

Dear Friend,

Greetings from the Conference! The 2025 Jubilee Year of Hope officially opened on December 24, 2024, with the Rite of Opening of the Holy Door of the Papal Basilica of St. Peter. As pilgrims of hope, we, too, give witness to God-with-us by swinging open doors of welcome and support for those called to religious life. Together, we continue to faithfully live God's dream for us and our world.

Our records indicate that it is time for your congregation to renew its membership. Recently, your primary formation liaison received an email inviting them to renew online. Members may also renew using the 2025 Membership Form found at <u>www.relforcon.org/membership</u>

The benefits of membership include access to members-only resources, significant discounts on program offerings and initiatives, and a reduced rate to attend the biennial Congress in October. Your congregational membership also supports and enables the Conference to continue its mission to serve the formation needs of those in consecrated life, now and into the future. In short, your membership is vital to our ongoing work.

Here is what some of our members have to say about their membership:

"As a newly appointed director of formation, I value the resources which my membership in RFC provides, most especially the training opportunities offered. I also appreciate becoming a part of a large



network of religious formators; these peers have become my greatest resource!" *Brother Dan Wisniewski, OSFS, PhD*

"RFC has been food for my soul. It has been helpful to strengthen my own spirituality, and to continue developing accompaniment skills and new friendships." *Sister Herlinda Ramirez Machado, CSJ*



"RFC is an excellent hub for networking across congregations as we live the now of religious life and discover daily the new that is emerging. RFC cultivates content that is inspirational, informative and relevant for all



congregational members to encourage lifelong learning." Sister Amy Taylor, FSPA

"Two things I value about RFC: One is a professional network to find answers to problems. The other is the offering of continuing education workshops that broaden my sense of initial formation, and the gifts I have to bring to my students." *Friar Paul Schloemer, OFM Conv*



If you have any questions or need assistance with the renewal process, please contact Susan Oxley, Communications and Membership Manager, at soxley@relforcon.org or call 773-675-8658.

Thank you for continuing the journey with us. We look forward to being at the service of initial and lifelong formation for women and men religious. May we continue to live as pilgrims of hope and light in the year ahead!

Sincerely,

Ryan J. Hoffmann, DMin Executive Director Religious Formation Conference *Sister Barbara Staley, MSC* Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart Board Membership Committee