

Novitiate Planner - GUIDELINES



ACTIVITY	GUIDELINES
ONGOING	
1. Continue to pray and discern over this vocation	Discuss with Spiritual team as needed; journal thoughts. Note 1.
2. Continue Prayer, Study and Service (See Note 1)	Begin to build your monastic practice; how are you going to build your life around these vows?
3. Work with a Spiritual Direction Network	Spir. Director, Friends, Pastors, Counselors, Guardian. Note 1.
4. Meet with the Guardian/Formation Guide monthly	Use Monthly Discussion Planner. Found in CG website library.
5. Pray about Religious Name to be received at Profession.	What person or saint has influenced your life? What Biblical character? Name must be approved by the Guardian.
STUDY ARTICLES	
1. Review Principles for Individuals; Groups	Found in CG website library. See Note 3.
2. Read CG's Spiritual Postures	
3. Read and study Our Vows Overview article	
4. Review the Charism Chart	
5. Review the Formation Philosophy	
6. Read through CG Conversation Guidelines	
7. Read through the CG Constitution and Customary	
8. Read CG Vestments Meaning	
9. Read Readiness for Profession	This is used by Council to determine readiness. Website Library.
PROJECTS	
1. Complete Safe Church Program or equivalent	Check with local church for offerings; may be on-line.
2. Reflection Exercises ___ DeMello or ___ Tolle	See guidelines: at least one per month; no more than one per week. See Note 2.
3. Study Monastic Practices by Charles Cummings	Know this book. A Study Guide will be developed in 2015.
4. Develop Personal Rule of Life	This is a dynamic document that will change over time. Template found in CG website library. Will be used at Profession. Based on Project 2 and 3. See Note 2.
5. Read 2 books from Gospel book list; do reviews.	Book list is in CG website library
6. Complete Bio-Book page	
OTHER	
1. Attend a 2-3 day Retreat at a monastery/retreat center	Preferably a silent or directed retreat.
2. Attend a Community Convocation	Required before or at Profession.

Notes: 1 – **Discuss** with Guardian during Monthly Calls
 2 – When completed **send** to Guardian (email or snail mail); **discuss** with Guardian as needed
 3 – **Study** to gain a general understanding. **Journal** thoughts as needed, noting questions and concerns. **Discuss** with Guardian as needed.

Remember: The Novitiate is usually a minimum 18 months to 3 years – so don't rush through this! Profession after the Novitiate is not automatic.