

Overview of the Fundamental Constitution of the Dominican Laity (1987)

The following outline of highlighted points assumes that there is a strong internal commitment within each Lay Dominican that results in some external evidence of that commitment. This outline is intended to be used for purposes of an open discussion.

Internal Commitment

Possible External Evidence

I.

- + place of laity in the church
- + place of “Dominican” in life
- + apostolic mission
- + attentive to people’s needs
- + needs of contemporary Church
 - + authentic mercy
 - + defend freedom
 - + peace & justice
- + abundant contemplation
- + spirit of the Beatitudes
- + active involvement in life of church

- + demeanor and activity within local parish
- + true commitment within realistic priorities
- + being an active apostle in word and deed
- + caring, cooperative, helpful, sensitive
- + active involvement
 - + embrace the suffering of others
 - + visible in one’s actions
 - + connection with people not just prayer
- + quiet time, lack of impulsivity /over-reaction
- + temperament, actions
 - +involvement in active ministry within parish

II.

- + Scripture
- + daily Eucharist
- + reconciliation
- + Liturgy of the Hours
 - + private prayer
- + conversion of heart
- + assiduous study , “hunger”

- + devotion
- + spiritual retreats

- + familiarity in life situations, not just chapter/verse
- + as often as possible; attendance with Dominicans
- + as often as possible; temperament, openness
 - + as often as possible; familiarity
 - + temperament, lifestyle
- + temperament, openness, visible change over time
- + active participation in discussion with specific references
- + temperament, conversation
- + attendance

III.

- + formation : to be formed as the person whom God calls you to be as a Lay Dominican
 - + accept, celebrate, proclaim the Word of God

- + knowledge of the Word of God
- + temperament, lifestyle, ministry

IV.

- + preaching
 - + dignity of human life, family, person
 - + Christian unity
 - + dialogue

- + mandatory rather than optional
- + active involvement in home, neighborhood, family, work, parish, our group, other communities
- + non-Catholic Christians
- + non-Christians, non-believers