



Why Dominican?

Study Guide for Candidacy Module 9: Living the Rule

The Rule provides the foundation for living the rest of one's life as a member of the Dominican Laity. In order for this Rule to become an integral part of one's life, it is essential to embrace it knowingly and willingly rather than as a difficult obligation or set of regulations. One of the first steps in this life-long process is to assess the practices in one's own current spiritual life.

PRAYER / CONTEMPLATION

Before you proceed with this serious examination of your spiritual life, ask the Holy Spirit to give you a sense of gratitude for this opportunity and to encourage you with extra graces when you find an area which is challenging for you. Try to remember that all Dominican Laity walk together on this continual journey.

STUDY

Use the two column Study Guide Supplement for this module (also used in the Inquiry Stage) on the Fundamental Constitution of the Laity: The Rule. Be sure that you allow yourself sufficient time in small segments before the scheduled study session to reacquaint yourself with this topic. Be able to read each section of the Rule itself once again and think through some of the suggested ways that a person might give evidence of living in accordance with the Rule as suggested in the Study Guide Supplement and any discussion of that topic during Inquiry. Make personal notes in your journal about specific parts that you find easier and those which you feel are more challenging for you.

COMMUNITY

Each of the Candidates will be assessing his or her one spiritual life in this same way prior to the study session. Decide which of your personal challenges you might want to share with those with whom you are forming community.

APOSTOLATE

Preaching involves helping someone seek the Truth in a gentle way. Try to determine how to offer constructive encouragement about your successful practices to those who might find that area a personal challenge.