



## RETREAT!!!

As we begin the new year, notice the first two events on the upcoming list are retreats for young people who are seeking to discover Jesus' call in their lives. There is something to that retreating. To step away from the routine and pay attention to the still, small, whisper. This is essential for this discerning their vocation in life.

It is also important for those who Advocate for the them. Be sure to spend time in prayer with the Lord who is calling you to this position as Advocate. If we are too busy about the programs, we will miss the gentle consolation he wants to give to us. He is laboring alongside us, but we need to pause and look him in the eye. Let him tell you how much he appreciates you... how much he loves you. Not for what you do, but for who you are. For the way your heart beats like his. It beats for love of the world and he desires all the world to know that love, as do you. Rest in his gaze.

Looking ahead to the coming months. Note that Feb 2 is a great day to honor the members of religious communities in/from your parish. See the link below for ideas to celebrate World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life.

This new year installment of the Advocate newsletter contains stories compiled by Deacon Gary Dilallo, Pastoral Associate at Most Holy Rosary Parish in Maine, NY.

Thank you for your generous assistance in this urgent ministry!

As always, contact me, if I can help in any way.

Fr. Joe O'Connor  
Office of Vocation Promotion



### UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan 3-5

*Retreat for discerners from  
New York State  
@ CTK Retreat House*

Jan 6-8

*Sisters of St. Francis  
Discernment Retreat  
Hawaii*

Jan 30

*#FishermansClub  
(college-age discernment  
group)*

Jan 29-Feb 4

*Catholic Schools Week  
Vocation Visits*

Feb 2

*World Day of Prayer  
for Consecrated life*

Feb 13

*#FishermansClub  
(college-age discernment  
group)*

Mar 20

*#FishermansClub  
(college-age discernment  
group)*

Apr 11

*Chrism Mass, Cathedral*

*click here for  
full calendar &  
details*



## PRAYER

### *Monthly Holy Hour; Daily Rosary*

- a reflection by Deacon Gary Dilallo



I started a monthly Holy Hour in October of 2016. The decision was to spend one hour each month in prayer for a particular theme or focus. October-End to Abortion; November Vocations, and December Marriage and family. Attendance has been averaging about 25. It has not been advertised in any other churches within the area. In addition to the Holy hour we have a daily rosary for vocations

- Contact Deacon Gary Dilallo at Most Holy Rosary Church in Maine, NY

## AWARENESS

### *Led by the Spirit for Mission*



MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR THE 54th WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS (to be celebrated on May 7, 2017)

There can be no promotion of vocations or Christian mission apart from constant contemplative prayer. The Christian life needs to be nourished by attentive listening to God's word and, above all, by the cultivation of a personal relationship with the Lord in Eucharistic adoration, the privileged "place" for our encounter with God.

I ask parish communities, associations and the many prayer groups present in the Church, not to yield to discouragement but to continue praying that the Lord will send workers to his harvest.

[Click here to read more](#)

## PROGRAMMING

### *World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life*



The Presentation at the Temple  
WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE

February 2, 2017 (Celebrated in Parishes February 4-5)

In 1997, Pope Saint John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. This celebration is attached to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2nd. This Feast is also known as Candlemas Day; the day on which candles are blessed symbolizing Christ who is the light of the world. So too, those in consecrated life are called to reflect the light of Jesus Christ to all peoples. The celebration of World Day for Consecrated Life is transferred to the following Sunday in order to highlight the gift of consecrated persons for the whole Church.

[Click here for resources to help you prepare World Day for Consecrated Life](#)

STAY IN TOUCH

