



Directory
Religious Communities
of Women

serving in the
Diocese of Erie

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Communities of Women Religious

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Am I Challenged
to answer God's call
to service and to holiness?



*We have gathered some information
that might be of interest to you about
communities of women religious (sisters)
who minister in the
Diocese of Erie.*

Motherhouse/Monastery Address:

Mount Saint Benedict Monastery
6101 East Lake Road
Erie, PA 16511-1599
Website: www.eriebenedictines.org

Contact Person:

Sr. Dorothy Stoner, OSB
(814) 899-0614 ext. 2511
E-mail: formation@mtstbenedict.org
vocation@mtstbenedict.org

Places where sisters minister:

Erie, PA
Cleveland, OH
Kansas City, MO
Deleware

History:

In 1856, four sisters from Eichstatt Germany settled in Erie to teach the children of German immigrants. Teaching continues to be one of the many ministries of the Benedictine Sisters of Erie. The ministries in which we engage are expressive of the gifts and skills of the sisters and responsive to the needs of the local area. The community supports a wide range of its own ministries. Many sisters work in ministries outside the community structure, such as health care, educational or church-sponsored institutions.

Ages accepted for membership:

It is expected that the woman would be a high school graduate. The individual would have lived on her own with full time employment for at least one year prior to beginning the formal application process.



Identifying Initials:
OSB

Monastic
Community

MISSION STATEMENT

**The Benedictine
way is to seek
God in the
communal life
and to respond
in prayer and
ministry.**



Identifying Initials:
OSB

Monastic
Community

MISSION STATEMENT

To seek God
and witness
Jesus Christ
through prayer,
community life,
hospitality, and
service. We
are dedicated
to fostering
spirituality,
supporting
education and
being wise
stewards of
God's creation.

Motherhouse/Monastery Address:

St. Joseph Monastery
303 Church Street
St. Marys, PA 15857
(814) 834-2267
Website: www.osbnuns.org
E-mail: svallimont@hotmail.com

Contact Person:

Sr. Victoria Marconi, OSB
(814) 834-2267 Ext. 240
E-mail: vmarconi33@hotmail.com

Places where sisters minister:

St. Marys & Lucinda, PA

History:

Came to America from Eichstatt, Germany at the request of the Benedictine Fathers of St. Vincent Archabbey. The Sisters arrived in St. Marys, PA, July 22, 1852 and since that time have branched out founding eight daughter houses, and are currently ministering wherever and in whatever field the church has a need.

Ages accepted for membership:

Women 20 years or older.

Motherhouse/Monastery Address:

“Domus Caritas”
409 West Sixth Street
Erie, PA 16507

Contact Person:

Sister Coordinator, CDS
(814) 455-3590

Places where sisters minister:

Motherhouse, Erie, PA
St. James School, Erie
House of Loreto, Canton, OH

History:

Founded on Feast of Sacred Heart in 1956 by Archbishop Gannon with Superiors Mother Patricia O'Connor and Sr. Ann Jeanne Chisholm. Community received 'Nihil Obstat', Constitutions and Book of Directives approved by the Sacred Congregation of Religious.

Ages accepted for membership:

18-30



Identifying Initials:
CDS

Apostolic
Community

MISSION STATEMENT

“Sharing the Gift
of Faith
We Have
Received”

•
Preach His
Gospel to all,
strengthened by
the Power
of the
Sacraments

Motherhouse/Monastery Address:

Carmelite Monastery
510 E. Gore Road
Erie, PA 16509-3799

Identifying Initials:
OCD

Cloistered
Community

**MISSION
STATEMENT**

Prayer and
Sacrifice
Carmel, the order
of Mary, vowed to
Adoration of the
Infinite God and
Renunciation of
the world
on the holy
Mount of Prayer
and Penance
offers
Expiation for the
sins of the
world by
Love, Sacrifice
and Prayer.

Contact Person:

Mother Emmanuel of the Mother of God, OCD
(814) 825-0846

Places where sisters minister:

The whole world
(but we live in Erie)

History:

1209-Mount Carmel in Palestine. Rule given to
the first Carmelite Hermits

1562-Avila Spain. St. Teresa of Jesus,
foundress of the Carmelite Reform

1790-America. First Carmelite Nuns arrive
from Europe

1957-Erie, PA Carmel of the Holy Family
founded on February 7th, from Wheeling, West
Virginia

Ages accepted for membership:

21 - 35

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Motherhouse/Monastery Address:

1750 Quarry Road
Yardley, PA 19067-3998
Phone: (215) 968-4236
Fax: (215) 968-6656
Website: <http://www.greynun.org>



Identifying Initials:
GNSH

Contact Person:

Sr. Eileen Spanier, GNSH
Vocation Director
D'Youville College
320 Porter Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14201-1084
E-mail: ESpanGNSH@aol.com

Apostolic
Community

Places where sisters minister:

Present in 22 dioceses from Alaska to Georgia

History:

One of the six "sister-congregations" whose foundress is St. Marguerite d'Youville, "Mother of Universal Charity." Today we are engaged in education, health-care, pastoral and social ministries in the U.S. and Canada.

Ages accepted for membership:

20 -45

**MISSION
STATEMENT**

Steeped in
contemplation
and trust
in Divine
Providence to
bring love and
service to the
poor and needy
of our world.

•

"Our overriding
concern is that
the Gospel
message be
proclaimed
especially to the
poor and needy
of our world."

Motherhouse/Monastery Address:

Sisters of Our Lady of Charity
 Sr. Carol Pregno, OLC
 Superior General
 NAU Sisters of Our Lady of Charity
 620 Roswell Road, N.W., P.O. Box 340
 Carrollton, OH 44615-0340
 E-mail: naucenter@hotmail.com
 Website: www.nauolc.org

Identifying Initials: OLC

Apostolic
Community

Contact Person:

Sr. Severiana Morales, OLC
 East Lake Road
 Erie, PA 16511
 (814) 899-1052
 E-mail: sseveriana@aol.com

Places where sisters minister:

Wisconsin	Texas
New York	California
Pennsylvania	Ohio
West Virginia	Mexico
Florida	Canada

History:

Founded in France in 1641 by St. John Eudes. Spread to the U.S. in 1855, Buffalo, NY. Erie Community was established in 1934 for a residential center for girls.

MISSION STATEMENT

Called to witness God's mercy and compassion with the oppressed and marginalized of society, especially women...by empowering them to realize their human dignity and invite them to wholeness.

Motherhouse/Monastery Address:

Mt. Assisi Convent
 934 Forest Avenue
 Pittsburgh, PA 15202
 Website: www.franciscansisters-pa.org

Contact Person:

Sr. Geraldine Ann Kasper, OSF
 1155 East 9th Street
 Erie, PA 16503
 Phone: (814) 454-5567
 E-mail: sgkasperosf@hotmail.com

Places where sisters minister:

Arizona	India
Massachusetts	Kazakhstan
New Jersey	Poland
Pennsylvania	Czech Republic
Texas	Slovak Republic
Africa	Rome
Chile	Italy

History:

Mother Antonia Lampel began our community in Graz, Austria in 1843. In 1888, three blood sisters from this community formed a new foundation in Bohemia, and from there came to Pittsburgh, PA in 1913.

Ages accepted for membership:

18-45, but will give serious consideration on an individual basis to an older candidate.



Identifying Initials:
OSF

Apostolic
Community

MISSION STATEMENT

The School Sisters of St. Francis are rooted in the Franciscan penitential tradition of Gospel living in intimate union with God in the midst of apostolic service. We minister through Christian formation, education, and development of the total person.



Identifying Initials:
SC

Apostolic
Community

MISSION STATEMENT

To Carry
Christ
To All Whom
We Serve

•

“The Charity
of Christ
Urges Us”

Motherhouse/Monastery Address:

Caritas Christi (dedicated 1999)
459 Mount Thor Road
Greensburg, PA 15601-1293
Website: www.scsch.org

Contact Person:

Sr. Grace Hertzog, SC
Provincial Secretary
DePaul Center
463 Mt. Thor Road
Greensburg, PA 15601
Phone: (724) 836-0406 x 617
E-mail: ghertzog@scsch.org

Places where sisters minister:

Greensburg, PA	Washington, DC
Pittsburgh, PA	Florida
Altoona, PA	West Virginia
Johnstown, PA	Ohio
Erie, PA	South Korea
Arizona	

History:

August 20, 1870 Sisters of Charity from Cincinnati arrived in Western PA to establish a community of religious women in the tradition of Elizabeth Seton.

Motherhouse/Monastery Address:

444 East Grandview Blvd.
Erie, PA 16504
Website: www.mercyerie.org

Contact Person:

Sr. Shelia Stevenson, RSM
Phone: (585) 269-8858
E-mail: sssrsm@localnet.com

Sr. Teresa Okonski, RSM
Phone: (814) 824-3931
E-mail: srteresa@excite.com

Places where sisters minister:

Diocese of Erie

History:

Founded by Catherine McAuley in 1831-
Dublin, Ireland. Erie community founded from
Pittsburgh in Titusville, PA in 1870. Founded
and/or support many institutes including
Mercyhurst College and DuBois Medical Center,
as well as ministries for young people, homeless
women and children and the elderly.

Ages accepted for membership:

College age and upward.



Identifying Initials:
RSM

Apostolic
Community

MISSION STATEMENT

Sisters of Mercy
minister with
compassion the
spiritual and
corporal works
of mercy to the
poor, sick and
uneducated with
special concern
for women.
Mindful of the
needs of the
times, we strive
to direct our
works of love,
justice and peace
for the sake of
the Kingdom of
God.



Identifying Initials:
OSBM

Apostolic
Community

MISSION STATEMENT

Seeking to live
the fullness of
the Gospel...

- Reach out to the broken, the needy and the unlearned;
- Seek new ways to serve; and
- Be a healing presence in the Church, excluding no one in sharing the Good News that GOD IS WITH US.

OSBM

Motherhouse/Monastery Address:

500 W. Main Street
P.O. Box 878
Uniontown, PA 15401
Phone: (724) 438-8644
Fax: (724) 438-8660
E-mail: osbmolph@verizon.net

Contact Person:

Sr. Barbara Jean Mihalchick OSBM
Vocation Director
510 West Main Street
P.O. Box 878
Uniontown, PA 15401
Phone: (724) 438-7149
Fax: (724) 438-3048
E-mail: sbjm45@yahoo.com

Places where sisters minister:

Mount St. Macrina	Cleveland, OH
Uniontown, PA	Parma, OH
Erie, PA	St. Petersburg, FL
Wilkes-Barre, PA	Phoenix, AR
McKees Rocks, PA	Pittsburgh, PA

History:

A religious order of the Eastern Catholic Church, founded in the 4th century by St. Basil and his sister St. Macrina. The first Basilian Sisters came to the United States from Ukraine in 1911, establishing a Motherhouse in Philadelphia.

Rev. Mother M. Macrina founded the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Province in Cleveland in 1921. Initially, the community took care of orphaned children.

Ages accepted for membership:

19-45

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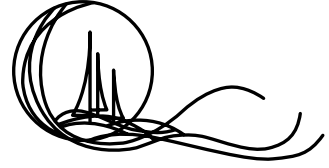
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Motherhouse/Monastery Address:

Sisters of St. Joseph
5031 West Ridge Road
Erie, PA 16506-1249
Website: www.ssjerie.org



Identifying Initials:
SSJ

Contact Person:

Sr. Clare Marie Beichner, SSJ
5031 West Ridge Road
Erie, PA 16506-1249
Phone: (814) 836-4212
E-mail: s.cmbeichner@ssjerie.org

Apostolic
Community

Places where sisters minister:

Primarily in the Erie Diocese (Erie, Johnsonburg, Kane, Meadville, Oil City, Osceola Mills, Sharon, Titusville). Sisters also serve in Florida, New York, Ohio, Tennessee and Washington, DC.

History:

The Sisters of St. Joseph were founded in 1650 in LePuy, France. In 1836 six sisters arrived in St. Louis, Missouri at the request of the Bishop. From there Mother Agnes Spencer with three other sisters came to the Erie Diocese in 1860.

Ages accepted for membership:

Women 20 years or older may be considered for membership.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Sisters of St. Joseph are women who affirm their mission of unity of neighbor with neighbor and neighbor with God – a mission rooted in that of Jesus Christ.

Sisters strive to meet the needs of the people of God through works, such as, education, healthcare, social ministries, foster care, outreach to the poor, campus and parish ministry, retreat work and spiritual direction.



Motherhouse/Monastery Address:

Villa Maria Community Center
P.O. Box 914
Villa Maria, PA 16155
Website: www.humilityofmary.org

Identifying Initials:

HM

Apostolic
Community

Contact Person:

Sr. Mary Ann Spangler, HM
Phone: (440) 356-5660
E-mail: maspangler@hmministry.org

Places where sisters minister:

Ecclesia Center and Saint Joseph Parish, Sharon in the Diocese of Erie; also the dioceses of Cincinnati, Cleveland, Grand Island, Lansing, Lexington, Palm Beach, Pittsburgh, Richmond, Tucson, Washington, DC, Wheeling-Charleston, Youngstown; and Haiti.

History:

Founded in France in 1854, the entire community came to Villa Maria, PA in 1864. Within eight years the sisters were serving in parishes in the dioceses of Cleveland, Erie, Pittsburgh, and St. Joseph, Missouri. In 1889 when the sisters opened a US post office, Villa Maria became the official name of the motherhouse property.

Ages accepted for membership:

Ordinarily, candidates are between the ages of 20 and 45.

MISSION STATEMENT

We share Jesus' mission of bringing more abundant life to God's people, especially those who are poor, by announcing the liberating message of the gospel and by the witness of our lives.

Motherhouse/Monastery Address:

P.O. Box 186
Frenchville, PA 16836

Contact Person:

Sr. Ruth Ann Madera, CA
P.O. Box 186
Clearfield, PA 16836
(814) 263-4518
E-mail: anawimco@pennswoods.com

Places where sisters minister:

The Community of Anawim provides the opportunity for a broad variety of ministries. At the present time they include Adult, Family and Youth Retreats, Youth Ministry, Direct Services to the Poor, Medical Free Clinic, Emergency Shelter for Women and Children, Pregnancy and Infant Support Services, and Used Clothing and Furniture Outlet. Services are provided in Blair, Cambria, Centre, Clearfield, and Jefferson Counties in Pennsylvania.

History:

The members are called to live a communal life of prayer, simplicity and hospitality, and availability for the service of others; all this is done by seeking to embrace the spirit and charism of the Beatitudes.

Ages accepted for membership:

20 years and older.



Identifying Initials:
CA

Private Association of
Christian Faithful

**MISSION
STATEMENT**

The members are called to live a communal life of prayer, simplicity and hospitality, and availability for the service of others; all this is done by seeking to embrace the spirit and charism of the Beatitudes.

Someone challenged to live religious life is usually:

- † motivated by a deep love of God
- † sensitive to human needs and a desire to meet those needs
- † willing to share faith and life in community
- † searching for meaning in life that witnesses to Gospel values
- † open to life, its growth, and its challenges

*If this sounds like a challenge for your future,
talk with a priest or sister.
You may be on to something quite amazing!*

Vocation Awareness Committee
Diocese of Erie
814-824-1125
E-mail: womenreligious@eriercd.org