



Bulletin Announcements to observe *Pro Orantibus Day*

To be inserted the weekend of November 7-8, 2009:

On November 21, the Church will celebrate *Pro Orantibus Day* (“For Those Who Pray”). The faithful around the world are encouraged to develop their own way of commemorating the day and honoring cloistered women and men religious at Mass and in other special ways, such as by offering up special prayers, by making visits to monasteries and cloistered convents, or by sending cards or letters to contemplative communities.

Pro Orantibus Day is intended to be a moment of thanksgiving and solidarity involving the entire Church. For as Pope Benedict XVI said in his *Angelus* message marking last year’s event, “Let us thank the Lord for the sisters and brothers who have embraced this mission, dedicating themselves entirely to prayer and living on what they receive from Providence. Let us pray in our turn for them and for new vocations, and let us work to support monasteries in their material needs.”

[Here mention any specific ways the parish or parishioners can commemorate this event. Also, note any cloistered convents or monasteries within the (arch)diocese.]

For more information visit www.cloisteredlife.com.

To be inserted the weekend of November 14-15, 2009:

This Saturday, November 21, is *Pro Orantibus Day* (“For Those Who Pray”), honoring cloistered and monastic life. It is a day of thanksgiving, solidarity and support for religious women and men who offer their entire lives in contemplative union with Jesus and interceding for the salvation of the world.

Pope John Paul II established this worldwide ecclesial event in 1997, to take place on the Memorial of Our Lady’s Presentation in the Temple, as a way to provide support to “the Church’s vanguard on the road to the Kingdom” who need spiritual and material support. He wanted to stimulate greater interest “in this silent, separated life as a leaven of renewal and of the presence of the spirit of Christ in the world.”

Special promotion of this annual celebration is being coordinated in the United States by the INSTITUTE ON RELIGIOUS LIFE (IRL).

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