FSP (Franciscan Sisters of Peace)
Prayers and News

Vocations

Our Vocation Board met by zoom with Cardinal Tobin on January 24th. It was enlightening, challenging and informal as the Cardinal shared as a fellow Religious. We received a lot of positive input.

A woman from St. Anthony’s parish in Union City is on her way to Spain to discern a call as a Dominican nun. Please pray for her.

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 among us with covid

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

Fr. Gerard Oberle, CSsR
Sr. Eleanor Zampese S.C.
Sr. Ann Pressler S.C.
Sr. Kathleen Murphy, SC
Rev. José Antonio Rodrigálvarez OAR.
Fr. John F. Grinsell, SDB
Fr. Joseph Doran, SDB
Sr. Joan Spingler OP
Sr. Patricia O’Donnell OP
Br. James McVeigh O.S.F
Sr. Cecilia King CSJP
Fr. Emeka Okwuosa SDV’s sister Uchenna

Those who have asked for our prayers.
Reminders

Has your community entered their information in our new database? If not, the link is: https://religiousdelegate.rcan.org/

If you leave the archdiocese or are new to the archdiocese (for study or ministry) please contact the office of the Delegate for Religious. wormanpa@rcan.org

Those who minister in an archdiocesan institution (Parish, School, institution) need to have a Memo of Hire signed by their employer, Major Superior, and the Religious Sister or Brother. If you are a volunteer, a Religious Volunteer form is needed. These assure the protection of the Faithful as well as protect the ministry and the Religious. Where this has not been adhered to, there have been some unfortunate situations. Thank you for the many who have cooperated and sent their original copy to me.

Thank You for all you are and do! I appreciate your feedback about the newsletter. It will be sent as much as possible by email. Where I do not have emails, we will send it by regular mail. If you have an email for your residence that we can use, please send that so we can save on postage.
St Joseph’s Day

Easter

Blessings

Christ is Risen!