

# Retirement Fund for Religious

Sponsored by the  
National Religious Retirement Office



Fall 2023  
Volume 36  
No. 3

## News

### Dear Friends of the National Religious Retirement Office,

I am writing to you with some personal news. After seven years of ministry with the National Religious Retirement Office, I want to let you know that I am leaving my position as Executive Director as of October 6. I will be returning to San Francisco where my community, the Sisters of the Presentation of Blessed Virgin Mary, is located.



My time at NRRO has been very rich and inspiring for me. Through my experiences, I have developed a deep appreciation for women and men religious. Their daily commitment to charism and mission which is witnessed in service to the Church and the people of God has been a daily inspiration to me. I am grateful to have been able to play some part in assuring they experience a “future full of hope.”



I am happy to announce that John Knutsen will become Director of the National Religious Retirement Office on October 9. He comes to the position with a wealth of experience and an appreciation for religious life. Some of you have already worked with John on various educational projects. He can be reached through his e-mail: [jknutsen@uscgb.org](mailto:jknutsen@uscgb.org).

I am also grateful to all of you for the relationships and sense of purpose I have gained through my many interactions with you.

As I leave, I am very aware that in my ministry, I have been surrounded by a community of supporters, advisors, fellow seekers and experts. All have given me guidance and encouragement. I have learned so much and will carry my learnings and experiences with me.

I want to say a special thank you to the NRRO office and extended staff who daily inspire me by their commitment to our mission and their generosity of spirit. Their attitude of service is a hallmark of the office and comes from their appreciation for religious life and the many they have come to know through their own ministry.

A fundamental part of the NRRO community are the faithful United States Catholics who continue to donate so generously to the Retirement Fund for Religious. For the last collection, we received \$27.6 million and were able to send \$25 million to 297 institutes. I am often asked why Catholics continue to donate so generously to the collection. My reply is that the Catholic community sees women and men religious “out there”

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serving so many and witnessing to the Gospel values. The witness of religious in schools, hospitals, in justice works, at spirituality centers, at the border, and wherever there is need continues to be valued by US Catholics and many others.

Meister Eckhart reminds us: “If the only prayer you ever say in your entire life is —Thank You— it will be enough.”

While I have many prayers in my heart for you, *thank you for everything* is certainly foremost.

With gratitude,

Sister Stephanie Still, PBVM



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### Stay Connected

Please send changes in address, phone, email or congregational leadership to the NRRO, c/o Karen Cañas ([kcanas@usccb.org](mailto:kcanas@usccb.org)), so that we may keep our records and mailing lists updated.

The National Religious Retirement Office coordinates the national collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious and distributes these funds to eligible religious institutes for their retirement needs. Our mission is to support, educate, and assist religious institutes in the United States to embrace their current retirement realities and to plan for the future.