Dear Bishop,

Religious orders and communities in The Episcopal Church offer spiritual friendship and resources to all Episcopalians who are seeking a deeper relationship with God and who are discerning their own spiritual path. Unfortunately, most Episcopalians don’t know we exist and that we offer community and resources for holy living to all Episcopalians and those in our communion.

To help us remedy this, we invite you to join us in observing and celebrating Religious Life Sunday, which was established by resolution 2022-B004 at the General Convention for the 3rd Sunday in Epiphany.

Information for this observance is available on our website: Religiouslifesunday.org, including a video introducing Religious Life Sunday, written resources, and a list of our members who are available to preach and to give presentations about religious life and other spiritual subjects, either in person or online. More videos and tools for spiritual development and vocation discernment will be added in the future.

We also ask for your help in bringing awareness of vowed religious life to your diocesan clergy and Commission on Ministry. We believe it is very important that those Episcopalians who are experiencing a call to deeper ministry and service be informed that a vocation to vowed religious life may be part of that call. Many are not aware that in The Episcopal Church we are blessed with a wide variety of expressions of religious life, including both residential, monastic communities and dispersed Christian Communities who have members living in committed relationships or in celibacy, both as lay people and clergy.

We thank you for your support and prayers for us, as we pray for you and your service to the Church. We are always available to provide retreat, rest, and support to you for your ministry.

Blessings in Christ’s name,

Sr. Faith Margaret, CHS  
President, Conference of Anglican Religious Orders in the Americas

The Rev. Masud Ibn Syedullah, TSSF  
President, National Association of Episcopal Christian Communities