

**Grade 7 and 8: *FOR LOVE ALONE***

***The Story of Women Religious***

 PREPARATION

Materials:

* *For Love Alone* video, Lesson PowerPoint, Religious Community Research Project instruction sheet and rubric, Internet access for research and link to CMSWR website (<http://cmswr.org>)
* Preparation for watching the video includes presenting the information on the PowerPoint. The video will be shown at the end of the discussion about religious life and before students are given instructions about their research project.

 PROCLAMATION

1. The students will discuss the four characteristics of religious life (vows, prayer, community, work/apostolate).
2. The students will discuss the purpose of religious orders in the Church.

 EXPLANATION

Using the PowerPoint, the teacher will lead the students in a discussion of the following points:

* All people are called to holiness. A vocation is God’s unique call to each person and their path to holiness.
* The four vocations to which God calls people include marriage, dedicated single life, religious life and priesthood.
* Four characteristics of religious life include the vows, prayer, community, and work/apostolate.
* Religious orders carry on Jesus’ work in the Church today. Throughout history, the Holy Spirit has inspired men and women to found religious orders to meet the needs of the people of that time.

 APPLICATION

* Students will research a CMSWR religious community and create a presentation. See ‘Religious

Community Research Project’ instruction sheet and rubric for details about the project.

 CELEBRATION

**Prayer of St. John Paul II for Vocations**

Lord Jesus, as You once called the first disciples to make them fishers of men, let Your invitation continue to resound: Come follow Me! Give young men and women the grace of responding quickly to Your voice. Support our bishops, priests, and consecrated people in their work. Grant perseverance to our seminarians and to all those who are living a life totally given to Your service. Awaken in our community a missionary eagerness. Lord, send workers to Your harvest and do not allow souls to be lost for the lack of pastors, missionaries, and people dedicated to the cause of the Gospel. Mary, Mother of the Church, the model of every vocation, help us to say “yes” to the Lord who calls us to cooperate in the divine plan of salvation. Amen.