

AGENDA FOR LAY CARMELITE MONTHLY COMMUNITY MEETINGS

(** revised September, 2013)

The following agenda requires a minimum meeting time of 2 ½ to 3 hours.

PART ONE ----- COMMUNAL PRAYER (about 30 minutes)

Note: Opening Prayer -- p. 139 in CARMEL'S CALL

A. Liturgy of the Hours ---usually takes 12-15 minutes -- (The preferred book to use for the Liturgy of the Hours is the one-volume book called CHRISTIAN PRAYER, but the 4-volume set is OK, too.)

B. Lectio Divina --usually takes 15-20 minutes, and is best done in small groups of 5 or 6 people-- (The recommended Scripture passage to use is the Gospel of the Sunday closest to your meeting day.)

PART TWO --HOMEWORK FROM THE CARMELITE ORDER (about 30 minutes)

A. Read and discuss anything that has been sent from the Lay Carmelite Office in Darien or from your Regional Coordinator since the last community meeting. (Most months, nothing is sent out from the Lay Carmelite Office or the Regional Coordinator. If there is something, however, it is to be read aloud and discussed first, before Part TWO, section B, is begun.)

**** B. Read from CARMEL'S CALL for 15/20 minutes every month** ---Read aloud & discuss as needed each paragraph of the Rule of St. Albert, the Rule for the Third Order of Carmel (also referred to as "Constitutions" or "Living the Carmelite Way"), the Provincial Statutes, and all chapters of CARMEL'S CALL that contain any type of directives. (See back of this page for the parts of CARMEL'S CALL that need to be read/emphasized.) This is an ongoing assignment that is to be part of every general community meeting. When the community has read through and discussed all of the designated pages, then it starts again at the beginning. If there is something that month from the Lay Carmelite Office or the Regional Coordinator, THAT must be read first. If it takes 5 minutes to read/discuss that material, then for that month you'd only read from CARMEL'S CALL for 10/15 minutes. (A + B = 15/20 min.)

C. Handle NECESSARY LOCAL COMMUNITY BUSINESS -- no more than 10 minutes

PART THREE ----- ONGOING FORMATION (1 ½ hours OF the meeting; 30 min. prep.)

Study in depth, as an adult group, some particular aspect of Carmelite Spirituality. This is usually done by studying and discussing a Carmelite book as an adult study group.

Every member should have a copy of the book, and an assignment is made which each member is to read before the next meeting. (This assignment should take 30-45 minutes of time to read in order to prepare for the next meeting.) And then, at the meeting, the community gets into smaller groups of about 5 or 6 to discuss the pages that have been read. **This is to take a minimum of 1 ½ hours of the meeting.** (Together with the 30 minutes spent reading the assignment ahead of time, this 1 ½ hours adds up to the complete 2 hours required for ongoing formation.) -- Ongoing Formation does NOT mean having someone make a "presentation," but rather that all of the members take responsibility to participate actively in the discussion by being prepared, having read ahead of time whatever is the assignment for that meeting.

Note: Closing Prayer -- p. 141 of CARMEL'S CALL

**HOMEWORK FROM THE ORDER (contained in Carmel's Call)
revised September, 2013**

Below are the various parts of the Carmel's Call (2005 edition) that contain important explanations/information. At each monthly general meeting, your LCC should spend 15-20 minutes reading/becoming familiar with these sections of Carmel's Call. NOTE: If your community has read through the sections listed here at least 4 times in the course of the last several years, then we NOW RECOMMEND (2013) that you continue reading/becoming familiar with the four (4) sections marked >>>>>

Pages Topic

vii-xiii --- Forward

>>>>>17-22 --- Rule of St. Albert

>>>>>23-58 --- Rule for Third Order of Carmel

>>>>>59-123 --- Provincial Statutes

127-131 --- Liturgy of the Hours

133-135 --- Lectio Divina

145 (paragraph 1) ---explanation for Reception Ceremony

151 (paragraph 1) --- explanation for Profession Ceremony

163 (paragraph 1) --- explanation for Reception & Profession Ceremonies

177-178 --- Renewal of Profession

185 --- Installation of Officers

195 --- Installation of Regional Officers

205 (paragraph 1) --- Prayers for Deceased

281 (paragraph 1) --- Treasury of Prayers for Devotional Use

295, 299-300

355-356 --- Indulgences

>>>>>359-413 --- Scapular Catechesis

417 --- Rite and Enrollment in Scapular