

# NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN



## NCCW VOCATION PURSE CLUB

INSPIRED by the church's calls to holiness, many young people have found themselves drawn to religious life. Yet, with the average inquirer to religious life owing \$33,000 in student loans and hampered by the costs of insurance and housing among other major expenses, many religious communities have found it necessary to turn promising candidates away until they are debt-free—a process that can take years.

To address this problem the National Council of Catholic Women established the VOCATION PURSE CLUB in 2016. Through the generosity of our local councils across the country, this past year we raised \$21,000 to assist young women entering religious life.

# A new generation grateful for your encouragement and commitment



The young men and women coming to religious life are beautiful people inside and out. They are highly educated, deeply spiritual, socially conscious, and compelled by their love for Jesus to commit their lives in service to God and the Church. The world needs their witness and service. We appreciate your generous support of their vocations.

—MARK TERESI, DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL FUND FOR CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS



I began attending retreats with the sisters when I first started college and have joined in their prayer life and ministry. I am very grateful for the financial help so that the sisters may welcome me into the community. I look forward to furthering their legacy of teaching.

—JENNIFER O'NEILL,  
CANDIDATE WITH THE  
SISTERS, SERVANTS  
OF THE IMMACULATE  
HEART OF MARY

In partnership with the National Fund for Catholic Religious Vocations (NFCRV), NCCW was able to support eight young women as they begin their journey to become Catholic sisters.

We hope to fill our VOCATION PURSE once again this year so that more vocations can be saved by removing the financial obstacles, such as educational debt and other unavoidable expenses, preventing entry into religious life.

We welcome the efforts each local council takes to help support the VOCATION PURSE CLUB, which has already had a significant impact not only on the lives of young women entering religious life and the communities they serve, but on all of us—as part of the universal church—who benefit from the mission and ministries of religious women.

Each dollar you give in support of a vocation is returned a hundredfold in love and service.

For more information about the VOCATION PURSE CLUB and other NCCW initiatives, go to [NCCW.org](http://NCCW.org). Send donations to NCCW, 10335-A Democracy Ln, Unit 201 Fairfax, VA 22030

As I was getting ready to graduate law school, I realized there was this Godshaped hole in my life. I went to Calcutta and volunteered. That's when I began to sense a call to religious life. As an immigration attorney, I hope to be a voice for those who are silenced.

—CIALINETT COLON,  
NOVICE FOR THE  
SISTERS OF CHRISTIAN  
CHARITY



What a wonderful gift young vocations are to the church. The NCCW is grateful to the National Fund for Catholic Religious Vocations for their mission to remove obstacles to vocations of religious sisters. Our local chapters are committed to fundraising in support of candidates to religious life and women's religious communities in collaboration with the NFCRV.

—BETH MAHONEY, SUPPORTING MEMBER,  
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN



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