

SERVING THE VOCATION OF CONSECRATED VIRGINITY



[www.consecratedvirgins.org](http://www.consecratedvirgins.org)

## INITIAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

“The order of virgins is also to be added to these forms of consecrated life. Through their pledge to follow Christ more closely, virgins are consecrated to God, mystically espoused to Christ and dedicated to the service of the Church, when the diocesan Bishop consecrates them according to the approved liturgical rite.

Virgins can be associated together to fulfill their pledge more faithfully and to assist each other to serve the Church in a way that befits their state.” [Canon 604, *The Code of Canon Law*]

### **About the United States Association of Consecrated Virgins:**

The vocation of consecrated virginity lived in the world dates back to the earliest days of the Church. As consecrated virgins, we pledge ourselves to follow Christ more closely, to spend time in works of penance and mercy, in apostolic activity and devout prayer. Our consecration is for the glory of God and the service of the Church and to be lived in the world.

The United States Association of Consecrated Virgins is formed in light of canon 604, for the purpose of fulfilling our pledge more faithfully and assisting one another to serve the Church. Membership in the association is entirely voluntary, and the association does not constitute a step toward the establishment of a religious institute or secular institute.

The USACV has as its primary purpose to foster communication, solidarity, and support among United States consecrated virgins. The USACV and International Resource Center for the *Ordo Virginum* (IRC) operate as one organization to offer educational materials and programs of education about the vocation, as well as to encourage study and growth of understanding of the vocation of consecrated virginity lived in the world. Members of the USACV approved a change in the operating statutes (bylaws) of the USACV to incorporate the new IRC section, effective January 1, 2019. The first few years of the IRC are transitional as we develop an online center to serve the vocation, primarily in English, yet also in Spanish.

The USACV-IRC is in full communion with the Magisterium of the Church, being linked formally to the United States Catholic Bishops through an Episcopal Moderator. We are grateful to The Most Reverend Earl Boyea, Bishop of Lansing, for serving in the capacity of Episcopal Moderator for the USACV-IRC.

### **Membership in the USACV:**

**Eligibility for Membership:** women living within the jurisdiction of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops who have been consecrated in accord with the Rite of Consecration to a Life of Virginity for Women Living in the World, under the provisions of canon 604 of the Code of Canon Law. Copies of the Organizational Statutes of the USACV-IRC are available upon request.

**Application and Annual Renewals:** Initial membership in the USACV is by application, and is then renewed annually. Please refer to the current year registration form available on our website: [www.consecratedvirgins.org](http://www.consecratedvirgins.org)

**APPLICANT INSTRUCTIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP**

1) Please complete the following information: Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Consecration date; Bishop who consecrated you, and diocese of consecration:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Diocese in which you now live: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

2) Please enclose a copy of your official certificate testifying to your consecration with this application form. This certificate will be kept on file with Anne Gishpert, USACV archivist.

3) (Optional): Please describe your educational and professional background: \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

4) (Optional): Please describe any particular interests, talents, and background you bring to the vocation that may assist in meeting the objectives of this association:

\_\_\_\_\_

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5) Please also complete the current year registration form in order to begin to receive USACV general mailings.

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**RETURN COMPLETED FORMS TO:**

**United States Association of Consecrated Virgins P.O. Box 442170 Miami, FL. 33144**

If you prefer, you can scan both the application and the certificate and email it to [usacvmembership@gmail.com](mailto:usacvmembership@gmail.com)