



Why Dominican?

Preparation for the “Come and See” Event

First impressions can be lasting impressions. Taking time to plan your “Come and See” event in advance will not only help you make a great impression, but also help you creating a memorable community event. Listed below are several items that will need to be addressed as you plan your upcoming event.

Pastor Approval for New Groups

It is important that you contact your pastor or parish administrator before starting your Dominican Laity community. Should your pastor desire more information regarding lay Dominican life, refer him to the provincial website of your province. The lay provincial website for the Southern Dominican Province is: www.southerndominicanlaity.org. You also may want to connect him with the provincial Executive Council mentor for your new group. In some cases, groups have sought the approval of the local bishop before starting a new community. This is something that you may want to discuss with the parish pastor as well.

Location Reservation and Advertising

Using good judgment can go far when selecting a date for your “Come and See”. It is recommended that you choose a time that you can continue to use as your regular meeting date, such as every second Sunday of the month, etc. Other things to consider are space availability, average driving distance and time, and on-going parish events. Many groups meet on Sunday afternoons out of convenience.

Be sure to secure a date and time that will allow you the opportunity to advertise your event. A thirty to sixty day advance reservation is suggested. You will need to contact your parish newspaper for more information on deadlines. Another suggestion is to connect with neighboring parishes within driving distance and place notices in their parish bulletins.

Come and See Participant Packet

Each participant should receive a packet of information to take home after the “Come and See”. Some suggestions for this packet include:

- “For the Inquirer and Candidate: Before You Get Started” located on the Why Dominican? web site.
- “Presentation Notes for the “Come and See” located on the Why Dominican? web site.
- Application for the Lay Provincial Inquiry Program (where applicable)
- Information concerning the Phases of the Formation Program for your province
- A schedule of meetings (day, time, place, and topic) for Inquiry

If you are an established group, you may also want to consider including a written history of the group/chapter and contact information for the Formation Team.

Community Assignments

Making your “Come and See” a Dominican community event is important. Be sure to include everyone in the planning process. Some things you will need to consider include:

- Who is responsible for advertising?
- Who is responsible for refreshments?
- Who is responsible for materials such as name tags, paper and pencils, etc.?
- Who is responsible for presenting various parts of the program?