

ALL SAINTS CONVENT
P.O. BOX 3127
CATONSVILLE MD. 21228

June 18, 2009

Dear Associates, Fellowship members and friends:

I had hoped to send this letter to you before the news hit the 'airwaves'. However, technology is faster than I am!

After many months spent in discerning God's will for us in the Church, the Community believes that it is called to full communion with the Holy See.

God willing, the Archbishop of Baltimore, in the Roman Catholic Church, will receive the All Saints Sisters in a service to be held in our Chapel on 3 September, 2009.

Our community will keep these next weeks leading up to the scheduled reception of its Sisters as a period of final discernment and preparation. It will therefore not be possible for us to answer all the questions and concerns which we may receive. Of the 12 Sisters 10 will be received as of now.

Because the service on September 3rd will be an intensely personal moment in the faith journey of each Sister, and because our space is limited (especially with construction going on), it can be shared only with family and others who have had a part in our journey. We do appreciate your love and understanding, and ask for your prayers on that day.

We are also deeply grateful for the gracious guidance and continued support offered to us by Archbishop O'Brien and the priests and people of his Archdiocese, and for the prayers of so many others throughout the world.

It is our understanding that the Associates and Fellowship may remain so at this time. As a matter of fact, you have been an ecumenical group for years now. Some are Roman Catholic, Orthodox, Anglicans; and some still remain in the Episcopal Church with a few other denominations tossed in!

Historically, our sisterhood has always been close to the Roman Catholic Church, and it will constitute a real reunion with our friends in the Religious Life within that Church.

This is a true launching out into the deep for each Sister, yet we hope it will also begin a time of true re-creation in our Community life. There will be times of anxiety and stress,

as well as joy and gladness, but we take heart in our Lord's word in John 14: 1-6:

Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me.

In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you.

I go to prepare a place for you. And if I prepare a place for you, I will come

again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. And

where I go you know, and the way you know. "....."

I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

As we continue to pray for you, we hold fast to your prayers for us.

In His love,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mother Christina". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a large initial 'M' and a long, sweeping tail on the 'a'.

Mother Christina
Superior of All Saints