

Is a Novice Ready for Full Membership?

Some thoughts for the Guardian and Council (this is a group decision) to determine whether or not to invite a Novice to become a Professed Full Member are listed below. It is highly recommended that the term of the Novice be one to three years.

The Novice *may* be ready if s/he:

- interacts with other Members, and does so in fellowship and love
- does not view his/her vocation as one of convenience, but rather as the foundation of his/her life
- understands the Charism of the Community
- recognizes the difference between his/her own true-self and ego-self
- has completed all assignments to satisfaction
- has experienced a Convocation
- has participated in Embertide or other Community conference calls
- has a good understanding of the purpose and nature of the Community
- has been open and honest in her/his Formation Calls
- could be considered a "living portrait" of the Community's Vows:
 - has an established Prayer life using a variety of Methods and Tools
 - practices personal Reflective Study regularly, using a variety of Methods and Tools
 - has established a practice of Service to others
- has developed and maintained a Personal Rule of Life
- understands and accepts the Principles of Spiritual Formation
- adheres to the basic values of the Community
- supports and has a working knowledge of the Constitution and Customary
- responds appropriately when asked for input on decisions (for example, stays within the bounds of the issue, respects the process and the people involved, seeks to understand more than being understood, is clear and concise to the point, and follows communication guidelines)
- believes that a continued relationship with the Community would enhance his/her spiritual development, leading her/him to a closer relationship with the love of God
- can claim a closer relationship with God through Christ