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**Cardinal Rigali Message
Consecrated Life**

Announcer: And now a message from Cardinal Justin Rigali, Archbishop of Philadelphia.

Dear Friends,

There is no greater way to demonstrate one's love and devotion to God than by hearing the call of Jesus Christ and following it to a religious vocation, also known as consecrated life.

The Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that the consecrated life recognized by the Church is a free response to a special call from Christ by which those consecrated men and women give themselves completely to God and strive for the perfection of charity moved by the Holy Spirit. The consecrated life participates in the mission of the Church by means of a complete dedication to Christ and to one's brothers and sisters witnessing to the hope of the heavenly Kingdom.

I encourage young men and women to open their hearts to the possibility of being called by Jesus, and then to have the courage to respond to that call.

May God bless you all.

(Source: The Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Nos. 192-193.)

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