



The Holy See establishes the Consecrated Women and the Lay Consecrated Men of Regnum Christi as Societies of Apostolic Life of Pontifical Right

- Archbishop Rodríguez Carballo, OFM, presented the Consecrated Women and the Lay Consecrated Men of Regnum Christi the decrees that establish them as societies of apostolic life of pontifical right and approve their respective constitutions.
- The pontifical decrees were delivered after the opening Mass of the second part of the Extraordinary General Assembly of Regnum Christi, in which the Legionaries of Christ, Consecrated Women, Lay Consecrated Men and lay people are meeting to work out the text of the Statutes of the Regnum Christi Federation .
- Both the Consecrated Women, who will celebrate their 50th anniversary in 2019, and the Lay Consecrated Men of Regnum Christi requested this official approval from the Holy See after the first part of their General Assemblies, in December 2017 and April 2018 respectively.
- Canonical recognition is an expression that these vocations in Regnum Christi are a gift that contribute to the mission of the Church as a path of holiness and of encounter between God and people.
- The canonical approval makes it possible for the Consecrated Women and the Lay Consecrated Men to be constituted as a federation, together with the Legionaries of Christ. In this way Regnum Christi can take on a canonical configuration with which lay people can associate themselves on an individual basis.
- These approvals are part of the last stage of the journey of renewal that all of Regnum Christi has been on since 2010 under the guidance of the Church. This stage will conclude with the presentation of general statutes for the entire Regnum Christi to the Holy See for final approval.



REGNUM CHRISTI

North American Territorial Office of Communication

November 27, 2018. **The Holy See, through the Secretary for the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, have officially handed over, to the Consecrated Women and the Lay Consecrated Men of Regnum Christi, the pontifical decrees that establish them canonically as societies of apostolic life and approve their constitutions. With this official recognition, the Church acknowledges the Consecrated Women and the Lay Consecrated Men of Regnum Christi as both a gift that contributes to the mission of the Church and as a place of encounter between people and God. This step also makes it possible for them, together with the Legionaries of Christ, to form a federation. In this way Regnum Christi can take on a canonical configuration with which lay people can associate themselves on an individual basis.**

The opening Mass of the Regnum Christi General Assembly took place in the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe and Saint Philip the Martyr in Rome, with the participation of the delegates of the Extraordinary General Assembly of Regnum Christi, as well as members from the communities of Consecrated Women, Lay Consecrated Men and Legionaries of Christ here in Rome. During the homily, Archbishop Rodríguez Carballo reminded them: “None of you will be able to carry out the mission on your own; none of you, not the Legionaries, the Consecrated Women nor the Lay Consecrated Men... This establishment of two societies of apostolic life (for the consecrated women and the consecrated men of Regnum Christi) is a first step that will reach its fulfilment through the next step, on the day you associate canonically as a federation, in other words, as a family. I will never tire of telling you “Be united!” because the charism is one, although the ways of developing it and living it are diverse.” He also congratulated the members of all the branches (the Legionaries of Christ, the Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi, the Lay Consecrated Men of Regnum Christi, and the Lay Members of Regnum Christi): “Congratulations! From this moment on may Regnum Christi continue to work, if possible, with even greater strength as a family united in Christ with the same charism. All of you can always count on the help of Mother Church who will certainly lend you her hand as she has up until now at all times and in all kinds of circumstances.”

At the end of the Mass, Archbishop Rodríguez Carballo handed over the decrees of establishment to the general director of the Consecrated Women and the general responsible of the Lay Consecrated Men.

“We are very happy with the news of the canonical establishment. It comes at a providential moment,” stated Gloria Rodríguez, the general director of the Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi. “On December 8 we will begin preparations for the jubilee year, 50th anniversary, of consecration of the first three Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi—Margarita Estrada, Graciela and Guadalupe Magaña—who were joined shortly afterwards by Patricia Bannon and Fátima Portillo,” she recalled in a letter addressed to all the Consecrated Women. “The Church, of which we are living stones, recognizes us as a society of apostolic life that collaborates in serving the universal mission it has received from Christ,” she concludes.

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For his part, Jorgé López, the general responsible for the Lay Consecrated Men of Regnum Christi writes, “We should be very grateful: grateful to God, first and foremost; grateful to the Church that has accompanied us over these years; and to all the Regnum Christi members whom we consider to be our brothers and sisters.” In the letter he sent to all the Lay Consecrated Men, Jorgé underlines, “With this step we want to express, once again, that we consider ourselves full members of Regnum Christi and want to continue contributing to the common mission.”

Resources

- [Listen to homily translated into English from](#) Archbishop José Rodríguez Carballo
- [Photo gallery](#)
- [Decree of establishment](#) of the Society of Apostolic Life of the Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi (Spanish)
- [Decree of establishment](#) of the Society of Apostolic Life of the Lay Consecrated Men of Regnum Christi (Spanish)
- [Listen to the announcement of the Decree of establishments](#) of the Society of Apostolic Life of the Consecrated Women and the Lay Consecrated Men of Regnum Christi.
- [Letter of Gloria Rodríguez](#), General Director of the Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi
- [Letter of Jorge López](#), General Responsable of the Lay Consecrated Men of Regnum Christi.
- [Letter of Father Eduardo Robles-Gil](#), General Director of the Legions of Christ and Regnum Christi, on the occasion of the reception of the decrees establishing the Consecrated Women and the Lay Consecrated Men of Regnum Christi as societies of apostolic life
- [Video from the Lay Consecrated Men to the Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi \(Spanish\)](#)
- [Video of the Lay Consecrated Men on the meaning of being a society of apostolic life \(Spanish\)](#)
- [Video of the Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi on being a society of apostolic life](#)
- [Website of the Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi](#)
- [Website of the Lay Consecrated Men of Regnum Christi](#)
- [Video on becoming Societies of Apostolic Life \(English\)](#)