

World Day for Cloistered Life

November 21

The Church celebrates World Day of Cloistered Life (the Memorial of the Presentation of the Virgin Mary in the Temple), an ecclesial event for all Catholics worldwide to commemorate the hidden lives of contemplative religious in cloisters and monasteries. On this day, the faithful are encouraged to reach out to the cloistered religious in their diocese, through prayer, encouragement, and material support.

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The liturgical memory of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the Temple is also “Pro Orantibus Day” (“For Those Who Pray”), in which the Church shows her support for cloistered religious communities. Please commemorate the hidden lives of contemplative religious in cloisters and monasteries by reaching out to cloistered religious in the diocese, through prayer, encouragement, and material support.

PRAYER IN SUPPORT OF THE CLOISTERED LIFE

Eternal Father, we praise and thank you for those sisters and brothers who have embraced the first of the cloistered and monastic life. Their prayerful presence is indispensable to the Church’s life and mission and is the foundation of the New Evangelization.

As we celebrate World Day of Cloistered Life, let us honor the holiness and glory of the Blessed Virgin. May she, who was presented in the Temple, intercede so that many young people might dedicate themselves entirely to Your divine service by hidden lives of contemplative prayer and selfless sacrifice.

May all of us be mindful of the spiritual and material needs of those who commit their lives to seeking God by fixing their gaze on those things which are eternal.

We ask this through Our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

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