



February 13, 2023

Like so many of you, we, too, find ourselves in a 'liminal space.' As you know, there's nothing new about living religious life on the thresholds and crossroads of church and society. We serve where we're called. As we like to say here at the Conference, "formation for mission."

As Interim Co-Executive Directors, we've spent the first part of 2023 leaning into the 'new' of this staff configuration and laying the foundation for a wonderful year of programming and member collaboration. In these first weeks alone, the Conference:

- Hosted a highly successful ForMission session at the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio where 30 participants explored *Mission and Religious Life for the 21st Century*.
- Published a comprehensive report on *Formation Programs of Religious Institutes in the United States* in concert with the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA).
- Launched a new program, *ForMission 2.0*, that gives participants opportunities to dive deeper into a specific topic, refresh and reinvigorate skills, connect with other formators, and engage in some peer supervision.

There's more on the horizon, too. From popular *webinars* to the transformative nature of our *core programs* to the *new resources portal*, the RFC continues to innovate around best practices for ecclesial and spiritual accompaniment.

**The best way to take full advantage of these opportunities is to be a member of the Conference. We invite congregations to renew their membership or become a new member today.**

To renew a membership or become a new member, please visit our membership page online at:  
[www.relforcon.org/membership](http://www.relforcon.org/membership)

Membership supports a strong Conference not only for current members, but also for the generations of religious who will follow. Members also enjoy the many benefits of membership: access to members-only resources, deeply discounted rates for programs, etc.

Should you have questions or need assistance with membership, please don't hesitate to reach out to Sofia Mikolyash, Operations Manager, by email at [smikolyash@relforcon.org](mailto:smikolyash@relforcon.org).

**The Conference looks forward to continuing to be at the service of initial and lifelong formation for women and men religious. We appreciate your support and the trust you place in us here at the RFC.**

Sincerely,



*Mary Pat Garvin, RSM*

Mary Pat Garvin, RSM, PhD  
Interim Co-Executive Director



*Ryan J. Hoffmann*

Ryan J. Hoffmann, DMin  
Interim Co-Executive Director

*DO JUSTICE, LOVE MERCY, WALK HUMBLY. -MICAH 6:8*