Benedictine Peacemakers
2026 – 2027 Reference Guidelines



Thank you for serving as a reference for an applicant to the 2026 – 2027 cohort of the Benedictine Peacemakers. This year-long program is based in Erie, Pennsylvania with the Benedictine Sisters of Erie.

As an introduction to and evolution of monastic life, the Benedictine Peacemaker program is a model for approaching personal formation, spiritual community, and good work in the Benedictine spiritual and monastic tradition. Those in the Benedictine Peacemaker program will have space to grow in community, be immersed in monastic life, and wrestle with questions of who they are and who God is to them. As well, participants will serve 3-4 days a week in partner organization, using their skills, interests, and passions for good. More information about the program can be found at eriebenedictines.org/benedictine-peacemakers

When complete, references can be submitted directly to Michelle Scully (mscully@eriebenedictines.org) or returned to the applicant to be submitted. Please write around one page for your reference.

If serving as a personal reference:

In what context do you know the applicant? Can you speak to the ways they relate to others? The passions and energy they bring the world? Their desire for personal growth and formation? Anything else you would like us to know about them? Why do you think they would be a good candidate for this program?

If serving as a professional or educational reference:

In what context do you know the applicant? In what ways are they creative and exploring new ideas? Do they collaborate well with others? How is their work ethic and reliability? How are they able to adapt and change to the environment around them? Anything else you would like us to know about them? Why do you think they would be a good candidate for this program?

Thank you!

Please contact Michelle Scully (mscully@eriebenedictines.org or (814) 899-0614 ext. 2507 with any questions.