

REQUIRED AGENDA

REQUIRED AGENDA FOR LAY CARMELITE COMMUNITY MEETINGS – PCM

(Revised Sept 2025)

The agenda, as explained below, requires a minimum meeting time of 2 ½ hours.

PART ONE – COMMUNAL PRAYER (about 45 minutes) Note: Opening Prayer - p. 81 in CARMEL'S CALL

- A. **Liturgy of the Hours: 12 - 15 minutes.** The preferred book to use is the one-volume version called *CHRISTIAN PRAYER*; the 4-volume version called *LITURGY OF THE HOURS* is also appropriate.
- B. **Lectio Divina:** usually takes **30 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 (minimum of 15 minutes)

- A. **Read aloud and discuss anything that has been sent** from the Lay Carmelite Office (LCO) or your Regional Coordinator (RC) since the last community meeting.
- B. **Read from CARMEL'S CALL for 15 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 directives. **(See the end of this Agenda for the parts of CARMEL'S CALL that are to be read & understood.) This is an ongoing assignment that is to be part of every general community meeting.** When the community has read through (sequentially) all the designated pages, it starts again at the beginning. NOTE: If there is something from the LCO or the RC that month, it takes priority and must be read and discussed first, before reading from CARMEL'S CALL. For example, if it takes 5 minutes to read/discuss the material from the LCO or the RC, then for that month, you'd only read from CARMEL'S CALL for 10 minutes. (A + B = 15 minutes).

PART THREE – LOCAL COMMUNITY (CARMELITE) BUSINESS (about 10 minutes)

PART FOUR – ONGOING FORMATION (1 ¼ hours of the meeting; 30 min. home prep.)

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

Every member should have a copy of the book. An assignment is made for each member to read before the next meeting, underlining the ideas/sentences that were significant to them. (This assignment should take 30-45 minutes to complete to prepare for the next meeting.)

Then, during the meeting, the community breaks into smaller groups of about 5 or 6 to discuss the pages that have been read. This should take at least 1 ¼ hours of the meeting. (Along with the 30 minutes of Lectio Divina and 30 minutes spent reading the assignment ahead of time, these 1 ¼ hours total more than the 2 hours required for ongoing formation.) -- Ongoing Formation does NOT mean having someone give a "presentation," but rather that all members take responsibility to participate actively in the discussion by being prepared and having read ahead of time whatever the assignment is for that meeting. Note: Closing Prayer – p. 81 in CARMEL'S CALL



HOMEWORK FOR THE ORDER

HOMEWORK FOR THE ORDER (contained in CARMEL'S CALL AND THE COMMUNITY MANUAL) (Revised Sept 2025)

Below are the various parts of CARMEL'S CALL (12th edition) and The Community Manual (2015 edition) that contain important explanations and information. At each monthly general meeting, your LCC should spend 15-20 minutes reading or familiarizing itself with these sections of CARMEL'S CALL and THE COMMUNITY MANUAL.

NOTE: If your community has read through the sections listed here at least 4 times over the last several years, then we NOW RECOMMEND that you continue reading/becoming familiar with the five (5) sections marked with >>>

CARMEL'S CALL (TWELFTH EDITION)

PAGES	TOPIC
1-4	Introductory Pages
	<u>Spiritual Documents and Legislation</u>
>>>7-12	Rule of St. Albert
>>>15-39	(Rule for Third Order of Carmel
>>>41-78	Provincial Statutes
83	Prayers and Hymns for Special Occasions
>>>105-109	Liturgy of the Hours
>>>111-115	Lectio Divina
	<u>Ceremonies and Rituals</u>
119	Explanation for Reception Ceremony
123	Explanation for Profession Ceremony
127	Renewal of Profession
131	Installation of Officers
137	Carmelite Calendar

COMMUNITY MANUAL

PAGES	TOPIC
7-8	Establishment of Communities
9-11	Government in the Lay Carmelite Community
12-17	Admissions, Formation, Reception, Professions
18	Brown Scapular
19-20	Categories of Membership
21-25	Developing Healthy Communities
26-27	Spiritual Growth
28	Transfers

LECTIO DIVINA HANDBOOK

PAGES	TOPIC
3	Preface
6-7	Introduction
8-9	Overview
10-19	Models for Lectio Divina
25-28	Articles, Excerpts & Quotes
29-31	Personal Lectio Divina
42-43	Visio Divina