

*“Support your priests with your love and prayers, that they may always be shepherds after Christ’s heart.”*

*Pope Francis*



# Seven Sisters Apostolate

Promoted by the Diocese of Superior Councils of Catholic Women

**A SEVEN SISTER: ONE HOLY HOUR, ONE PRIEST, EACH WEEK,  
ONE HEART OF PRAYER**

ONE HEART OF PRAYER

# Why this Apostolate? Why here & now?

➤ *“The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few...” (Mt. 9:37)*

➤ In responding to Christ’s call to pray for shepherds, we need to pray for those who have already responded to His call.

➤ What better project to undertake as CCW women than prayer for our priests, on whom we depend for Christ’s Real Presence?

➤ *“For wherever two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” (Mt. 18:20)*

➤ This is a gift to our diocese – no cost, no travel required... The Holy Spirit is offering us this opportunity to build the Church within our means and realities in solidarity with our CCW sisters.



CCW Members are

## Women of Mission...

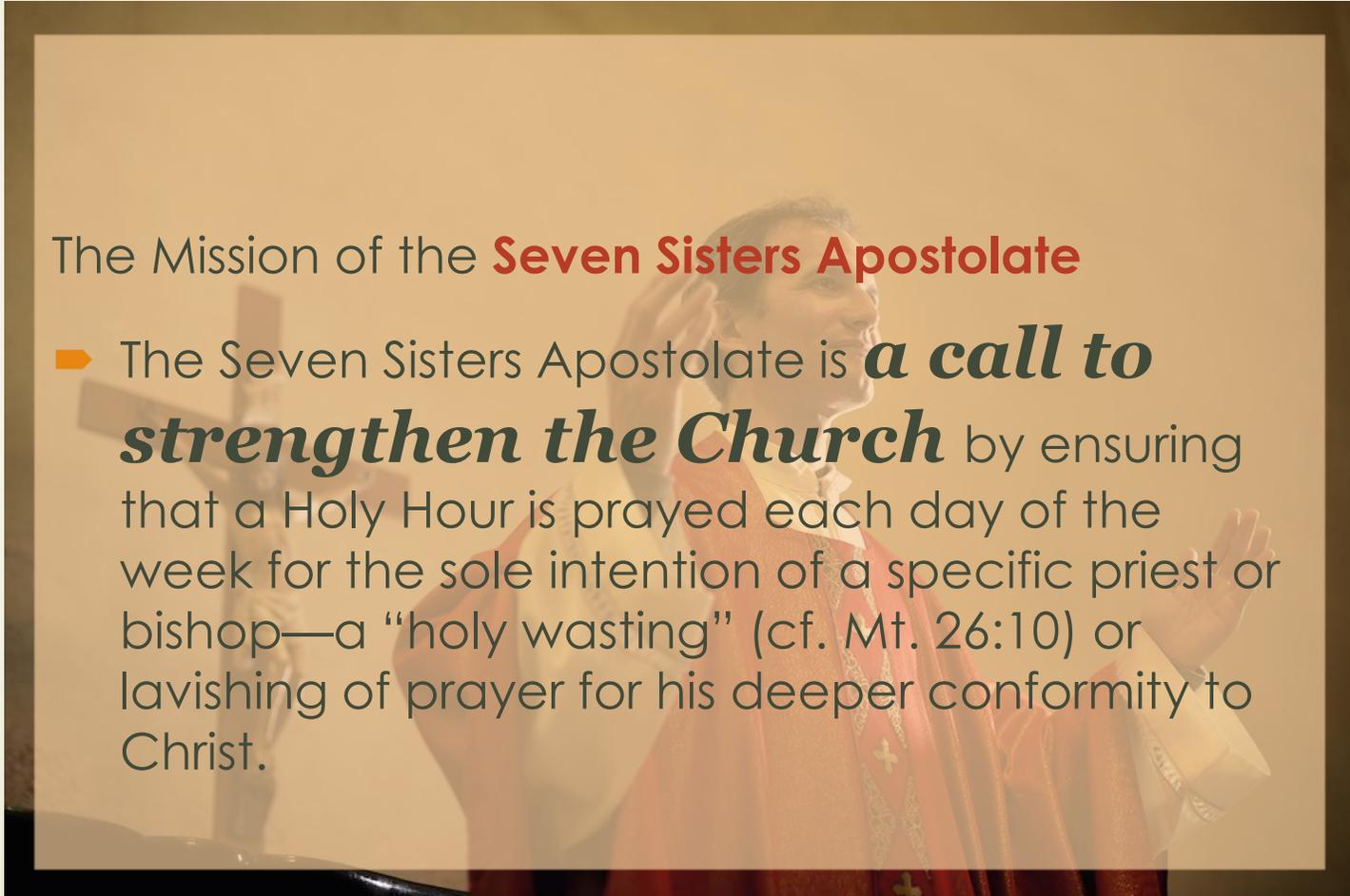
The Mission of the **National & Diocese of Superior's CCW**

- ▶ The National Council of Catholic Women **acts** through its membership **to support, empower, and educate** all Catholic women **in spirituality, leadership, and service.** NCCW **programs respond with gospel values to the needs of the church and society** in the modern world.
- ▶ The SDCCW is about being involved with a group of faith filled women who **live out their Catholic faith and values through action.** It is about a group of **women united for the purpose of building God's kingdom on earth.**



Seven Sister Apostolate Members are  
**Women of Mission...**

The Mission of the **Seven Sisters Apostolate**

- ▶ The Seven Sisters Apostolate is ***a call to strengthen the Church*** by ensuring that a Holy Hour is prayed each day of the week for the sole intention of a specific priest or bishop—a “holy wasting” (cf. Mt. 26:10) or lavishing of prayer for his deeper conformity to Christ.
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- ▶ Can there be a better way to

*be leaders, to develop spirituality, to serve...*

*than to encourage women to spend time in focused prayer for the men whose very identity is to be ANOTHER CHRIST, who came to serve and lead us to eternal life?*

- ▶ Is there a more efficient way to

*build God's kingdom...*

*and respond to the tragedies befalling humanity - such as human trafficking, child abuse and displaced immigrants - than to steep ourselves in disciplined prayer, while respecting our current state in life, to become ANOTHER CHRIST and thus respond to those in need in our homes and in our world?*



# Testimonies of A Priest Prayed For

- *“To know people are praying for you, your intentions, is very profound and overwhelming to say the least. I know in my heart and soul that their prayers are affecting me in ways I don't understand or perceive. In this vocation of priesthood, that God has placed me, I wouldn't want to even imagine what it would be like without their prayers. May our Lord bless them abundantly.”*

Fr. Ed Anderson, Rice Lake Cluster



# Testimonies of Seven Sisters Praying for Priests in the Diocese of Superior

- ▶ *“There is no better gift to give to our priests than our prayers. The Seven Sisters Apostolate provides an opportunity to commit to a Holy Hour each week for our priest. The commitment assures that I will be there. Without the commitment, I don’t know that I would offer an hour of prayer each week just for the pastor as there always seems to be so much to pray for. This makes it so easy to do!”*

Esther St. Catherine, Hayward Cluster



# How do we Get Started?

Visit [sevensistersapostolate.org](http://sevensistersapostolate.org) for more information, frequently asked questions and many other resources.

## ➤ Seven Women

- From among the cluster of parishes served by your Pastor
- All ages, any state in life – discern possibly the call to be a substitute or assistant if weekly commitment isn't possible
- Seven days of the week divided among the Seven Sisters; co-adorers can share the weekly commitment

## ➤ One anchoress

- Communicates & Coordinates with the priest and among the committed Seven Sisters



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## ► One Hour of Prayer Each Week

- Hour is to be solely focused on your priest – for his perseverance, for his intentions, for his devotion to *Mary*.
- The hour is intended to be prayed in front of the Eucharist, exposed when possible. Can be prayed in another church when travelling or from anywhere as an exception to the norm.
- Commitment to the Holy Hour is for one year

## PRAYER OF ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA FOR PRIESTS

Mary, Mother of Jesus throw your mantle of purity over our priests.

Protect them, guide them and keep them in your heart.

Be a mother to them especially in times of discouragement and loneliness.

Love them and let them belong completely to Jesus.

Like Jesus, they too are your sons, so keep their hearts pure and virginal.

Keep their minds filled with Jesus, and put Jesus always on their lips,

so that He is the one they offer to sinners and to all they meet.

Mary, Mother of Jesus, be their Mother, loving them and bringing them joy.

Take special care of sick and dying priests and the ones most tempted.

Remember how they spent their youth and old age, their entire lives serving and giving all to

Jesus. Mary, bless them and keep a special place for them in your heart.

Give them a piece of your heart, so beautiful and pure and immaculate,

so full of love and humility so that they, too, may grow in the likeness of Christ.

Dear Mary, make them humble like you and holy like Jesus. Amen.

## *O Mother of Good Counsel...*

God of Heavenly wisdom, you have given us Mary, Mother of Jesus, to be our guide and counselor.

Grant that we may always seek her motherly help in this life and so enjoy her blessed presence in the life to come.

O Mother of Good Counsel, patroness of the National Council of Catholic Women, ***intercede for us, that we may be wise, courageous and loving leaders of the Church.***

Help us, dear mother, to know the mind of Jesus, your son.

May the Holy Spirit fill us with reverence for God's creation, and compassion for all God's children.

May our labors of love on earth enhance the reign of God and may God's gifts of faith and living hope prepare us for the fullness of the world to come.

Amen.



**ONE HEART OF PRAYER**