



GLENMARY VOCATION

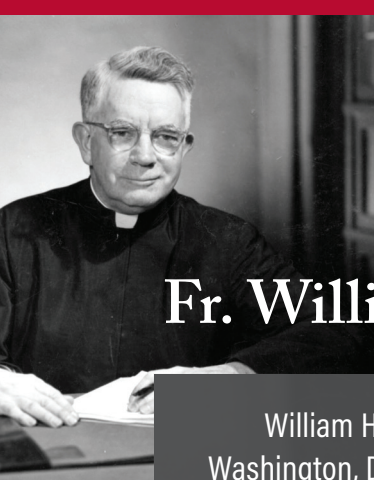
# PRAYER VESSEL



*IN HONOR OF GLENMARY FOUNDER*

Father William Howard Bishop





## WHO WAS Fr. William Howard Bishop?

William Howard Bishop was born in 1885 in Washington, D.C. Though this might seem like a long time ago, Fr. Bishop has most likely affected every person reading these words. Why?

**A**t the age of 30, in 1915, Fr. Bishop was ordained a priest of the Catholic Church for the Archdiocese of Baltimore. When he was later assigned to a rural parish in Clarks-ville, Maryland, he fell in love with rural America. He also saw that the Catholic Church was not fully established in many rural areas of the United States. In fact, during Fr. Bishop's time, there were over 1000 counties without a resident Catholic priest or parish.

To Fr. Bishop, this was a major challenge to overcome.

Being a dreamer, Fr. Bishop thought: If the Catholic Church in the United States can send Catholic missionaries to China and South America, why can we not send missionaries to 'Mission-Land USA'? The problem was that there was no religious community to do so.

Through prayer, Fr. Bishop was inspired by the Holy Spirit to start a religious missionary community whose sole purpose was to bring the gifts of the Catholic Church to these mission counties in Appalachia and the Southeast.

Though he met much resistance, and he even failed many times, Fr. Bishop overcame adversity and, through dogged determination, founded the Glenmary Home Missioners in 1939.

# Why does Fr. Bishop Matter Today?

For over 85 years, Glenmary priests, brothers, sisters, and co-workers have established over 150 parishes and other ministries in places they never existed in rural America. People today, across the United States, have met Jesus in the Eucharist because of the dream of Fr. Bishop.

Most likely, the very parish where you celebrate Mass would not be there if it was not for the vision of Fr. Bishop and the work of many faithful missionaries of Glenmary.

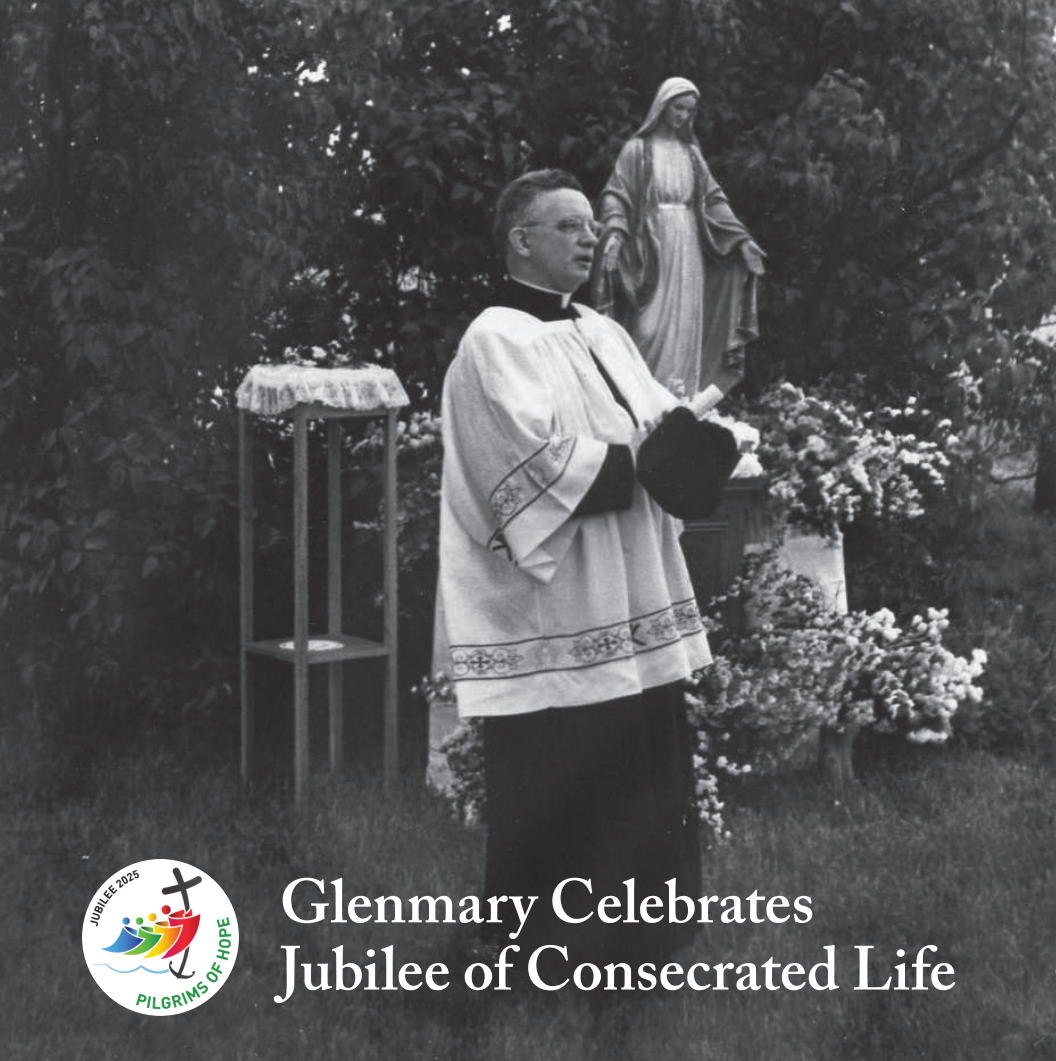
# What can you do to Sustain Fr. Bishop's Legacy?

The Glenmary Home Missioners continues Fr. Bishop's legacy today, currently having over 40 priests and brothers, 11 men in formation, and dozens of co-workers involved in mission. But we need your help! Especially, Glenmary needs dreamers like Fr. Bishop who have the courage to say 'YES' to a vocation to be a priest or brother in Glenmary.

**Is God calling you or someone in your family  
to be a Glenmary priest or brother?**

*Let us pray about it together!*





## Glenmary Celebrates Jubilee of Consecrated Life

On Christmas Eve 2024, Pope Francis opened the doors of St. Peter's Basilica to begin the 2025 Jubilee. The Church designates October 8-9, 2025 to be the Jubilee of Consecrated Life. We participate in this event by building this "Vocation Prayer Vessel" to honor and remember the dream of Fr. William Howard Bishop, the founder of the Glenmary Home Missioners. This vessel will travel to different Glenmary missions throughout the year.

Thank you for bringing this vessel to your home.

May it bless your family with abundant grace and peace this New Year.

May it inspire you, like Fr. Bishop, to be dreamers and pilgrims of hope, always trusting in God amidst uncertainties and challenges.

May it lead you to encourage and support your children and young people to give their confident "Yes" to missionary priesthood and brotherhood in rural America!

## HOW TO USE THIS

# PRAYER BOOKLET

- 1** Find the time to pray together as a family
- 2** Place the vessel in a prominent spot
- 3** Scan the QR code below for extra copies
- 4** Look at the Eucharistic Map and pray for the counties without Eucharistic presence
- 5** Return the vessel to the parish office or bring it to Sunday Mass for the next family



Get extra copies of this booklet



## The Religious Artifacts



The Crucifix and the Rosary in this vessel are possessions of Fr. Bishop. They represent his devotional life.



The Crucifix stood on the altar as he celebrated the Eucharist, his central devotion. It was this sacramental presence of Jesus that he longed to share.



His other source of spiritual nourishment and growth was his devotion to Our Blessed Mother. The Rosary was his clarion call to pray constantly. He entrusted Glenmary to Mary, *Our Lady of the Fields*.

## INTERCESSIONS

God our Father has so loved us that in Christ he makes us his children and the witnesses to his love before the entire world. Let us, therefore, call upon him in all confidence, saying:

### Lord, help us to remain always in your love

For Glenmary priests, brothers, sisters, and co-workers, *we pray:*

Lord, help us to remain always in your love

For Glenmary seminarians and students, *we pray:*

Lord, help us to remain always in your love

For donors supporting the work of Glenmary with their time, talent, and treasure, *we pray:*

Lord, help us to remain always in your love

For parents and their children, *we pray:*

Lord, help us to remain always in your love

For men discerning a vocation to the priesthood and brotherhood with Glenmary, *we pray:*

Lord, help us to remain always in your love

For former and current Glenmary missions, *we pray:*

Lord, help us to remain always in your love

For migrant workers and their families living in Glenmary mission areas, *we pray:*

Lord, help us to remain always in your love

For families living in poverty or struggling with physical and mental limitations, *we pray:*

Lord, help us to remain always in your love

For Christian unity among churches in rural America, *we pray:*

Lord, help us to remain always in your love

For counties in the US where there's no Eucharistic Presence, *we pray:*

Lord, help us to remain always in your love

## LITANY OF THE SAINTS

St. Isaac Jogues and Companions, *pray for us*  
St. Peter, *pray for us*  
St. Paul, *pray for us*  
St. Teresa of Kolkata, *pray for us*  
St. Joan of Arc, *pray for us*  
St. Michael the Archangel, *pray for us*  
St. John Paul II, *pray for us*  
St. Andrew Kim and Companions, *pray for us*  
Servant of God Thea Bowman, *pray for us*  
St. Juan Diego, *pray for us*  
St. Joseph, *pray for us*  
St. Andrew Duc-Lang and Companions, *pray for us*  
Holy Apostles and Martyrs, *pray for us*  
Holy Confessors and Virgins, *pray for us*  
Our Lady of Guadalupe, *pray for us*  
Our Lady of the Fields, *pray for us*



## VOCATION PRAYER

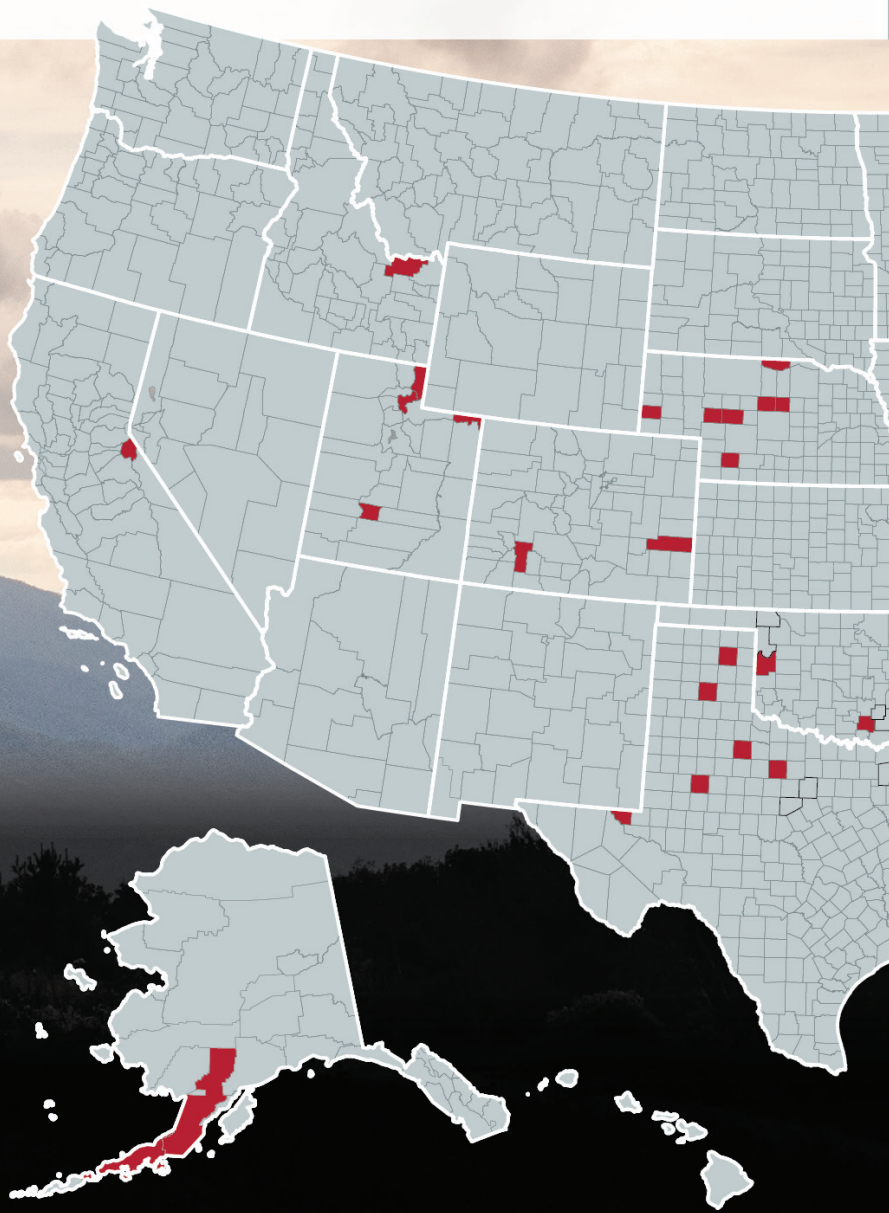
(Adapted from a Prayer Written by Sr. Sharon Miller, Glenmary Sister)

Loving God, You call each of us in a unique and special way to share in the mission of bringing Your Gospel message to life. We come before You now as Glenmary Priests, Brothers, Sisters, Lay Missioners, Family and Friends to ask Your help in opening our hearts and our minds so that we may more fully understand the vision You have for us and this community during these changing times.

We pray, that like our founder Father Bishop, who believed and proclaimed the importance of ministering to the forgotten and marginalized of the United States, that we, too, may find ways to inspire others to share in this mission as Priests, Brothers, Sisters, Lay Missioners, Family and Friends. Just as You have placed in each of our lives loving men and women, who by their example instilled in us the courage to respond to Your invitation to serve You, please grant that we may also instill that courage in others, so that they, too, might open their hearts to Your call.

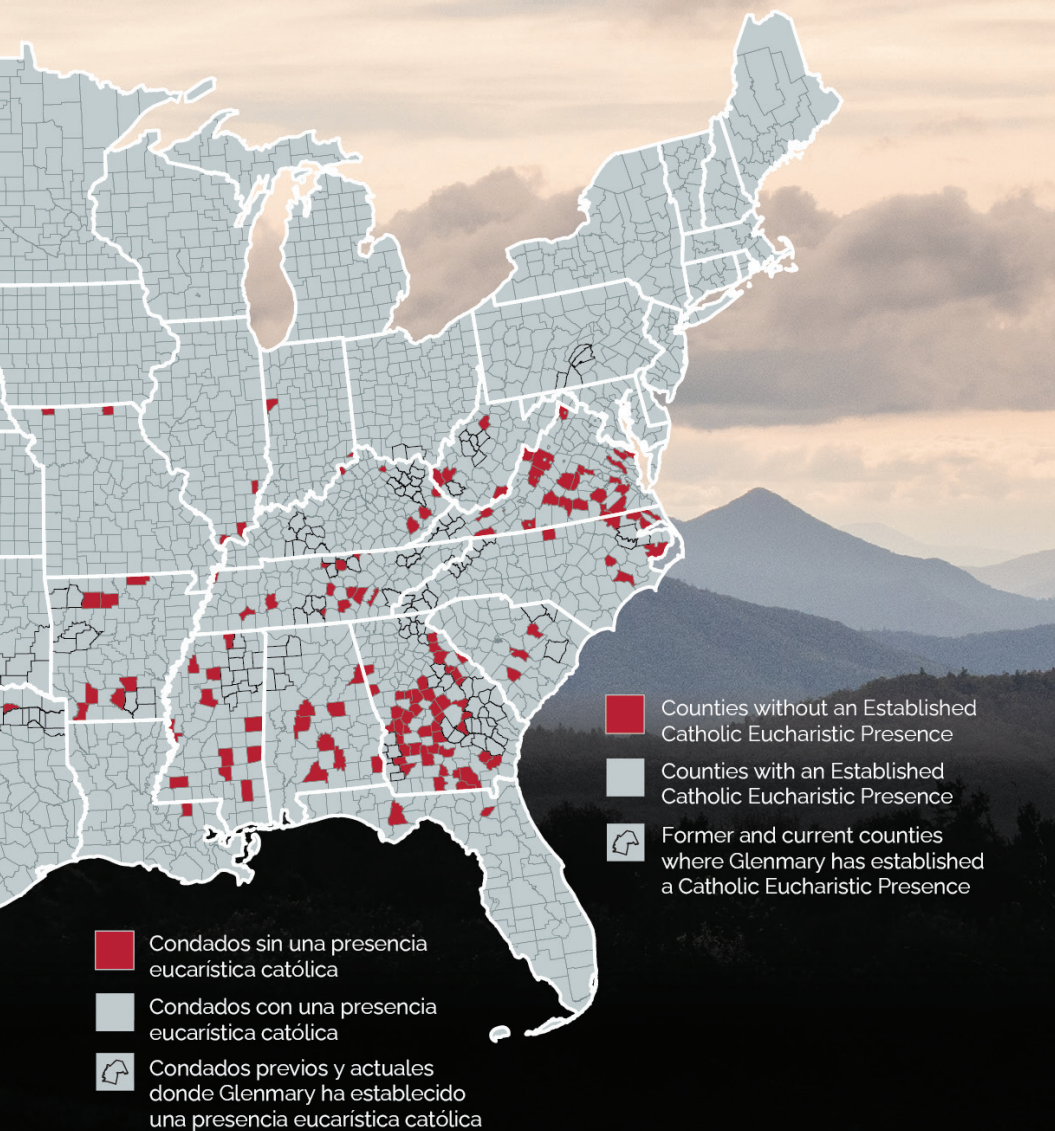
We ask this in the name of Jesus who lives with You and the Holy Spirit.

# Where DO YOU CELEBRATE the Eucharist?






# ¿Dónde CELEBRA USTED la Eucaristía?



NUMBER OF  
COUNTIES BY STATE

# Without a Eucharistic Presence




West Virginia: 5	Kentucky: 7
Virginia: 26	Indiana: 2
Utah: 4	Illinois: 3
Texas: 7	Idaho: 1
Tennessee: 13	Georgia: 53
South Carolina: 3	Florida: 2
Oklahoma: 3	Colorado: 2
North Carolina: 8	California: 1
Nebraska: 7	Arkansas: 7
Missouri: 2	Alaska: 2
Mississippi: 13	Alabama: 9
Louisiana: 1	



## VISIT OUR WEBSITE

- to talk to a Glenmarian
- to fill out our vocation survey
- to read vocation stories
- to register for a Come & See weekend

## LEARN MORE

-  [glenmary.org](https://glenmary.org)
-  (513) 874-8900
-  [vocations@glenmary.org](mailto:vocations@glenmary.org)



Glenmary is a Catholic society of priests, brothers and lay missionaries who serve primarily in Appalachia and the deep South. Glenmary was founded in 1939 by Father William Howard Bishop, who had a dream that the Catholic Church would be present everywhere in the United States.

Glenmary has served mission churches in 14 states with the goal to return newly developed parishes to the care of the local diocese. We can then move on to new mission territory.