

Community Expectations

As you are pursuing membership in the Order of Preachers, one of the vital components which you should consider is the concept of “community”. Although as Lay Dominicans, we do not live together in common, we hold “community” as an integral part of what necessarily comprises “Dominican”. The following listings were designed as starting points for introspection and conversation.

Some things that you are expected to bring to this community of Lay Dominicans:

- a sincere effort to pursue your own holiness and closeness to God
- a developing passion for preaching and sharing Who God is to you
- an openness to share who you are as an individual
- an appreciation of and a respect for confidentiality and diversity
- a sense of compliance and cooperation within the framework of the group
- thorough preparation for and active participation in activities
- a willingness to grow with and within the community
- some effort to establish contacts with members outside of scheduled activities
- a positive view toward voicing concerns and finding solutions to problems

Some of the things that you can expect to receive from this community of Lay Dominicans:

- focused companions for this unique journey
- thoughtful and lively discussions about important topics
- an assurance of confidentiality among members
- respectful acceptance of differences
- maintenance of dignity during discussions and decision making
- quality instruction in authentic and current Catholicism in the Dominican tradition
- genuine caring within a family
- shared responsibilities for activities as well as successes and areas of improvement
- shared system of personal and group accountability