



Why Dominican?

Suggested Readings for Candidacy Module 5:

Personal Prayer and Contemplation

The following suggested articles and web sites provide a wide range of opinions on the topic of personal prayer and contemplation. You are encouraged to read as many of the additional readings that are provided within those resources as you are interested in or able to do. The Formation Team is encouraged to involve the Candidates in selecting those to be read by the entire group and those to be read by selected participants for the study session. Remember to skim the readings and review your notes from the discussion of this same topic during Inquiry. This listing may also be used for additional personal study.

The main topics to be discussed at the study session will include:

1. The prominent place of personal prayer and contemplation in the life of a Dominican
2. The essential connection between personal prayer and action for a Dominican
3. Ways to “find” more time for prayer
4. Opportunities for prayer and contemplation which might facilitate the participants’ responses to the promptings of the Holy Spirit
5. Prayer and transformation

Readings:

The lecture/article “Jurassic Park and the Last Supper” by fr. Timothy Radcliffe OP gives an overview of the “picture of the world in which we have to live our faith today”. fr. Timothy contrasts the Christian view as depicted in Jesus’s actions of the Last Supper with secular society’s view as portrayed in the film *Jurassic Park*. He includes the topics of violence, the use of words, forgiveness, and fatalism/hopefulness. This reading is an excellent source for deep contemplation and a lively discussion at the study session. It is available at

http://www.dominicans.ca/Documents/masters/Radcliffe/jurassic_park.html

The letter to the friars, “The Contemplative Dimension of our Dominican Life”, is by former Master of the Order fr. Vincent de Couesnongle. The ideas he presents are easily applicable to the Dominican Laity. This letter is available at <http://www.dominicans.ca/Documents/masters/Couesnongle/contemplation.html>

The article “The Contemplative Dimension of Dominican Spirituality” by Jordan Aumann OP is available at <http://www.dominicans.ca/Documents/articles/aumann1.html>

The article “Contemplation” by Nancy Sylvester IHM is available at <http://www.engagingimpasse.org/contempfull.html>

The article “The Rosary” by Timothy Radcliffe OP is available at <http://www.dominicans.ca/Documents/masters/Radcliffe/rosary.html>

The Servite Sisters’ web site “Linking Contemplation and Social Justice, faith with action” is available at http://hillconnections.org/r_intro.htm. Be sure to allow sufficient time to follow some of the over 40 links under Contemplation and Spirituality Sites available at http://hillconnections.org/r_links.htm as well as the over 200 links under Links to Social Justice Sites available at http://hillconnections.org/j_links/issues.htm

The article “Five Ways to Pray Always” by Brian J. Pierce OP is available at <http://www.americancatholic.org/Messenger/Jul1996/feature2.asp>

The text and graphics of “St. Dominic’s Nine Ways of Prayer” are available at <http://www.domcentral.org/places/stjude/NineWays.html>

Three articles on spirituality by three Dominican Sisters are available at <http://www.dominicancenter.org/topics/index.html>