

Many women religious heads pleased with Vatican study

Thomas C. Fox | Aug. 3, 2009 NCR Today

While a good number of U.S. women religious clearly are chagrined that they are the objects of a Vatican study of their religious congregations, a number of U.S. women religious superiors are expressing gratitude for the Vatican investigation initiated by Cardinal Franc Rodé, Prefect of the Vatican's Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, and being carried out by Mother Clare Millea.

On the [Apostolic Visitation web site](#) [1], one can find a growing list of testimonials by Women Religious Superiors, expressing their gratitude for the study and process:

The following comments are taken from the site:

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General Superior, Institute Blessed Virgin Mary (Loreto Sisters)
Rome, Italy

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Thank you, Mother, for accepting this arduous task and for the approach you have chosen. You can count on our continued prayerful support.

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I have visitation with my Sisters. That visitation is simply an opportunity for me to get to know them and to learn of their hopes for deepening in the call to Religious Life. Such is how I see this Apostolic Visitation. We live in a time of blessing.

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States Province which has greatly diminished in size and at the moment has few apostolic activities due to the advanced age of the great majority of sisters. The meeting was cordial and encouraging. It gave me confidence and hope for revitalization of religious life as well as of our province in the United States. I appreciated very much the direction I received about vocation ministry and all that it requires of religious.

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Mother Clare was an active, engaged listener. She created a spacious environment for me to share how we BVMs live our commitment as women of the church who love the church. Her way of being present encouraged me to state our BVM hopes that the official church affirm the beauty and power of the diverse charisms of religious life; open up pathways to dialogue about actions and decisions that flow from our theology and ecclesiology; and celebrate the integrity, fidelity, and authenticity of our lives.

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I left our conversation with an even stronger sense that women religious, from our many traditions, are a creative presence in the Church and the world. We believe in striving with our whole lives for the fullness of God's design for humanity and we share faith in God's inspiring, enabling and blessing our efforts.

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Source URL (retrieved on 06/26/2017 - 16:02): <https://www.ncronline.org/blogs/ncr-today/many-women-religious-heads-pleased-vatican-study>

Links:

[1] <http://www.apostolicvisitation.org/en/testimonials/index.html>