



- **Brother:** A man who has taken vows to serve the Church in a religious order but is not ordained to the priesthood.
- **Deacon:** An ordained minister who can preach, teach, baptize, witness marriages, and conduct funerals.
- **Diocesan Priest:** An ordained minister who administers sacraments and is under the direction of their local bishop. Most serve in the parishes of the diocese.
- **Religious Priest:** A professed member of a religious order or institute. Religious clergy administer sacraments and live according to the rule of their respective orders.
- **Monk:** A member of a religious community that lives in a monastery and lives a life devoted to prayer.
- **Nun:** a member of a religious order of women with solemn vows who lived a cloistered (secluded) life in a monastery.
- **Sister:** A woman who takes simple vows in a religious order. She lives in the world, actively serving God's people.

- **Religious Order/Congregation:** A national or international group of religious people who live apart from the world to varying degrees, take vows, and live under a set of rules specific to their order.
- **Novitiate:** A time of spiritual trial and formation where novices discern entering a religious community.
- **Temporary Vows:** A promise a man or woman makes when they commit to a period of trial with a certain religious order.
- **Perpetual Vows:** A promise to commit oneself as a member of a religious order for the rest of one's life.
- **Seminary:** A school for men preparing to become a priest.
- **Monastery:** The place where nuns or monks of a religious order live.
- **Convent:** The place where religious sisters live.
- **Mother House:** The central house of a group of religious sisters.

