

WAKE UP THE WORLD!

This was Pope Francis' call to Religious all around the world when he called for a special 'Year for Consecrated Life' from Nov 2014 – February 2016. Here in Ireland that call resonated deeply within the hearts of our Religious communities and indeed with young people who are continually inspired by Our Holy Father.

Rise of the Roses

Rise of the Roses was born out of this call. We are a group of young girls based in Co Tyrone. We are excited about the Year for Consecrated Life and are looking forward with great joy and anticipation to what God has in store for this special year.

Mission: To celebrate and promote Consecrated Religious Life in Ireland

The Rise of the Roses Team are embarking on a nationwide Summer Tour in 2015 – visiting ten Convents on consecutive Saturdays from 13 June to 15 August. We will begin the tour in Faughart (Co Louth) at the birthplace of St Brigid, and conclude at Knock Shrine in honour of Our Lady – Our Golden Rose – on the feast of her Assumption.

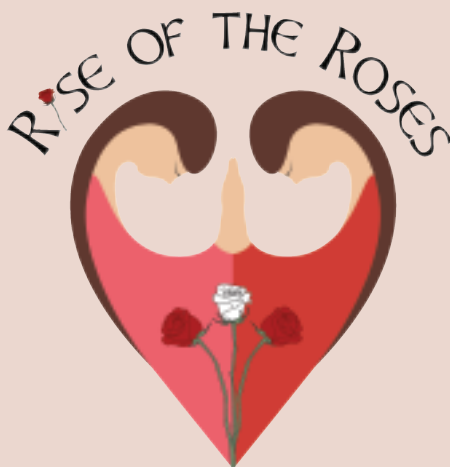
At each convent we will invite people of all ages, particularly girls, to join us as we meet the Sisters, learn about their way of life and their love for God, sing, have a 'wee tea party', say the Rosary, hold an hour of Eucharistic adoration and plant a rose. We will carry the cross of Christ to each Convent and will be supported by a promise of prayers from people all around the world.

Consecrated Life: Bearing Witness

Consecrated Religious Sisters bear witness to Jesus' very real and tangible presence in our world. We believe people NEED to know about this treasure that we have in our midst.

Saint Pope John Paul said in *Vita Consecrata*:

'The consecrated life is not something isolated and marginal but it is a reality which affects the whole church'. He also said: 'As people become greater acquainted with the Consecrated Life they will be able, with greater awareness to thank Almighty God for this great gift.'



Members of the Rise of the Roses Team (from L to R): Méabh Carlin, Mairéad Conwell, Lynette McShane, Lisa O'Hare

Through we hope to prepare the soil for a new generation of young women (Irish Roses) to rise up and answer God's call to holiness.

We believe in power through 'unity'.

We are praying for support from Religious sisters, brothers, Priests and lay people of all ages through practical and spiritual support.

Each Convent on the Tour is part of a local community. We have a vision that people in the parishes surrounding the Convents will get involved in promoting the Tour in their own Diocese, and encourage their young people to visit the Convents and get involved. We are also hoping that established Religious groups will lend their support as we are promoting Eucharistic Adoration, the Rosary and other Catholic devotions.

Rise of the Roses Tour: Saturday, 13 June – Saturday, 15 August

- Poor Clares, Faughart, Co Louth
- Sisters of Adoration and Reparation, Belfast
- Dominican Contemplative Nuns, Drogheda
- Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal, Drogheda
- Redemptoristine Sisters, Dublin
- Sister Disciples of the Divine Master, Athlone
- Carmelite Sisters, New Ross, Wexford
- Cistercian Sisters, Waterford
- Salesian Sisters, Limerick
- Poor Clares, Galway

We hope this Tour will raise awareness of the happiness and joy that comes from saying 'YES' to God!

We have been overwhelmed by the response of young girls to Rise of the Roses, even at this early stage in our mission. We have a monthly 'Sing a new Song' night in St Ciaran's College Ballygawley (on the second Thursday of each month) where we invite young people to sing and pray together, meet Sisters and prepare for the Tour.

These are precious nights and there is a vibrancy and a youthful sense of wonder (excitement even!) as we learn about Religious life in this country and look forward to the Tour.

We don't believe that it's a coincidence that 'Sing a new Song' is also the motto for Archbishop Eamon Martin's ministry. We believe that music has the power to touch hearts in a profound way and 'rushes us into an awareness of the presence of God'. Young people in Ireland today are singing a new song all around the country. We can hear their voices and we are praying that the Rise of the Roses will help more young people encounter Jesus, find their voice and sing out together in happy praise and trust in God!

Rise of the Roses will be launched officially as part of a special Mass for the Year for Consecrated Life in Armagh Cathedral on St Brigid's Day – Sunday, 1 February 2015 at 11.00 am.

For more information visit www.riseoftheroses.org and follow us on Facebook www.facebook.com/riseoftheroses and Twitter [@riseoftheroses](https://twitter.com/riseoftheroses)