

**REMARKS OF HIS EMINENCE CARDINAL CHRISTOPHE PIERRE
APOSTOLIC NUNCIO TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
VIRTUAL ENCOUNTER OF PRAYER FOR ALL MEMBERS OF
CONSECRATED LIFE IN THE UNITED STATES
WORLD DAY OF CONSECRATED LIFE
FEBRUARY 2, 2025**

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

It's good to join you in this celebration of the World Day of Consecrated Life. I wish you all a happy feast day, since you have all consecrated your lives to Christ after the pattern of his own consecration to God, when he was presented in the temple.

Our virtual gathering today is remarkable in light of what Pope Francis wrote to you on the occasion of the Year of Consecrated Life ten years ago. The Holy Father said:

“[B]e men and women of communion! Have the courage to be present in the midst of conflict and tension, as a credible sign of the presence of the Spirit who inspires in human hearts a passion for all to be one. Live the *mysticism of encounter*, which entails ‘the ability to hear, to listen to other people; the ability to seek together ways and means’. Live in the light of the loving relationship of the three divine Persons, the model for all interpersonal relationships.”¹

Brothers and sisters, the fact that all five of your conferences are together for this celebration and prayer is already a sign that you desire, as the Pope says, to be people of communion, united for the common good. This is something that the world very much needs at this time.

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¹ Pope Francis, Apostolic Letter to All Consecrated People on the Occasion of the Year of Consecrated Life, 21 November 2014; cf. *John* 17:21 and *1 John* 4:8; cf. Address to Rectors and Students of the Pontifical Colleges and Residences of Rome, 12 May 2014.

Let us pray.

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we turn our hearts to you: hearts that you have created for communion. We want to be images of you, Blessed Trinity, in this world.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus: teach us to form relationships from the heart, which makes all authentic bonding possible. Help us to overcome the fragmentation caused by individualism.² Heal our own hearts, which are broken in different ways; and then, make us instruments of healing in our communities. Bless our time together today. By uniting us in prayer and gratitude, increase the power of our shared consecration to you. Strengthen our unity in faith, hope, and love, so that through our witness, everyone may know the love that God has for them.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

² Cf. Pope Francis, Encyclical Letter *Dilexit Nos* on the Human and Divine Love of the Heart of Jesus Christ, 24 October 2024, 17.