



Office of the Provincial

Brothers of the Christian Schools

Christian Brothers of the Midwest

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Franc Cardinal Rodé, C.M.
Prefect, Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life
Palazzo della Congregazioni
Piazza Pio XII, 3
00193 Roma Italia

Dear Cardinal Rodé,

As Provincial of the Midwest Province of the De La Salle Brothers of the Christian Schools, I write, with the endorsement of our Province Council, in support of the Sisters of the United States who currently are in the midst of the Apostolic Visitation. We have worked with a number of Sisters' Congregations in the schools of our province, and Sisters continue to serve with us in our ministry of educating young people. They are well-educated, professional, and committed to and well-prepared for their work with the young. They strive to live the consecrated life, and we are proud to be associated with them.

In an article by John Allen following an interview with you, you are quoted as saying "Innovation, new ideas, fresh responses to the problems of the society and the times almost always come from the religious, and then later they're taken over by the hierarchical church.... I think that the most dynamic element, the most innovative element in the church, where the new energy of the Spirit makes itself seen, is the religious." I could not agree with you more.

Most Sisters in the United States have been leaders in responding to the problems of society, and they have addressed social issues in very creative ways. Many of the poor in this country have been lifted up in so many ways because of the work of Sisters.

You have asked that "all people of good will...unite in prayer for the fruitful outcome of this effort to promote the Catholic identity and vibrancy of life of women religious." We Brothers will do so, and we will encourage others to do so as well. We also will pray that one voice emanates from the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life so the Sisters in the United States experience this visitation as an encouraging one as they continue to serve others and live their lives based on the Gospel.

We thank you for listening to our concerns. You are in our prayers.

Live, Jesus, in our hearts! Forever!

Sincerely,

Brother Francis Carr, FSC
Provincial/Visitor