

THE OPEN WINDOW Fr. Louis Hohman

Dear Father Hohman,

I am a widow and living on a pension from the railroad since Jack, my husband, died a few years ago. Recently I've been thinking that I would like to turn over my pension and house and become a Sister. I am still active and do all the house chores for my nephew, who has a farm. My question is this: can a woman 72 years old and still going, become a Sister? This is something I thought about when I was a girl and just now I am thinking about it again.

Sincerely,
E.V.

Dear E.V.,

To answer your question I checked out Guide to the Catholic Sisterhoods in the United States. Unfortunately the copy I had was pre-Vatican II, but if you wish to get a later edition you might write Catholic University Press in Washington, D.C. I was rather surprised that almost all the religious congregations have an age limit of about 30. This is quite understandable in terms of the work most of them do and the rather long preparation which would be required for that work. In view of

K O F C INSTALLATION

Irondequoit's Pope Pius XII Council of the knights of Columbus recently installed new officers under the direction of District Deputy James J. Philippone. Those installed are: Joseph Casciani, grand knight; Bernie A. Bromka, deputy grand knight; Richard Di Marco, chancellor; Charles T. Cometa, warden; Ronald R. Rothaus, inside guard; Albert J. Cantert, outside guard; Ernest J. Lariviere, treasurer; John F. Brown, advocate; Thomas J. Grosodonia, Harold Knauf, Gerald Callan trustees; Anthony Foti, financial secretary; Robert S. Walsh, recorder; Thomas J. Grosodonia, historian.

the fact that you would be in a sense self-supporting, I can't imagine that being a factor.

I also checked with some Sisters in Rochester and the best that we and the Guide could come up with was one order of Sisters which does take older women. And that is a rather prestigious one—the Order of Visitation Nuns founded by St. Francis DeSales and St. Jane De Chantal in 1610. It is a cloistered order and was founded to secure the benefit of the religious life for women who might not be capable of a more rigorous religious life (rigorous in the physical sense). The nearest one I could locate was in New York City. The address: Monastery of the Visitation, 256th Street and Arlington Avenue, Riverdale-on-Hudson, New York, N.Y.

I sincerely hope this will be of some help to you and perhaps others who have been wondering about the same thing.

COMMENDED

Janice Copeland and Kathy Nowaski, seniors at St. Agnes High School, have received letters of commendation for their performance on the recent National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.

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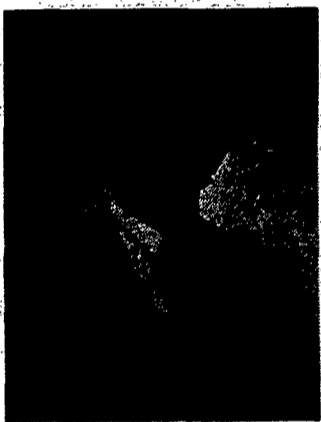
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