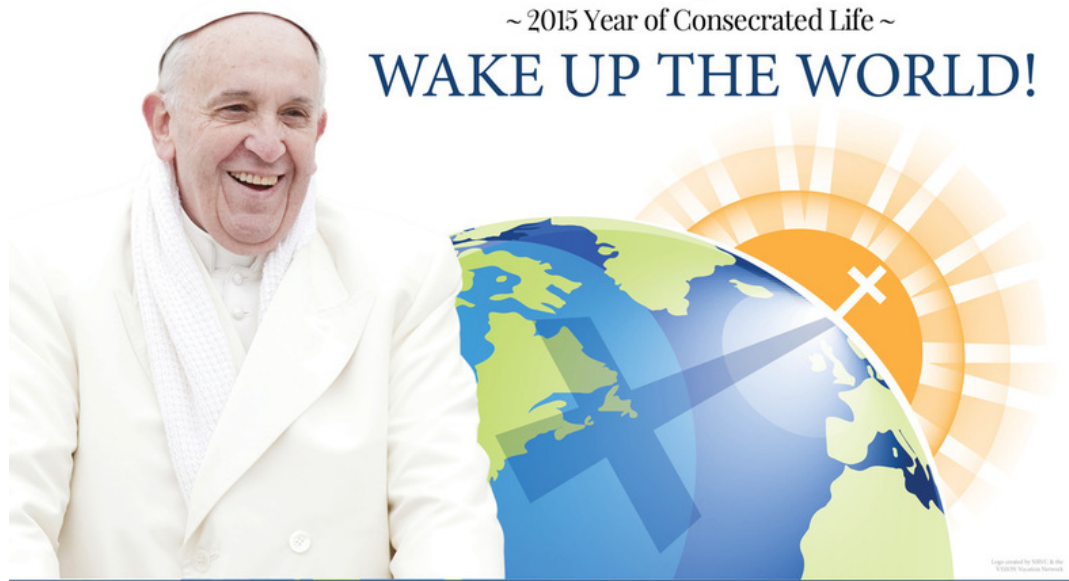


Religious sisters & brothers have prophetic mission to wake up the world



~ 2015 Year of Consecrated Life ~

WAKE UP THE WORLD!



“The Church must be attractive. Wake up the world! Be witnesses of a different way of acting, of living! It is possible to live differently in this world... It is this witness I expect from you!” –Pope Francis



None of us should be dour, discontented and dissatisfied, for “a gloomy disciple is a disciple of gloom”. Like everyone else, we have our troubles, our dark nights of the soul, our disappointments and infirmities, our experience of slowing down as we grow older. But in all these things we should be able to discover “perfect joy”. For it is here that we learn to recognize the face of Christ, who became like us in all things, and to rejoice in the knowledge that we are being conformed to him who, out of love of us, did not refuse the sufferings of the cross.

In a society which exalts the cult of efficiency, fitness and success, one which ignores the poor and dismisses “losers”, we can witness by our lives to the truth of the words of Scripture: “When I am weak, then I am strong” (2 Cor 12:10)...

I am counting on you “to wake up the world”, since the distinctive sign of consecrated life is prophecy....

As I told the Superiors General: “Radical evangelical living is not only for religious: it is demanded of everyone. But religious follow the Lord in a special way, in a prophetic way.” This is the priority that is needed right now: “to be prophets who witness to how Jesus lived on this earth... a religious must never abandon prophecy” (29 November 2013).

– *Pope Francis (Apostolic Letter on the Year of Consecrated Life)*

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