



Why Dominican?

Study Guide for Inquiry Module 5: Dominican Prayer

The purpose of the Inquiry phase of formation is to provide individuals with the opportunity to begin discerning a vocation to the lay Dominican life. Essential to this process is an understanding of the importance of prayer in the life of a Dominican and how some “types” of prayer differ from other communities as well as from Dominican to Dominican.

PRAYER/CONTEMPLATION

Be open to an awareness of your conversations with God. Practice being present in prayer and allow God to speak to you. Consider how your understanding of personal and liturgical prayer may be changing as you continue your discernment journey. Are you being challenged, and if so, how? Are you finding obstacles in adding different kinds of prayer to your daily life? If so, what are these obstacles? Be sure to journal your experiences so you can discuss them at the next gathering.

STUDY

Read the following:

- Personal Prayer, *Praying with Dominic*, Chapters 4-6, 8-9; pages 25 - 26
- Liturgical Prayer, *Praying with Dominic*, Chapter 7
- Prayers, *Dominican Laity/ 2000*, p. 36;
- Contemplation: “Rediscovering the Contemplative Dimension” by Fr. Paul Murray OP (talk given at General Chapter, Providence 2001) available at www.dominicans.ca/providence/english/documents/murray-eng.htm

COMMUNITY

Be particularly attentive to opportunities for communal or liturgical prayer as you look deeper into your prayer life.

APOSTOLATE

As you begin to understand that Dominican contemplation is the foundation for all active ministry and preaching, try to identify areas in your life where you feel you have been “sent forth” after praying about a particular activity. Add that to your journal.