



CMSWR Summer Renewal Program 2020 **June 22 – July 14**

Depart from the United States on **Monday, June 22** and arrive in Rome **Tuesday, June 23** to begin the **Three-Week Summer Program of Renewal**. The Program of Renewal for Perpetually Professed Religious is designed to help to remind us of our identity as daughters of the Church and to strengthen us in our religious vocation. It will help to reinforce our desire to serve the Church and to feel her loving embrace. We will walk where popes and saints lived, prayed and died. We will see historic sites and the ancient ruins of Rome where many followers of Christ gave witness to Christ with their lives. We will visit basilicas and churches by bus and metro and take a side trip to Assisi, the birthplace of the "Little Poor Man," St. Francis.

A very first and special addition to this year's program is the inclusion of a five-day mini-course (no exams) in English given by the Department of Consecrated Life at the Pontifical Athenaeum of Regina Apostolorum. The title of the course is *Getting Closer: Compassion as a Bodily and Spiritual Experience* and it is described as follows:

Our society is increasingly sick of utilitarianism, selfishness and frenzy. It seems that we are less and less capable of stopping to look at man, to welcome him, to listen to him and to stand beside him, in order to be able to cum-patire, or "to suffer with"... Everyone wants to rediscover the meaning of life in fraternal sharing, with the ideal of "being for and with" others. Therefore, the Gospel places compassion at its center: Christ is the Icon of the Father's compassion... Consecrated men and women, following in his footsteps, are called to be multiple living icons accessible to all, thus offering a convincing response to the spiritual diseases of today's society, and bringing the divine balm to the wounds of men and women.

Configuring themselves ever more deeply to the merciful Christ, consecrated men and women live to the very end the full closeness to the pain of every kind which afflicts the men and women they meet every day on the roads of this world, to show the way to the Father's house. To be near implies a constant journey of human and spiritual growth, in constant work on oneself and in docility to the action of the Holy Spirit who is always at work, in order to live - and help to live - Christian spirituality, bearer of meaning, fruitfulness and joy.

The cost of the Summer Program is \$1,500, not including air fare. Lodging at the CMSWR Domus Sanctae Mariae Guadalupe is included.