



## A Reflection on Consecrated Life

# Perfectae Caritatis - Decree on the Adaptation and Renewal of Religious Life

*For the Weekend of November 22-23*

Our Lord Jesus by his teaching and example is the font for the unfolding of religious life in the Church.

Men and women, consecrated to the Lord by the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity and obedience, and inspired by the Holy Spirit, are a living source of the contemplative and apostolic love the Church has for the world. These religious men and women, driven by the love which the Holy Spirit poured forth in their hearts, live more and more for Christ and for his body which is the Church. And, the total giving of themselves in Christ enriches the apostolic love of the whole Church.

There is an immense variety of spiritual gifts in the religious orders of men and women. Yet, these spiritual gifts are vibrant sources of new hope as each community aims to renew itself in light of the unique spiritual gifts of its founding and wisdom of the Second Vatican Council which sought to better understand and serve the world.

Religious men and women, with ever deeper faith in Christ, devote themselves to the apostolic love which touches the people of our time and they give themselves generously to demanding tasks of the Kingdom of God.

At the heart of religious life is the common life modeled by the early Church, a common life which sees believers united in heart and soul, especially in the Eucharist and in prayer which breaks open into a life of charity. This unity of the community in charity expresses the visible pledge of Christ who will return and also it is a vital source of apostolic energy. The Church profoundly esteems the religious who as such give themselves to the renewal of Vatican II, and the religious give themselves as a sign of the ever greater fidelity of Christ to all His holy people.

*Rev. William Wiethorn, OFM Cap (1940-2014)*

### Reflection Questions

1. In what ways has a person from a religious order influenced your life?
2. How can you be a witness by doing things differently?
3. In what ways do you share your spiritual giftedness for the love of the church?

*Rev. William Wiethorn, OFM Cap served as a Capuchin Friar ordained in 1966. He was appointed by Bishop Richard Lennon as the Episcopal Delegate for Religious in 2010. He was working in collaboration with religious orders on plans for the Year of Consecrated Life at the time of his death. We lovingly remember Rev. William Wiethorn, OFM Cap and rejoice with him on his entrance into life with the reprint of this article originally published during the Year of Faith.*

*“Wake up the world! Be witnesses of a different way of doing things, of acting, of living!”*

*Pope Francis*

### **Special Prayer Requested**

**Please keep in your prayers Adaline Bala, mother of Cheryl Beyer and MaryJane McGarry, Confirmation sponsor of Rosanne Sanford.**

### **Kindergarten Expo**

**Immaculate Heart of Mary School invites 4 and 5 year old children to it's "Kindergarten Expo" on Tuesday, December 9th from 6:00-7:30pm. Pre-schoolers and their parents will be welcomed by student ambassadors at 2859 Lillis Drive, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. Light snacks will be provided, with hands-on activities, guided school tours and Kindergarten visitation.**

### **Benedictine High School**

**Entrance Exams at Benedictine High School will be held Saturday, December 6, 9am-12pm, or Saturday, January 3, 2015, 9am-12pm. You can also schedule a day to shadow a current student. Contact Mr. Joe Laffey at 216-421-2080 x356 or [laffey@cbhs.edu](mailto:laffey@cbhs.edu), or visit [www.cbhs.edu](http://www.cbhs.edu). The exam fee is \$20 payable by cash or check to Benedictine on day of exam.**

### **30th Annual Journey to Bethlehem**

**Join us December 6 at 11am for our special Celebration Mass for persons with developmental disabilities along with their families, friends, catechists, and advocates at OLA/St. Joseph Center in Tremont (2346 W. 14th St., Cleveland, OH). Celebrated by Bishop Roger Gries. Join us for prayer, song, celebration and friendship. Light luncheon afterward. Ample parking is available. OLA/St. Joseph Center is wheelchair accessible. Please call to request Sign language interpreters, audio description and enhancement. Sponsored by Disability Services and Ministries. For additional information, please call 216-334-2963 or email [mjscott@clevelandcatholiccharities.org](mailto:mjscott@clevelandcatholiccharities.org).**

### **St. Monica Christmas Craft Fair**

**Come November 29th, from 9:00am-3:00pm to the St. Monica Christmas Craft Fair! Browse 100 tables of unique hand-crafted items, plus your favorite business vendors. Win at our 50/50 and Craft Raffles. Enjoy delicious food in our Café. A limited number of tables are still available. For more information, please call Regina 216-661-6616.**

### **Dinner and Silent Auction**

Tickets are available for the Catholic Commission Dinner, which will be held on **Friday, December 5th**, at **St. Matthew Parish, Fr. Silva Center, 2580 Berne Avenue, Akron, Ohio**. The Catholic Commission hosts the annual event, which includes a 50/50 drawing, silent auction, and the presentation of the Bishop Cosgrove Justice Award. **The 2014 recipient of the Bishop William Cosgrove Award is the Appalachian Service Project Team** of Doylestown United Methodist Church, Guardian Angels Parish in Copley, and Sts. Peter & Paul Parish in Doylestown. Also being honored with **Bishop Anthony M. Pilla Leadership Awards** are **Good Neighbors of Tallmadge; Justice Akron Ministry** of Archbishop Hoban High School; and the **Labre Program** of Queen of Heaven Catholic Church, Green. Youth Justice Award Recipients include **Te'Anna Hunt** – Junior at Lake Center Christian School; **Joseph Paolucci** – Senior at St. Vincent-St. Mary High School; and **Pádraigin O'Flynn** – Senior at Our Lady of the Elms High School. **\$45 per person. For reservations, [jbadami@clevelandcatholiccharities.org](mailto:jbadami@clevelandcatholiccharities.org) or 330-535-2787. Cash bar opens at 6:00pm; dinner served at 7:00pm by TLC Catering, Inc.**

### **Cancer Spirituality Group**

This group is for those on the cancer journey, those who are facing the diagnosis of cancer at the present time or who have faced the diagnosis in the past, and those who are interested in exploring and talking about the cancer experience in the context of spirituality. **All are welcome!** Held the **second and fourth Thursday of every month at St. Matthew Rectory, 2603 Benton St., Akron, OH**. Co-facilitated by cancer survivors Pat Flaherty and Linda Herold. For more info...Pat Flaherty ([330-628-5725](tel:330-628-5725) or [everhiker@sbcglobal.net](mailto:everhiker@sbcglobal.net)).

### **Joy to the World**

**The Daughters of St. Paul Choir** under the direction of **Sr. Bridget Ellis FSP**, known for their fresh arrangements of time-honored classics, presents well-loved carols and holiday favorites that celebrates the glory, wonder and joy of the Christmas season. **Held Friday, December 5 at 7:00pm at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist (1007 Superior Ave., Cleveland)**. The concert is **free and open to all**. No tickets or reservations required. **Free secure parking at the Cathedral Plaza Garage – Rockwell Ave. and E. 9<sup>th</sup> St.** For more information, call **216-696-6525 x5510** or email [gheislman@dioceseofcleveland.org](mailto:gheislman@dioceseofcleveland.org).

*Please check the vestibule for more information on upcoming events, registration forms, prayer cards, and notices.*