

LAY DOMINICAN

THE ORDER OF PREACHERS

Dominican Laity

*is for those seeking a richer, deeper
spiritual life while living in the world.*

*Dedicated to a life of liturgical prayer,
study of sacred truth and zeal
for the salvation of souls.*

*Living a positive response to the gospel
message while combating
the evils of the age by preaching
the Truth of Christ.*

"Lay Dominican life is all about having a passion for the Word of God. It is about committing oneself to a community of like minded brothers and sisters that immerse themselves in the Word of God. "If you remain in my word, you will truly be my disciples, you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free" (St. John 8:31-32). Lay Dominicans seek to be in an environment where they "breathe" the Word of God in the Holy Scriptures, in the teaching of the Church, in personal and liturgical prayer, in study, and in every day life experiences. They discern ways, with the help of a community of believers, to deliver that Word according to their abilities and the urging of the Holy Spirit"

Rule and Directory of the Lay Dominicans of the
Province of St. Martin de Porres

The Order of Preachers was formed
in 1216 by Dominic de Guzman
for the purpose of spreading
the Gospels around the world
and among every people.

The Order of Preachers is a worldwide
family made up of branches:
Friars (priests and brothers),
Cloistered Nuns, Apostolic sisters,
and **Lay Dominicans**.

Each family branch is considered an
equal member of the Dominican Family
with a particular role that supports
the overall mission of the Order
—**to preach the Gospels.**

CONTACT US

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LAY DOMINICAN

AVE MARIA GROUP

Ave Maria, Florida



THE 4 PILLARS

PRAYER We strive to make part of our daily life reception of the Eucharist and the Liturgy of the Hours, along with personal meditation and prayer, including the Rosary. This commitment provides the strength necessary for our way of life.

STUDY Prayerful study prepares us for the mission of the Order: preaching, in whatever fashion our state in life allows or occasions. Scripture, documents of the Church and spiritual and theological writers are the foundation of our continual effort to know the Truth.

COMMUNITY We are brothers and sisters, sharing a common spirit, who nurture and encourage one another. We are a worldwide community, and meet in local chapters or pro chapters. Our communities are governed democratically. Each of us share in our brothers' and sisters' struggle to live the Gospel.

APOSTOLATE We are active witnesses, striving to give service, compassion and enrichment to others. We achieve this through our holy preaching, Ministry of the Word, or our participation in various activities or initiatives..

FORMATION

Inquiry Period: One must be Catholic for at least two years before beginning the inquiry period. Through a series of classes over the course of one year, the local chapter presents an overview of what it means to be a Dominican. As this period of formation ends, the candidate may decide to request admission to the Order.

Candidacy: The duration of the candidacy is twelve months. The candidacy begins with the Dominican Order recognizing the candidate as a member of the Order. This is a more formal formation period in the life of a fraternity member. This period includes diverse activities: the study of the life of St. Dominic and other great Dominican figures; the study of the Constitutions, the history of the Order, and the Rule of the Fraternities of St. Dominic; and the general practice of the commitments of a lay Dominican (e.g., daily Mass, Morning and Evening Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours, daily Rosary).

Temporary Promise: As the candidacy ends, candidates and the Order make a decision as to whether the candidate should make a commitment as a lay

Dominican. Temporary promise is a commitment to live according to the Rule of the Fraternities of St. Dominic for a period of three years. At the end of this period, the candidate and the Order decide if the candidate is prepared to make final or permanent profession.

Final Promise: When the decision is reached to move ahead and make final promise, the individual makes a commitment to live according to the Rule of the Fraternities of St. Dominic for the rest of his or her life.

On-going Formation: Dominicans are particularly committed to on-going formation both in the chapter and individually. Even though one has made a permanent commitment to be a Dominican, on-going study continues in the area of Dominican spirituality, the Scriptures, the teachings of the Church, etc. Dominicans are always concerned about growing in understanding of both their faith and their Dominican vocation.



**BENEDICERE
LAUDARE
PRAEDICARE**

to pray, to bless, and to preach