

# Pope issues letter for Year of Consecrated Life

2014-11-30 Vatican Radio



(Vatican Radio) Pope Francis issued a letter for the **Year of Consecrated Life**, which will start throughout the universal Church on the first Sunday of Advent, 30 November. The observance will end on the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple, 2 February 2016.

In his message, the Pope underlined the aims of the Year of Consecrated Life, namely to look to the past with gratitude, to live the present with passion and to embrace the future with hope.

The Pope then expressed his expectations for the yearlong observance: that consecrated men and women would be witnesses of communion, of joy and the Gospel, and go evermore to the peripheries to proclaim the Good News.

“I am counting on you ‘to wake up the world’, since the distinctive sign of consecrated life is prophecy,” he wrote. “This is the priority that is needed right now.”

He urged religious communities to guard against gossip, jealousy and pettiness in community life, to live “in synergy” with other vocations in the Church, and to “step more courageously from the confines of our respective institutes and to work together.”

The Pope said he also expected consecrated men and women to examine their presence in Church life and to respond to the “new demands constantly being made on us, to the cry of the poor.”

[See the official translation of the Pope’s full message for the Year of Consecrated Life](#)