

# Handmaids of the Heart of Jesus

## 15 Year Anniversary

### *Handmaids at a Glance*

- 36 - total sisters
- 4 - new postulants
- 6 - novices
- 8 - candidates
- 4 - houses in 4 dioceses
- 15 - parishes served
- 7 - schools served
- 6 - universities served

### *Marian. Eucharistic. Diocesan. Evangelistic*



*May it be done to me  
according to Thy word.  
- Luke 1:38*



### *About the Handmaids*

On March 24, 2010, the Handmaids of the Heart of Jesus were formally established as a Public Association of the Faithful with the intention of becoming a Religious Institute of Diocesan Right by Bishop John LeVoor. The Handmaids' mission and charism is to live in imitation of Mary as spiritual mothers in the diocesan life of the Church carrying out the new evangelization in parishes. As diocesan sisters, the Handmaids bring a feminine consecrated presence to the local Church. They serve as spiritual mothers in the parish family and help all whom they encounter to find their true home in God.



### *Becoming a Sister*



The young women who join the Handmaids are between 20-30 years of age and are all college graduates. They come from all over the country, but mostly from the Midwest. These women begin their time at the New Ulm Motherhouse with a three-year formation period in which they learn the way of life and take classes on subjects such as: Philosophy, Theology, Scripture, Church History, Education, etc. After these three years, sisters profess first vows and then are assigned to one of their four different houses. These professed sisters serve in various ministry positions, and in the summers, they attend classes at the University of St. Thomas where they earn a graduate level certificate in Catholic education. After a total of eight years, a sister would then profess perpetual vows. Having experienced the love of God in a profound way, the Handmaids desire to give their lives totally to God and to help others encounter that same love. Being with the Lord in prayer is the source of their joy and their vocation. It is also the place where they are given strength for their mission and intercede for the needs of the world.



## *Handmaids in St. Paul*

The Handmaids of the Heart of Jesus have been serving in the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis since 2020. There are currently 6 sisters who live at their house in St. Paul, and they serve at Holy Family, Nativity of Our Lord, and the Church of St. Joseph in West St. Paul. In addition, the sisters also have a presence at the University of Minnesota and the University of St. Thomas.

The Handmaids' apostolate includes various ministries, such as instructing those who are interested in becoming Catholic, teaching Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, teaching Theology and assisting with Campus Ministry at the Catholic schools. The sisters also serve the local parishes by hosting monthly parish gatherings for families, assisting with junior sacristans, helping with the youth groups, and visiting families in their homes. In a particular way, the Handmaids seek to care for the women in the parishes by hosting weekend silent retreats, mornings of reflection, and small groups for women of all ages. The sisters are also present at Archdiocesan events and youth retreats, like Extreme Faith Camp.



The six sisters receive moderate stipends for their work in the parishes and the diocese which help to support their general operating costs. Otherwise, they are supported by donations for their housing, food, cars, and household goods. In all of their works the sisters seek to bring Our Lady's presence to the parish family and to draw others closer to Jesus.

## *Chapel Construction*

The Handmaids recently had the opportunity to purchase a more centrally located home for their sisters. The sisters will be needing replace the roof and are hoping to construct a proper chapel in the house.



If you would like to support the Handmaids by making a gift toward these projects, you can donate online or by mail.

