



Saint Raymond of Penafort
January 7, 2026

His Eminence Kevin Joseph Cardinal Farrell
Prefect of the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life
Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life
Palazzo San Calisto
00120 Vatican City

Your Eminence:

I wish you a happy new year of grace and blessings. I am pleased to write a recommendation on behalf of the Public Association of the Faithful "Missionaries of Mary" as they seek Pontifical recognition.

Their international evangelization initiative, the Academy of the Americas, operated by their Non-Profit ESPIRITU Community Development Corporation, has made significant strides in reaching young people throughout the Americas. The Academy's program is thoughtfully designed and comprehensive. Participants begin with a week at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. and continue with a second week in a designated Latin American country and complete their formation with a third week at the Marytown headquarters of Missionaries of Mary in Phoenix, Arizona.

Over the past five years, staff of the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops has had the privilege of hosting more than fifty participants during their time at Catholic University of America. This has provided an excellent opportunity for young Catholic leaders to receive meaningful formation and to gain exposure to the rich diversity within the Church. The program attracts promising young leaders from throughout the Americas, and their preparation is essential to the future vitality of both the Church and the nations they represent.

The ongoing collaboration between the Missionaries of Mary and ESPIRITU a non-profit, exemplifies the fulfillment of the Great Commission to evangelize all nations, especially here in the Americas.

I fully support the efforts of the Missionaries of Mary and commend their dedication to forming the next generation of Catholic leaders. I remain steadfast in prayer for the continued success of their important mission and extend my prayers for your ministry and work as well.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Anthony J. Granado
Associate General Secretary

President
The Most Reverend
Paul S. Coakley
Archbishop of
Oklahoma City

General Secretary
Reverend
Michael J.K. Fuller, S.Th.D

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