

Augustinian Province of Our Mother Of Good Counsel

Tolentine Monastery
20300 Governors Hwy
Olympia Fields IL 60461
708-748-9500

To: Leadership Conference of Women Religious

From: Augustinian Provincial Chapter (Province of Our Mother of Good Counsel)

Date: June 11, 2010

Dear Sisters,

We, the members of the Augustinian Provincial Chapter of the Midwest Province of Our Mother of Good Counsel, are well aware of the current Apostolic Visitation of Active Congregations of American Religious Women, as well as that of the LCWR. We are also aware of the concern and anxiety this has caused so many of you.

It is with this in mind that we wish to echo and affirm the support shown you by so many other groups of religious and diocesan priests throughout the United States. In particular the statement of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles (a brief reference to which follows) epitomizes our words of gratitude, praise and support for all you have done and continue to do.

You have been and continue to be a remarkable group of dedicated disciples who have been responsible for establishing our Catholic School System. Indeed you educated and catechized us. You were also often instrumental in our choice of religious life. You welcomed and educated the immigrants. You established and you continue to administer hospitals. You were and continue to be involved in countless prophetic works of peace and justice. Pastorally we have been graced to have you as significant members of parish staffs, sometimes serving as pastoral leaders. In a very real way our lives continue to be influenced, challenged and supported by your fidelity and example.

You have brought the much needed gift of a woman's insight, experience and perspective to us. In doing so you have helped the Church achieve a greater balance in our judgments and planning as we confront issues of ministry together. We are the better for all you have done. We are grateful for your counsel and active roles in ministry.



Secretary
of the Province

AUGUSTINIAN PROVINCIALATE

Province of Our Mother of Good Counsel

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July 14, 2010

Attn: Sr. Jane Burke, S.S.N.D.
Executive Director
Leadership Conference of Women Religious
8808 Cameron St.
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Sisters:

Members of the June 2010 quadrennial Chapter of the Augustinian Province of Our Mother of Good Counsel (Augustinians of the Midwest), aware that the Apostolic Visitation currently underway has occasioned concern and anxiety for many, approved and signed a statement of support for Women Religious in the United States.

The Statement mentions many of ways in which the presence and ministries of Women Religious have enriched the Church in the past and continue to enrich the Church in the present. Most of us personally benefit from your giftedness and your spirit of giving.

Because we are grateful, we have made enclosed statement of appreciation and affirmation.

Please feel free to publish this statement on your Web site, print publications or in any other way which you may deem appropriate.

Gratefully,

Br. Thomas Taylor, O.S.A.
Secretary of the Province.

Enclosure