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Woman of Distinction
Civil and Canon Law



Sister Melanie DiPietro
Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill

Sister Melanie DiPietro, a Sister of Charity of Seton Hill in Greensburg, Pennsylvania, graduated from Seton Hill University in political science and earned her master’s degree in urban studies from Occidental College in Los Angeles. Her law degree is from the Robert Kline School of Law at Duquesne University and her doctorate in canon law is from the University of St. Thomas in Rome, Italy.

Sister Melanie enjoyed practicing law as a shareholder at Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney, time as a professor and distinguished practitioner-in-residence at Seton Hall Law School, and special counsel and legal advisor for Catholic Charities USA. Her practice and teaching focuses on the interrelationship

between canon law and American law. Currently, she is the regulatory compliance manager at Laurel Highlands Workforce and Opportunity Center and of counsel at Tremba, Kinney, Greiner & Kerr. Sister Melanie has served on health, education, and social service boards including the Legal Commission of Caritas Internationalis, the umbrella organization in Rome for Catholic Charities all over the world. She currently serves on the board of Laurel Legal Services and is an elected member of the American Law Institute. Her recent volunteering includes serving children suffering from malnutrition in Dubbo, Ethiopia with the Cabrini Sisters and processing asylum seekers with Catholic Charities of San Diego.