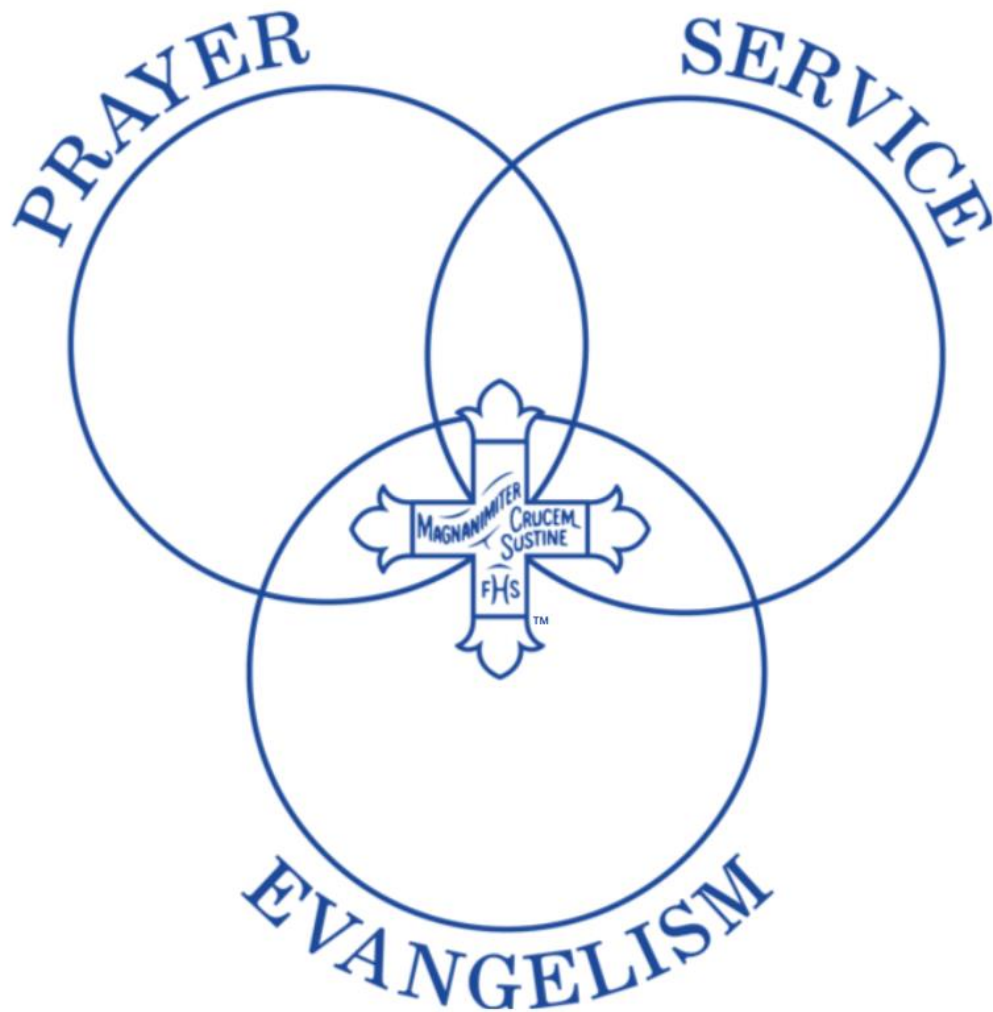


International Study Guide

Preparation for Admission to
The Order of the Daughters of the King™



2022 Edition

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PART ONE: TAKING THE FIRST STEP



*"Faith is taking the first
step even when you can't see
the whole staircase."*

Martin Luther King Jr.

ORIENTATION

The material in this *International Study Guide* has been adopted by the National Council, of The Order of the Daughters of the King as the official course of preparation for those seeking admission into The Order. All materials contained in the *International Study Guide* belong to The Order. To use this material for any other purpose, please contact the U.S. National Office for permission.

A companion publication which may be used with this study guide is the most current edition of *The National Handbook and Bylaws of The Order of the Daughters of the King*. It is an invaluable reference tool and the official source of information about The Order. It includes our Vision and Mission Statements, Bylaws, The Service of Admission, Service of Rededication, Service for the Installation of Officers, the Hymn of The Order, prayers and other official information.

The study guide offers insight into the basic philosophy and practices of The Order. It presents the history, fundamental principles and accomplishments of The Order. It is not a course in skills and techniques. Rather it is intended to prepare the prospective Daughter to come to the date of her admission or the seasoned Daughter to approach her rededication with an understanding of The Order, paraphrasing the *Book of Common Prayer*, “*not unadvisedly or lightly, but reverently, deliberately, and according to the purpose for which The Order was established.*”

The Purpose of This Study Guide

1. To serve as the official preparation for prospective members
2. To establish an understanding of The Order
3. To introduce prospective members to The Order’s Rule of Life
4. To serve as a review for members of The Order
5. To be a source of information

The *International Study Guide*, consisting of ten sessions, will help you explore your faith and learn about The Order of the Daughters of the King. Each session asks challenging questions and leads to an understanding of The Order. Meeting regularly for study and prayer offers the best opportunity for deepening spiritual growth and building community among current and future members.

A minimum twelve-week period of discernment is **required** for membership in The Order. We encourage you to use this as a time of reflection and preparation. It can be an opportunity for growth in your commitment to our Lord Jesus Christ and an awareness of how important prayer and service are for the spread of his kingdom.

It is therefore very important that you prepare for membership in The Order by taking the full twelve weeks to learn about:

1. Who we are
2. What we do
3. What is expected of us as members of The Order of the Daughters of the King
4. Whether God is calling you to make this commitment

A thorough study or review of The Order and its Rule of Life will provide a solid foundation for every Daughter and chapter to build upon. The woman who is well-informed about The Order and her role as

a member is in the best position to fulfill her vows, commitment and responsibility involved in being a Daughter in The Order.

Some suggestions for using the *International Study Guide*

- ‡ Make a commitment to complete the entire Study.
- ‡ Each week set aside enough time to complete each study. Some will take longer than others.
- ‡ Begin your study preparations with prayer.
- ‡ Read each study thoroughly and highlight material that seems important.
- ‡ Answer the questions in the space provided or use a separate notebook or journal.
- ‡ Be prepared to share your answers in class.
- ‡ Do not schedule that would conflict with this commitment.

The Service of Preparation for Membership

Presenter: It is my privilege to present these persons _____ as candidates for membership in The Order of the Daughters of the King™.

Addressing the candidates:

Clergy: You have expressed an interest in becoming a member of The Order of the Daughters of the King. You are asked to serve a twelve-week preparation period during which you will learn about and follow the two Rules of The Order: The Rule of Prayer and The Rule of Service. In addition, you are asked to learn about The Order, including its Prayer and Motto, and participate in all the sessions of the International Study Guide, which will help you grow in your knowledge and love of God as you pray and serve him daily.

Do you promise to commit yourself to this time of preparation?

Candidates: I do.

Clergy: May Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things, grant you the strength and power to perform them, so that he may accomplish the work he has begun in you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

** Optional Candle Lighting Service below may be inserted here.*

Optional Candle Lighting Service

The Clergy then blesses the candles.

Clergy: Bless, O Lord, these candles and the ones who receive them, that they may be your faithful and willing servants, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

As each candle is lit and handed to the candidate the clergy says:

Clergy: Receive this candle; let it remind you of the promise you have made, and that Jesus Christ is the Light of the world. May He enlighten your heart and mind as you prepare to become a member of The Order of the Daughters of the King.

After receiving their candles, the candidates will continue with the prayer in the Service of Preparation below:

Candidates: Almighty and Everlasting God, in whom we live and move and have our being, we here dedicate ourselves to you and your service, in faith and joy and love. In this preparation time we pray that you will confirm and strengthen us that we may grow in grace and in the knowledge of our King and Savior, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Clergy: Direct us O Lord in all our doings with your most gracious favor, and give us your help, that all our work begun, continued and ended in you may glorify your holy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Clergy: The blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Beginnings

COLLECT FOR GUIDANCE

Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with your gracious favor, and further us with your continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy Name, and finally, by your mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE MOTTO OF THE ORDER

For His Sake...I am but one, but I am one.
I cannot do everything, but I can do something.
What I can do, I ought to do.
What I ought to do, by the grace of God I will do.
Lord, what will you have me do?

THE PRAYER OF THE ORDER

O Eternal Father, you have sent us your Son to teach us things pertaining to your heavenly Kingdom. Give your blessing to our Order wherever it may be throughout the world. Grant that we, your Daughters, ever may discern your truth and bear the cross through the battles of our earthly life. Give us strength to overcome temptation and the grace to work to spread your Kingdom and to gather your scattered sheep within your fold. Pour out upon us the sevenfold gift of the Holy Spirit that we may always remember it is your work we are called to do, that all we think, do or say may be pleasing in your sight. We ask it all For His Sake, our King and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE MISSION OF THE ORDER

The mission of The Order is the extension of Christ's Kingdom through Prayer, Service and Evangelism.

VISION STATEMENT

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, our vision as members of The Order is to know Jesus Christ, to make Him known to others, and to become reflections of God's love throughout the world.

Class Information

This study guide belongs to _____

Date study began: _____ Date study completed: _____

Study Guide Leader: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Discernment Class Members

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

THIS IS YOUR STUDY GUIDE. KEEP IT FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE ORDER.

God bless you as you begin your study.

PART TWO: DAUGHTERS ON A JOURNEY



**Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.**

Psalm 119:105

STUDY ONE

What is a Christian?

A Christian is a person on a journey with Jesus, a journey that begins with the gift of eternal life received at Baptism and lived out in a relationship of love and trust with Jesus, the Christ, who is acknowledged as one's personal Lord and Savior. Our creeds, the Apostles' Creed and the Nicene Creed, are basic affirmations of our Christian faith for this faith journey and state the truths of both individual and corporate Christian life.

All people are on a life journey of one sort or another, but Christians consciously travel theirs with Christ and with each other. No one is to be excluded from the invitation to travel along, for it is together as Christians that we are God's people. We are an eclectic group embracing all strata of human existence. What a picture we make – all colors, shapes and sizes, young, old, married, single, career women, and home managers! No matter our worship style, our physical state, our emotional health, we come to know in our deepest heart that the love of Jesus Christ invites and includes everyone.

We seek to follow Him on this journey, to live our daily lives as Jesus would. We ask, we listen, we follow, we depend first on Him and then on each other, and in the events of our daily lives, we become aware that we are on an eternal journey of endless surprise and grace. The life journey to which He calls us to is more than assenting to certain truths or closely following a set of rules. It is a relationship with the Living God, incarnate in a real person, Jesus Christ, and we discover to our wonder and delight that we are on a journey of love.

*You are our peace, O Lord.
From the thousand wearinesses of our daily life,
From the disappointments,
From the nervous and senseless haste
We turn to you and are at peace.
The clamor dies.
We are alive in the sunshine of your presence.
Even so, come, Lord Jesus, to this soul of mine.*

Anonymous

QUESTIONS FOR STUDY ONE

(Please be prepared to share your answers with the group during all study sessions.)

Now take some time to reflect on your journey with Jesus. The following questions may help in that process. There are no right or wrong answers. Please be prepared to share your answers with the group. Remember confidentiality must be honored and all remarks respected and kept within the group.

1. How do you answer, “What is a Christian?”
2. Where/when/how did you begin your journey with Jesus?
3. Along your journey, has there been a particularly significant person or event that showed love “as Christ” to you?
4. Who/what has recently renewed or enlightened your journey?
5. Name some of the stumbling blocks you have encountered on your journey.
6. Is it hard to talk about your journey with Jesus? Why is that?
7. What do you do when you are feeling “stuck, dry, or empty”?
8. Is there more to being a Christian than service, prayer, corporate worship and leading a moral life? If so, explain?

STUDY TWO

What is an Order?

A **religious order** is a lineage of communities and organizations of people who live in some way set apart from society in accordance with their specific religious devotion, usually characterized by the principles of its founder's religious practice. An order is composed of initiates (laity) and, in some traditions, ordained clergy. Religious orders exist in many of the world's religions.

Religious orders and communities serve the greater church in several ways. Many offer retreat houses and individual spiritual direction. Each community has a rule of life and is committed to prayer, life in community, and hospitality.

Order vs. Organization

The Order of the Daughters of the King is organized as a religious order, although we do not live in an enclosed community. Each Daughter takes a lifetime vow to live by the Rule of the Order. Our Rule of Life requires a spiritual discipline of daily prayer, service and evangelism. Because of our vow, we refer to ourselves as an order, not an organization.

WHAT IS *The Order of the Daughters of the King*?

The Order of the Daughters of the King is an order for women who are communicants of the Episcopal Church, of churches in communion with it, or churches in the historic episcopate but not in communion with it. The Order of the Daughters of the King is a legal non-profit organization supported by members' dues and donations.

Our tradition is rooted in the following: it includes oversight by Bishops; recognizes that Holy Scripture contains all things necessary for salvation; acknowledges the gift of the Holy Spirit in Baptism; believes in the real presence of our Lord Jesus in the Holy Eucharist; and worships in community. The Order's purpose is to bring others into a living, loving relationship with Jesus our Lord and Savior and to help strengthen the spiritual life of our churches.

Members undertake a Rule of Life, incorporating the Rule of Prayer and the Rule of Service. By reaffirmation of the promises made at Baptism, a Daughter pledges herself to a lifelong program of prayer, study, service, and evangelism -- all dedicated to the spread of Christ's Kingdom and the strengthening of the spiritual life of her church. (See *The Baptismal Covenant* in the Appendix of this study guide. If a denominational equivalent is available, it may be used.) A Daughter vows to uphold the two parts of the Rule of Life of The Order: The Rule of Prayer and the Rule of Service.

The Rule of Prayer is mentioned first since it should come first in every Daughter's daily life. Through the Rule of Prayer, Daughters promise to pray daily for the spread of Christ's kingdom, for God's blessing on all members of The Order and for the spiritual growth of their churches. A Daughter is also faithful in her personal devotional life through Bible reading, Christian spiritual studies, participation in quiet days, retreats, prayer groups and assemblies.

Through the Rule of Service, Daughters regularly take part in the worship and work of their church, undertake a personal program of evangelism in a conscientious effort to bring others into a personal relationship with Christ, and work with their clergy, as directed, for the spiritual upbuilding of the church.

The Order's Beginnings

Margaret J. Franklin instituted The Order on Easter eve, 1885. The idea grew out of her senior Bible class for young women at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, now Church of the Resurrection, in New York City. The first chapter was called Alpha Chapter. The formation of other groups and their desire to affiliate with the original Daughters of the King group quickly increased the number of chapters. The Rev. Ralph Wood Kenyon, rector of the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, was the first National Chaplain for The Order. He was a man of vision and when the number of chapters reached fifty, he participated in drafting the first constitution. It was formally adopted during the first U.S. National Council meeting in 1891. On October 25, 1893, the first national convention was convened in Baltimore, Maryland. Nearly two hundred delegates attended this convention. They represented two hundred fifty chapters and a total membership of about eight thousand. The Order was originally incorporated in New York in 1917 under the official name "The Order of the Daughters of the King, Inc." In 1986 it was incorporated again under the laws of the State of Georgia, where the National Office is now located.

Significant in the annals of our Order was the establishment of the Junior Division. In 1896 Mrs. Mary C. Davenport formed the Alpha Chapter of Junior Daughters with girls from the Sunday school class at her parish, Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Washington, DC.

A Junior chapter is made up of three or more baptized girls and young women, aged seven to twenty-one. A Junior chapter must first be approved by the clergy, is under the leadership of a senior Daughter and has the support of a senior chapter. Junior members complete a period of preparation and make the same promises of prayer and service for the extension of Christ's kingdom as senior Daughters.

The Cross of The Order

As a constant reminder of our vows, every day we wear the emblem of The Order: a silver-colored Greek Fleury cross. This is worn over the heart or on a chain around the neck. The horizontal Latin inscription, "MAGNANIMITER CRUCEM SUSTINE", broadly translated means "with heart, mind and spirit uphold and bear the cross". The initials "FHS" at the base of the cross mean "FOR HIS SAKE". The emblem, never wavering from the original design, has been trademarked for the exclusive use of The Order. **The emblem and cross itself remain the property of The Order** and if a member resigns, she must return the cross to her chapter president. When a Daughter dies, the cross may be buried with her or placed in the urn, otherwise it must be returned to her chapter president.



Protecting the Cross of The Order

Please read Protecting the Cross of The Order found in the Appendix of this study guide.

The National Website and Publications

The website for The Order of the Daughters of the King is www.doknational.org. At the top right corner of the homepage, a language other than English may be selected. The official publication of The Order is *The Royal Cross*, which can be viewed in English on the national website. A monthly online email newsletter in English called *Cross+Links* is another form of communication available to the Daughters. Our international quarterly newsletter is called *Cross+Currents*, and articles can be read in Spanish, English, Portuguese and French. Members can subscribe to both *Cross+Links* and *Cross+Currents* on the website here: www.doknational.org.

General Information

The colors of The Order are blue and white. The first hymn of The Order, “Lord, Speak to Me,” was adopted in 1915, with lyrics by Frances Ridley Havergal. However, it was not included in the 1982 *Hymnal*. The hymn “Lift High the Cross” was adopted as the official hymn of The Order in 1985. All Saints’ Day has been set aside as a day of corporate communion for The Order and every Daughter should regard it as her privilege and duty to attend.

Dues

Although Daughters in the U.S. pay national dues, International Daughters are not required to pay dues to the U.S. National Order, but international chapters, diocesan assemblies and assembled countries may set their own dues to support their work.

Funds of The Order

The U.S. National Order also supports its work through voluntary contributions to four funds: the Master’s Fund, the Endowment Fund, the Self Denial Fund, and the Alpha Fund. International Daughters may choose to contribute, or they may set up their own funds within their own country. International Daughters may be eligible to apply for grants from the Master’s Fund, Self Denial Fund and the Alpha Fund.

The Master’s Fund is used to provide tuition grants for women seeking to prepare for church-related careers. The Endowment Fund receives donations made in thanksgiving for blessings, to honor members, and as memorials and bequests and is used to further the work of The Order. The Self Denial Fund provides support for mission endeavors. The Alpha Fund is used to develop and support the Junior Daughters ministry. Anyone may contribute to these funds.

How We are Organized Internationally

Three or more baptized women, with the approval of their bishop and local clergy, form chapters in parishes, missions and other appropriate institutions. Countries with only one diocese may form a Country Assembly after six chapters are formed. Countries with more than one diocese may form a Diocesan Assembly with three chapters. And a Country Assembly may be formed after two dioceses have been assembled.

It is not necessary for a woman to be a member of The Order to pray and serve in the church. The Order is a spiritual community in a busy world where women with similar interests can pray, study, share together, affirm ministries and support each other. Members are present to each other in Christ’s love.

Who May be Called to The Order?

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, our vision is
to know Jesus Christ, to make Him known to others
and to become reflections of God's love throughout the world.
The Order of the Daughters of the King Vision Statement

By virtue of baptism, all members of God's holy family are sons and daughters of our Father. Some women choose to follow a pattern of regular prayer, study and devotions, which forms their personal rule of life. They deepen their baptismal vows by becoming members of The Order of the Daughters of the King. Through membership in The Order, women are given strength through prayer, challenged through study, provided fellowship with other Daughters, disciplined through following The Order's Rule of Life and offered an opportunity for useful work through service for their clergy, congregation, diocese, and beyond. Daughters have the desire to become more committed Christians who serve Christ in fellowship with other Christian women sharing the same desire. Read Matthew 18:20.

The Order of the Daughters of the King is an order for women who are communicants of the Episcopal Church, churches in communion with it, or churches in the historic episcopate but not in communion with it. Today our membership includes women in the Episcopal Church, the Anglican Church, the Lutheran Church (ELCA) and Roman Catholic Church. Members from all eligible churches enjoy full membership privileges.

When a Daughter takes her vows at the time of her admission, she is voluntarily responding to The Order's fixed goal, "the spread of Christ's Kingdom." She makes four promises that, with God's help, she will keep for the rest of her life. These promises are stated in the Service of Admission (See, *The Service of Admission* in the Appendix of this study guide.)

- ✝ To obey the two Rules of The Order, the Rule of Prayer and the Rule of Service.
- ✝ To offer at all times loyal aid to her clergy and parish to advance the cause of Christ.
- ✝ To wear habitually the cross of The Order.
- ✝ To work for its purposes as God may give you the opportunity.

Daughters seek to walk with God as their guide and try to draw those with whom they come in contact into the church. They are women who try to spread Christ's Kingdom here on earth. They can never forget that prayer is the foundation from which their service grows.

*"Prayer without work is empty words.
Service without prayer is labor lost."
Anonymous*

QUESTIONS FOR STUDY TWO

1. What is the motto of The Order? What initials represent the motto and where are they found?
2. When a Daughter takes her vows, she receives the emblem of The Order, a silver cross. To whom does the cross belong?
3. When and how should a Daughter wear her cross?
4. What should be done with the cross when a Daughter dies?
5. What distinguishes The Order of the Daughters of the King from other Christian women's organizations?
6. Are there dues for your chapter, diocesan assembly or country?
7. Why have you decided to explore the possibility of becoming a member in The Order of the Daughters of the King?
8. What are your expectations of becoming a Daughter?
9. What is a vow and what does the Bible say about taking one?

REACHING DEEPER List some Biblical references indicating what Christians can claim.

PART THREE: OUR COMMITMENT



**Here I am,
Send me!**

STUDY THREE

What Does Christ Expect of His Daughters?

Q. What is the duty of all Christians?

A. The duty of all Christians is to follow Christ; to come together week by week for corporate worship; and to work, pray, and give for the spread of the Kingdom of God.

- ✠ To follow Christ
- ✠ To worship God regularly in his church
- ✠ To work for the spread of his kingdom
- ✠ To pray for the spread of his kingdom
- ✠ To give for the spread of his kingdom

The Baptismal Covenant also states what is required of us.

Please read *The Baptismal Covenant* found in the Appendix of this study guide. If a denominational equivalent is available, it may be used.

The sacrament of Baptism is so much more than membership into Christ's Church. It is the beginning of a lifelong journey, a new way of living which fosters our relationship with God and others, through spiritual practices both individual and communal. There exists a considerable variety of spiritual practices such as;

- ✠ Prayer
- ✠ Fasting
- ✠ Study
- ✠ Worship
- ✠ Fellowship
- ✠ Service
- ✠ Giving (tithing)
- ✠ Journaling
- ✠ Spiritual Direction
- ✠ Confession

The vows that you will be taking to become a member of The Order are a reaffirmation of the commitment made at your Baptism. As a member of The Order you are deepening your spiritual commitments.

Spiritual Commitments

1. *You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.* Luke 10:27
2. Pray without ceasing.
3. Study God's word.
4. Serve God in and through your Church and community.
5. Tell others about God's love and saving grace through your words and example.

Responsibilities (faithful requirements)

1. Wear the Cross habitually.
2. Follow my daily Rule of Life.
3. Give as God calls you.
4. Regularly attend and participate in
 - a. Chapter meetings
 - b. Diocesan assemblies (if available)
 - c. National assemblies (when possible)
5. Periodically review my Rule of Life

QUESTIONS FOR STUDY THREE

1. What does the phrase “personal commitment to Jesus Christ” mean to you?
2. What do you think Christ will expect of you as a member of The Order?
3. Read James 2:14-26. What does it say to you as a Daughter of our Lord?
4. How will undertaking the discipline of The Order help to deepen your spiritual life and commitment to Jesus Christ?
5. What does “Seeking to serve others For His Sake” mean to you in your own Christian walk?

FOR YOUR ENRICHMENT

PRAISING THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Do you believe in God the Father, in Jesus Christ, the Son of God and in God the Holy Spirit?

Our Father, it's one thing to say the creed but another to put my trust in you. Help me to live with the assurance that you are my Father and that nothing can separate me from your love, trusting in your forgiveness expressed in Jesus and looking to your Spirit to make me your person.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and in the prayers?

Our Father, I know I was not meant to go it alone because you created the church to be a supportive family for your children. And I know the church is made up of people like me – so it isn't perfect! Help me to play my part in the church, so I can learn from the teaching, be encouraged by the fellowship, be renewed in the Eucharist, and find strength for living each day through prayer.

Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

Our Father, you understand that sometimes I do things I never intended to do. My sorrow does not put it right. Neither can I use my weakness as an excuse. Help me to begin anew, to experience your forgiveness and to walk again in Jesus' way.

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

Our Father, help me to live the way Jesus called me to live. May my actions speak louder than my words of your love and of new life in Jesus. At the same time, help me rise above my own stumbling speech and give me the words to express what I believe. Let me be a witness to the Truth.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

Our Father, all too often I have looked at people in a very superficial way. Help me begin to see them with your eyes, knowing that every person is created in your image as your child. If Jesus died for that person, how can I despise them? Give me a new love that reaches out to everyone because Jesus died for all.

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being?

Our Father, I do not want my attitudes to be shaped by the injustices that mar society, by the discriminations, greed and lust that spoil relationships in Jesus. Color does not count, wealth carries no weight, and gender is not important. Help me to live in Jesus, to see people through His eyes, and work for the harmony that reflects your kingdom.

Praying the Baptismal Covenant by Reginald Hollis Copyright © 1993. (May be used with acknowledgement to the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer.)

STUDY FOUR

What is the Primary Purpose of The Order?

The answer to this question is *The Spread of Christ's Kingdom through Prayer, Service, and Evangelism.*

It is a message of hope and joy in a world of cynicism and despair. It can be done at work, at parties, over the kitchen table or wherever two or three are gathered together. It is not just the work of a certain specialized group of people in the church or of the clergy. It is the work of the whole church and of every member. It is a duty we took on at our baptism and reaffirmed at our confirmation.

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?
People I will, with God's help.

That statement commits us to share in the church's work of bearing good tidings to those who have not yet heard.

One thing needs to be kept in mind as you prepare for the basic Christian task of Spreading Christ's Kingdom. You cannot give someone else what you do not have yourself. As you share the good news of God in Christ with others, you must share that which comes from your own experience of God's grace as well as from your own knowledge of God's word in Scripture. We all know the basic essential beliefs of Christianity. These beliefs are very well expressed in both the Apostles' and Nicene creeds used in your worship. People will hear the Good News only if they are made aware of how you have been personally affected. Your own life experience can be the best example of the Gospel. Sharing the Christian story is difficult for many but sharing the Good News as we have experienced it, quietly and humbly, is a way to reach out and tell others of God's love. Often, we hesitate to share with others because we fear rejection and failure. God calls us to be obedient and faithful in sharing his word. Success is in God's hands. We may fail at times but failure has been a common experience in the lives of the saints throughout the ages. Our Lord encountered many whose hearts, minds, and ears were closed to the Good News. We can expect the same. The experience of failure can be very stressful in our success-oriented society. We tend to judge and be judged by the quantifiable results of our work. We need to remember that the most important thing is not numbers. When just one person repents and enters the kingdom of God, all heaven rejoices.

Read the parable of the sower in Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23.

The sower's business is to scatter the seed as widely as possible. Some will sprout and some will not, according to the soil upon which it falls. The sower is not responsible for the results, only for sowing the seed. God is only asking you to be the sower, just to plant seeds. You are not responsible for the growth... God is. Read 1 Corinthians 3:5-6. He has commissioned you to spread the Good News. Read Matthew 28:18-20.

Sharing the Good News should become the prime focus for each of us in our daily lives. In places where we least expect it, there may be pockets of receptive soil. We must be prepared to share the Gospel with anyone God puts in our path. We must not forget that the call to proclaim by word and example extends to every race, language, people and nation. If we cannot love our neighbor whom we see every day, how can we love our neighbor who is far away?

It is important to be involved in the wider mission of the church through our prayers for Christ's Church on Earth; including the Episcopal, Anglican, Lutheran, Roman Catholic, other churches, the missionary communities who bring the light of Christ to those who live in darkness, and especially the missionary endeavors sponsored by The Order. Perhaps you might become personally involved in one of the mission organizations of your Church. Whatever the specific ministry you undertake, it is important to expend part of your energy and resources on a ministry beyond your own church. Reaching out to others provides a way to live out the catholic (universal) and apostolic (sent out) nature of the church in your own life.

To paraphrase Rosalind Rinker from her book, *Sharing God's Love*:

Our responsibility is to be guided by the Holy Spirit as we seek to share God's love.
God's responsibility is to strengthen us for his service.

Our responsibility is to believe that in Jesus Christ we have the answer all people seek.
God's responsibility is to lead the person to Jesus.

Our responsibility is to prepare ourselves to share God's love.
God's responsibility is to prepare the hearts of those with whom he leads us to share Jesus.

Our responsibility is to take the risk, to be willing to fail in trying to share God's love.
God's responsibility is to redeem our honest mistakes.



QUESTIONS FOR STUDY FOUR

1. Have you, in word or action, ever shared the Gospel with others? How did it go? When you think about doing it again how does it make you feel?
2. Why is it necessary for you to share the Good News with others?
3. Read Matthew 9:35-38, Mark 16:15-16, Galatians 6:7-10 and 1 Peter 3:15-13-17. Then summarize these readings into one statement.
4. Do you see the correlation between Matthew 28:18-20 and the *Mission of The Order*?
5. What is the difference between The Order of the Daughters of the King and other organizations in your church?

FOR YOUR ENRICHMENT

EVANGELISM

“Each Daughter promises to make a conscientious and constant effort to live out the definition in her life, doing all she can through her words and deeds to bring others, especially women and girls, into a relationship with Jesus and into the fellowship of the church.”

(NH, Evangelism)



Grant Us, Lord God, the vision of your Kingdom, Forgiveness and new life,
And the stirring of your Spirit So that we may share your vision,
Proclaim your love and Change the world.
In the Name of Christ
Amen

Jesus Christ, Son of God,
Make yourself known through me.
Jesus Christ, Son of the living God,
Speak through me to others.
Amen



ME, WITNESS?

If Christ's love has warmed your home, tell someone.
If in worship you have come close to God, declare it.
If prayer has shown you the power of God, say so.
If through Christ you have found forgiveness and the power to forgive, let someone know.
If the church has given you a chance to serve the God you love, tell someone.
If God has worked a miracle in your life, say so.
Say so...in your business, to your friends, in your home, as you travel and while you play, through your church, with your lips, by your life.
Whenever and wherever God gives you the chance, say so!
No one else can be as effective a good news teller, an evangelist, to your friends as you can.
With a genuine Christian you cannot tell where religion stops and living begins or where living stops and religion begins.

Anonymous

STUDY FIVE

What is the Purpose of a Chapter?

The purpose of a chapter is the spiritual support of its members in upholding their Rule of Life and carrying out the mission of The Order.

The work of a chapter of The Order is to:

1. Support its members in their spiritual growth by offering:
 - a. Fellowship/friendship/companionship, and solidarity with sisters in Christ
 - b. A sacred break from the rest of the world and the demands of life
 - c. Prayers and support for each other, the members of the parish, and the clergy
 - d. An opportunity to serve the church and community
2. Serve as a model of Christian community.
3. Prayerfully discern ways in which to support, participate in, and facilitate programs which promote spiritual growth.
4. Support the clergy by praying for them and partnering in ministry to promote the spiritual growth of their church.
5. Engage in intercessory prayer for their clergy, members of their Church, and members of their chapter.

Some important components of a chapter meeting are:

1. **SPIRITUAL SUPPORT.** Offer an opportunity to share stories of spiritual and personal growth, accountability in the keeping of our vows, Rule of Life, and spiritual practices in an environment of safety and Christian love. This should be the main focus of the meeting.
2. **A STUDY PROGRAM.** This is where Daughters learn and grow in their faith. The study may be a devotional and discussion, a scripture reading and discussion, or a guest speaker. *Continuing the Journey, The Strategic Plan Companion, and the National Study Guide* are excellent resources for study and may be found on the national website.
3. **PRAYER.** Begin and end each meeting with prayer. Some chapters have a brief meditation time or centering prayer. Other chapters form a prayer circle where everyone has a chance to offer their own prayers if desired. Additionally, prayer lists may be made ~~then~~ and prayed over at the close of the meeting.
4. **The BUSINESS MEETING.** While very important, business should be kept to a minimum. Business can often be effectively transacted via email or phone outside of chapter meetings.
5. **FELLOWSHIP.** Set aside time to meet and greet one another at the beginning or end of the meeting. This may also include refreshments or a meal.

Not every meeting needs to have all these components. When these components work in harmony, they create a community where every Daughter feels supported and strengthened.

These general rules should prevail at all chapter meetings:

- ✠ Start and end on time.
- ✠ Begin and end in prayer.
- ✠ Show courtesy and respect in what is said and how it is said.
- ✠ Stay on topic and listen to each other.
- ✠ Keep confidentiality on all levels at all times. This is vital for creating a safe and trusting environment.
- ✠ Keep topics relevant to spiritual growth, interesting, and focused on the goals of The Order.
- ✠ Daughters should be present, on time, and stay for the entire meeting whenever possible.

How Do We Become Community?

The dictionary offers many definitions of the word *community*. It may be a social group that shares a common goal, a place where one lives, or an affiliation with others that share a common interest, affinity or need.

In terms of Christian community, a definition or explanation may go something like this: “a group of baptized people who meet together with Jesus as their head.”

A Christian community exists to glorify God, to provide strength for each other along the Christian way and to serve others in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Community was important to Jesus. Beginning with twelve, he established a well-organized community. Each was responsible to the other members and the group as a whole. They shared their lives and concerns. They submitted to one another in love and welcomed all who would do likewise. Christian community comes into being any time two or three gather regularly to journey with Jesus and put His teachings into action through prayer, study, service and evangelism. Daughters serve each other by active listening, helpfulness, and bearing with each other.

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. ¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Romans 12:9-18

Community happens when each participant shows a willingness to accept all members just as they are and come together to grow in faith. Two things help make community come about – *commonality* and *commitment*. Within Daughters, two evidences of *commonality* are reflected in the vows we willingly take to wear our cross habitually and to live by a rule of life in prayer and service. A Daughter’s *commitment* will vary according to her ability. The commitment of time and self will determine both the strength and the vitality of the community. The more we “are willing to learn to know others and allow others to know us,” the greater will be the depth of the community. Community does not happen immediately but over a period of time and requires openness to each other and love for each other. Growth comes when we keep ourselves focused on the Holy Spirit, so that we neither get bogged down by our differences nor become inflated with our own importance.

It is not necessary for a woman to be a member of The Order to pray and serve in the church. The Order is a spiritual community in a busy world where women with similar interests can pray, study, share together, affirm ministries and support each other. Members are present to each other in Christ's love.

It is important that we not forget what we are all about – women who have made a commitment to pray and work and give for the spread of Christ's kingdom. Through The Order we have many opportunities to form community as we share our talent, ability and gifts in service. While our participation at the chapter level is vital, participation at the diocesan and provincial levels enriches our view of community beyond our local chapter. Attending assemblies, conferences or retreats, or helping others to be able to do so, provides insight from the larger community. Participation beyond the parish nurtures a Daughter and her local chapter so that they can grow and flourish into all that God intended.

“Christian Community is solely this: we belong to one another through and in Jesus Christ.”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer Life Together

Give us true knowledge of others, in their difference from us and in their likeness to us, that we may deal with their real selves, not measuring their feelings by our own, but patiently considering their varied lives and thoughts and circumstances...

Excerpt from The Southwell Litany

QUESTIONS FOR STUDY FIVE

1. Why is it so important for Daughters to:
 - a. Regularly attend chapter meetings?
 - b. Attend any assemblies and retreats at the diocesan and national levels, if available, as you are able.

2. How can I model Christ's life?

3. Why is confidentiality so important in a chapter?

4. What personal commitment is required of you to become part of a community?

5. What is the commonality of The Order?

6. What are some ways you can strengthen, enrich and nurture your chapter's community?

7. How does serving and praying together strengthen community?

PART FOUR:
Who We Are
Marthas and Marys



**Not to be Served,
but to Serve**

Matthew 20:28

STUDY SIX

Prayer and Study

Prayer and Study are listed together here because they are symbiotic. Prayer undergirds study and study enriches prayer.

WHAT IS THE RULE OF PRAYER?

In the Christian life nothing can be substituted for prayer. It is a Daughter's daily recourse of life and strength. Every member must have a rule of daily prayer. Communication with God must be a growing, deepening relationship with Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Each Daughter's Rule of Prayer should be carefully considered and guarded. It should be prayerfully chosen, reviewed regularly and revised periodically.

A SUGGESTED ORDER FOR DAILY PRAYER

You can begin your commitment to a Rule of Prayer now, joining in prayer with Daughters everywhere. Open with the Motto and the Prayer of The Order and then pray for the items listed in *The National Handbook* under the Rule of Prayer.

Part of the Rule of Prayer is to pray daily:

- ✠ For the unity of Christ's church.
- ✠ For the spread of Christ's Kingdom, especially among women and girls.
- ✠ For God's blessing upon the members of The Order.
- ✠ For the spiritual growth of your church and its clergy.
- ✠ For the grace to follow your Rule of Life.

Daughters commit to the discipline of a Rule of Prayer and are obedient to it, even when they do not feel like praying. A Daughter has vowed to pray daily and makes prayer a top priority. Daughters should always be growing in their prayer lives. By reading and attending prayer gatherings, retreats and quiet days, our prayer lives can be nurtured and grow.

A Daughter who is preparing her Rule of Prayer should start with the definition of Prayer; prayer is responding to God, by thought and by deeds, with or without words. True prayer requires two things: (1) opening one's mind and heart to God from whom the initiative in prayer comes and (2) responding in thought, word and deed to what we hear.

The Virgin Mary is a good example for Daughters. Read *Luke 1:26-38*. Mary was obedient, listened, and responded to God. Read other Bible stories of women and their response to prayer. Mary and Martha in *Luke 10:38-42*, Ruth in *Ruth 1:1- 4: 17*, Esther in *Esther 1:1- 7: 10*, and Hannah in *Samuel 1:1-20*.

Our service must be the fruit of prayer. Read *John 15:1-8*. We are called to be the followers of Christ. Prayer helps us to know where He is leading us and opens us to His Spirit, allowing His power to work through us. Read *Ephesians 6:18* and *Romans 8:26*. Faithfulness in daily prayer demands commitment of time and energy. Time with God each day should be a priority. God encourages Daughters to grow in faith and communion through dialog with Him. "*Be still and know that I am God*" Psalm 46:10

Prayer

Almighty God, you know my needs before I ask, help me to pray according to your will and ask for those good things which I dare not, or in my blindness cannot ask, and grant them for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ. Amen.

How do chapters pray together?

They open each meeting with the Prayer for The Order and close with a prayer circle. They maintain a chapter prayer list. Every Daughter and clergy member should have a copy of the list. It is not a “news sheet.” **DO NOT DISCUSS THE PRAYER LIST. IT IS CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.** Speak to your clergy or another Daughter if you need guidance about a certain situation. Your chapter may devise its own format for the prayer list. A good method is to begin “new” each month. This keeps the list current. An organized prayer chain is an effective way to communicate prayer needs between meetings.

Some Suggestions for Intercessory Prayer

1. Find a quiet place to pray away from the imaginations, desires, burdens and distractions of the world.
2. Be still and empty your mind.
3. Start your prayers with praise and thanksgiving.
4. Ask God to forgive your sin, known and unknown.
5. Pray believing, expecting God to answer your prayers.
6. Do not limit God to what you believe a person’s needs are.
7. Accept God’s will for that person.
8. Be still and listen.

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. Psalms 32:8

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. John 10:27

9. End with praise and thanksgiving.
10. Pray in Jesus’ name.

Remember, your prayer list is confidential. You should never talk to anyone about the names on the list or their needs. **Always ask for permission to put a person’s name on a prayer list.**

Should the chapter serve as a parish prayer group?

Your chapter may or may not be called to be the parish prayer group. Some people have a special vocation in prayer. Therefore, your parish may already have an active prayer group. If so, consider your parish blessed. Under this circumstance, the Daughter’s prayer group could be an effective instrument in the hands of the clergy for the spiritual up-building of the parish, for spreading Christ’s kingdom into the community and for crisis prayer needs.

Why should a chapter pray as a community of faith?

In the Gospel of *Matthew*, 18:19-20, our Lord says, “Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them.” Corporate prayer makes us aware of Jesus in our midst. To pray together strengthens us in our commitment.

There are more than 100 references to Prayer in the Bible, in both the Old and New Testaments. Jesus set an example for us by praying 38 times throughout the Gospels and there are additional references to Jesus praying in Acts and other books of the New Testament. If it weren’t so important it wouldn’t be in the Bible so many times.

But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. Matthew 6:6

Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak. Matthew 26:41

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. Luke 18:1

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. James 5:16

But you, beloved, build yourselves up on your most holy faith; pray in the Holy Spirit. Jude 1:20

Now during those days he (Jesus) went out to the mountain to pray; and he spent the night in prayer to God. And when day came, he called his disciples and chose twelve of them, whom he also named apostles. Luke 6:12-13

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. Philippians 4:6

Read “*Prayer Changes Me*” found in the Appendix of this study guide.

Prayer

Prayer is so simple.

*It is like quietly opening a door and slipping into
the very presence of God.*

There in the stillness

we can listen to His voice or even petition.

*What we have to say matters not
just to be there ... in His presence ... is prayer.*

U.S. National Handbook, Prayers and Meditations

Study

Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12

"Blessed Lord, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning; grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them ... " Thomas Cranmer

The studying of God's word is the foundation on which we build our gift of faith. Holy Scriptures were written to give us an understanding of God and our relationship to him. To guide us on our lifelong journey. It is your instruction manual for life.

The Bible equips us to serve God

All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

It helps us know how to be saved from our sin and its ultimate consequence

Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long. Psalms 25:4-5

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 2 Timothy 3:14-15

Meditating on God's Word and obeying its teachings will bring success in life

This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to act in accordance with all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall be successful. Joshua 1:8

But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. James 1:25

God's Word helps us see sin in our lives and helps us get rid of it

How can young people keep their way pure? By guarding it according to your word. With my whole heart I seek you; do not let me stray from your commandments. I treasure your word in my heart so that I may not sin against you. Psalm 119:9-11

It gives us guidance in life, making us wiser

⁹⁷ *Oh, how I love your law! It is my meditation all day long.* ⁹⁸ *Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is always with me.* ¹⁰³ *How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!* ¹⁰⁴ *Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore, I hate every false way.* ¹⁰⁵ *Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.* Psalms 119: 97-98. 103-105

The Bible is not merely for reading. It is a book for studying and meditation so that it can be applied. Reading, studying, and meditating on Holy Scriptures helps us see beyond the attractiveness of the world around us. We should read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest the Bible because God does not change. It is as relevant for us today as it was when it was written.

Do not love the world or the things in the world. The love of the Father is not in those who love the world; for all that is in the world—the desire of the flesh, the desire of the eyes, the pride in riches—comes not from the Father but from the world. And the world and its desire are passing away, but those who do the will of God live forever. 1 John 2:15-17

Daughters are encouraged to study Scripture either within their chapter or in a Bible study group. Scripture studied in community will give you greater insight into a reading based on other member's life experiences, gifts, and knowledge.

Study also includes the reading of books written by Christians, such as the writings of C.S. Lewis, Thomas à Kempis, and N.T. Wright, just to name a few. The selections of authors and topics is endless.

QUESTIONS FOR STUDY SIX

1. Why do Daughters have a Rule of Prayer?
2. What should be included in the Rule of Prayer?
3. How do you feel about your present prayer life and how could you improve it so that it would better fit The Order's Rule of Prayer?
4. Why should you pray for someone who has hurt you, someone you are angry with or for your enemy?
5. Why is it important to read or listen to scripture regularly?
6. Are there other ways, such as worshipful singing and dancing, meditating or walking, that help you grow closer to God?

STUDY SEVEN

Service and Evangelism

Service and Evangelism are listed together here because they are so closely connected. Evangelism is not a separate project, but a natural part of praying and actively caring for others.

WHAT IS MEANT BY THE RULE OF SERVICE?

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life. Ephesians 2:8-10

THE MOTTO OF THE ORDER

*For His Sake . . .
I am but one, but I am one.
I cannot do everything, but I can do something.
What I can do, I ought to do.
What I ought to do, by the grace of God I will do.
Lord, what will you have me do?*

The ultimate objective of a chapter must be group and individual service for Christ. Through prayer, Daughters can find what work God has in mind for us. Daughters know that no job is more important than bringing others closer to Jesus Christ.

Daughters renew their baptismal covenant every time a new member joins the body of Christ in the church, both as a recommitment and as a reminder of who we are and what we are called to be as Christian women. As we renew our promises of faith, we do so with awareness of our need for God's help. *"I will, with God's help,"* acknowledges that we need more than just our own strength to carry out our ministry as Christians. If we serve others without being in relationship with God and being fed by His love, we burn out and can no longer be of help to anyone.

In the baptismal covenant we proclaim; that *"I will, with God's help proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ and to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving my neighbor as myself."* We do this by seeing Christ in everyone we meet. This is often hard to do. Yet we are commanded to love and serve everyone, just as Christ loves everyone in different ways. We may offer our presence, our resources, and our prayers on their behalf, our ability to listen, our compassion, or our time. The discovery of need is the first step in Christian service. Through the Rule of Service, a Daughter seeks daily to do the will of God where she is, remembering Jesus' words: *"Inasmuch as you have done it unto the least of these my children, you have done it unto me."*

Any word or act, said or done, with the sincere purpose of bringing a soul nearer to Christ is an earnest effort and this makes the rule simple and practical. It means the dedication of a woman's common sense, sympathy, and influence to spread Christ's kingdom. The rule of service is the application of one's baptismal covenant with God, which was reaffirmed at confirmation, to be Christ's faithful servant in the extension of His kingdom. You are Christ's hands and feet in the world so unless you are physically unable to serve then you should be out in the field spreading seeds. As important as prayer is it should not be considered your only service.

The ministries in which Daughters are involved are as varied as their personalities and spiritual gifts: healing, evangelism, teaching, outreach, hospitality, welcoming newcomers, comforting the bereaved, food banks, soup kitchens, hospice and visiting the elderly, the sick, shut-ins, and those imprisoned. Members help sponsor Junior chapters, study groups, workshops, quiet days, retreats, and intercessory prayer groups. Daughters serve the church as Deacons, Lay Readers, Lectors, Altar Guild members, Sunday School Teachers, Lay Eucharistic Ministers, and Vestry members. When Daughters hear the call of the Lord and are empowered by the Holy Spirit, they willingly do whatever is needed. In addition to serving as an individual, chapters should be serving in their church, Community, and in the world. The chapter, as a whole should decide where they are being called to serve and how to involve as many members as possible.

Service should be done on three levels as a chapter and as an individual;

In your Church

In selecting a service to be done by your chapter in your church, it is important to discuss the following with your clergy:

- ✠ Will this service help in a real way to bring others to Christ?
- ✠ Is it a project being done by another parish group?
- ✠ Does it fit into the overall parish program?
- ✠ Is it something the whole chapter wants to do?
- ✠ Does the chapter have the potential means to do it successfully?

In selecting a service that you would like to do as an individual in your church, you should also discuss with your clergy where your particular gifts can best be utilized in the parish. If you are already involved in a church related service that you feel called to then you should continue with it.

In your Community

In selecting a community service to be done by your chapter, it is important that the service is one that will involve as many members as possible. Remember that being in The Order is about being in community with your sisters so this service should be done as a group. This service should require actual participation out in the community and not just monetary support. It is important the chapter discuss the following:

- ✠ Will this service help in a real way to bring others to Christ?
- ✠ Is it something the whole chapter wants to do?
- ✠ Does the chapter have the potential means to do it successfully?
- ✠ Give everyone a chance to pray about it before making your final decision.

If you feel you are called to do individual community service then ask for God's guidance in choosing a service that you will feel comfortable doing and that God has given you the gifts to be successful.

In the World

Your chapter can partner with its church or choose a world mission need of their own. This may be a monetary gift, or a collection of food, clothes, Bibles, or another specific need of a group they are trying to help. When choosing your world service remember that The Order emphasizes the spread of Christ's Kingdom, especially among women and girls. Not everyone is called to do individual world mission work but if you feel called, pray about it and then discuss your call with your clergy.

Another important aspect of service is the degree to which members are already engaged in other service activities. These members should be encouraged to continue their activities while remaining members of the chapter. Their spiritual support is important and needed. The discipline of The Order's Rule of Life has been instrumental in helping Daughters gain the confidence needed to begin assuming active and important roles in their church, community and in the world.

Although it is important that service be done in community with members of your chapter, it is ultimately done through the ministry of the individual. It is also a fact that even in The Order some are more conscientious than others in carrying out the work they have all agreed upon. While this may be discouraging, committed Christians dig deeper into their faith and find the strength to persevere.

“Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?”
(Baptismal Covenant)

Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him. Matthew 4:10b

Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. John 12:26

But get up and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you to serve and testify to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you.
Acts of the Apostles 26:16

Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Romans 12:11

The one who thus serves Christ is acceptable to God and has human approval. Romans 14:18

Whatever your task, put yourselves into it, as done for the Lord and not for your masters, since you know that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward; you serve the Lord Christ.
Colossians 3:23-24

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. 1 Peter 4:10

Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To Him belong the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen. 1 Peter 4:11

Collect

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your son; Look with compassion on the whole human family; Take away the arrogance and hatred that infect our hearts; Break down the walls that separate us; Unite us in bonds of love and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; That, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. BCP

What is Evangelism?

Evangelism: preaching, spreading the word, spreading the gospel, telling the gospel message.

The Great Commission

*Jesus said to them,
'Go into all the world and proclaim the good news
to the whole creation. Mark 16:15*

The definition of evangelism adopted by the Episcopal Church at the General Convention held in Louisville, Kentucky, in 1973, states: *“Evangelism is the presentation of Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit in such ways that persons may be led to believe in Him as Savior and follow Him as Lord within the fellowship of the church.”*

Evangelism comes from the Greek word *εὐαγγέλιον* (transliterated as *euangelion*) meaning, “to bring or proclaim good news.” Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John are also known as the Four Evangelists. An evangelist is a bearer of good tidings. To be a Christian evangelist is to be a bearer of the best news this world has ever heard in such ways that other persons may be led to believe in Him as Savior and follow Him as Lord within the fellowship of the church.

Each Daughter promises to make a conscientious and constant effort to live out the definition in her life, doing all she can through her words and deeds to bring others, especially women and girls, into a relationship with Jesus and into the fellowship of the church.

Through evangelism, we try to reach those who do not know the love of Jesus Christ. We make a conscious effort to reach out to those who are new in the community and looking for a church home, to those who are in hospitals, to shut-ins and to those in sorrow or personal trouble. We do all we can to help newcomers experience God’s love through the fellowship of the church. Daughters recognize that our faith is not to be a private faith hidden in our hearts. Our faith is to be lovingly and joyously proclaimed so that Jesus Christ, lifted up in our lives and in our words, might draw all to God, that all might experience his love and saving grace.

What does the word evangelism mean to you?

Your job is not to save people, that’s God’s job. Your job is just to let others know of God’s saving love through word and example, as God gives you the opportunity.

QUESTIONS FOR STUDY SEVEN

1. What should be every chapter's corporate Rule of Service?
2. What process should a chapter follow before undertaking any service project?
3. How can participation in church groups such as Altar Guild, Choir, Lay Eucharistic Ministry, contribute to your spiritual growth?
4. List any service activities in which you are already involved that could become a part of your personal Rule of Service.
 - a. In your church
 - b. In your community
 - c. In the world
5. List service activities you feel the chapter might become involved in as a group.
 - a. In your church
 - b. In your community
 - c. In the world
6. How can I show forth my "faith in action" toward others?
7. On which of the three levels of service do I need to improve?
8. Do I remember to pray as I serve and serve as I pray?

STUDY EIGHT

What is a Rule of Life?

A Rule of Life is a self-imposed discipline that is practiced daily by an individual in spiritual matters; a pattern of regular and seasonal devotions, both private and public; a commitment intelligently and prayerfully considered. This rule leads to a pattern of Christian fellowship personally, in chapter groups, and in corporate worship. It sets apart The Order from other church organizations. Living under a rule of life brings us into a strong sense of companionship with Christ. You should begin to think about formulating a Rule of Life that is particularly suited to you. The rule should be flexible and adaptable to accommodate changing circumstances and growth in your life. Start simply. Do not be overzealous. Pray and ask for God's guidance. As you begin to implement your Rule of Life, remember to guard your thoughts and curb your tongue from boasting about your good works. Read James 3.

“...the Rule of Life is a balanced approach to life, designed to make room for worship, reflection and caring: the real ultimates of our lives.

Living a rule begins with the decision to take time for what is most important. At the beginning or during periodic crisis times, the time we take may not be enough to fit in all the observations and details of the Rule. So be it. But the priority must remain: to take the time to attend to God, to the meaning of my life, and to what God wants my life to mean. The center of the Rule is not the exact observance of the Rule's prescriptions – it is to take time.

The decisions involved in balancing the obligations of your life and the obligations of a Rule are not easy. Each of us [may] come regularly to the point where we feel that, for the sake of those who depend on us, for the sake of the richness of our life, for the sake of our family, for the sake of our job, there is just no time to pray. This regularly recurring crisis is what the Rule is for – to remind us of the difficult and painful truth – those who take time, have time.”

Excerpted from notes of Fr. Bede Thomas Mudge,
OHC, Mundi Medicini, Spring 1991 issue.

Your personal Rule of Life should incorporate the two parts of the Daughter's Rule of Life: the Rule of Prayer and the Rule of Service.

Please read *The Daughters' Rule of Life* found in the U.S. National Handbook

Part of the Rule of Prayer is to pray daily:

- ✠ For the unity of Christ's Church.
- ✠ For the spread of Christ's kingdom, especially among women and girls.
- ✠ For God's blessing upon the members of The Order.
- ✠ For the spiritual growth of the church and for the clergy of the church to which the chapter owes allegiance.
- ✠ For the grace to follow your Rule of Life.

Part of the Rule of Service is:

- ✠ To be Christ's faithful servant in the extension of his kingdom.
- ✠ To regularly take a part in the worship, study and work of the church.
- ✠ To render at all times aid to the clergy as deemed necessary for the spiritual development of the church.

A Rule of Life is a considered pattern of activities designed to embody and focus our relationship with God.

A Rule of Life may be thought of as:

- ✠ a covenant between God and me
- ✠ a way to provide "prime time" for God in my life
- ✠ the habitual side of loving God
- ✠ that which I can use to focus my Christian walk

Observing a Rule of Life:

- ✠ gives a high priority to our religious dimension
- ✠ acknowledges that rhythm is the key to vigorous life
- ✠ provides assurance in periods of spiritual dryness
- ✠ develops inner strength and resources for times of supreme stress and testing
- ✠ facilitates gathering with other believers in order to celebrate our common life in Christ, expressing the social dimension of faith

HOW TO LIVE OUT YOUR RULE OF LIFE

A Discipline of Christian Ideals of Prayer, Study and Action

DAILY DISCIPLINE

Establish a regular time each day for quiet prayer and study. Let it be as essential to you as your pattern of eating. If we did not eat we would sicken and die. Spiritual nutrition is no less vital. Have your time with God whether you particularly feel like it or not. This kind of determination makes the difference! Though prayers are essential throughout the day and into the evening, it is good to begin each day with devotions. We invoke God into our daily pursuits as the day begins. It makes all the difference as we work, meet people, relate to our families, and encounter temptation.

QUIET

Spend the first part of your devotions in quiet, "Be Still and Know." Too often we approach God in an attitude of impatience, with a form of spiritual activism. We need to practice the joy of simply being in His presence, seeking nothing except just to be with Him. Try to find a quiet place. Noise and confusion are obvious enemies of inner peace. There still may be noise within our spirit and we need to offer that up to the Lord. Do not begrudge time spent in quiet. It is productive, for God is beginning to arrange the disarray of your life as he comes into your being.

PRAYER

It is artificial to distinguish between quiet and prayer, but for the sake of progression in our devotions, we need to understand that God the Son, whom we know as the compassionate Christ, is ready to hear us. He is the One who said, “Ask and you shall receive, seek and you will find, knock and it shall be opened to you.” Therefore, take time to speak to Him, even to cry out from the depths of some need. In a productive Rule of Life, it is good to have a pattern of prayer that allows for breadth. One helpful pattern is that of using the word “ACTS.”

- ✠ **Adoration** - Spend time simply telling the Triune God of your love for him and your joy in being in his Presence.
- ✠ **Confession** - Offer God your sin. Sin is not simply what we have done or left undone; it is our lapse of trust in God in the totality of our lives.
- ✠ **Thanksgiving** - Consider the Lord’s gracious forgiveness. Ask for a spirit of gratitude so that all you do will be done not for duty’s sake but as a joyful act of thanksgiving.
- ✠ **Supplication** - Our lives are intertwined with others and in love we lift them up before God.

Pray for the members of your family. If you do not, who will? Pray for the needs of those whom Christ places before your vision who are your neighbors, whether near or far. Pray for your larger family, which is the Church; remember always your clergy. So often we leave these prayers to formal liturgical acts on Sunday. Bring your needs before God. If it is worthy, he will honor your prayer,[:] if it is unworthy, God will deal with you in love and patient correction. Remember, personal piety always leads us to corporate prayer.

STUDY AND MEDITATION

Spend time in prayerful study, preferably with the Holy Scriptures. St. Paul said, “Have this mind in you which is in Christ Jesus.” To have the mind of Christ is to come to know him more and more intimately in the Gospel narratives. This is essential in coming to have more assurance about doing everything according to his will. We need to be able to ask ourselves in all that we think or do, “Is this the way of Christ?” Studying the Bible with openness to the illumination of the Holy Spirit, we will come more and more into an awareness of his loving and righteous response to all things. If available, a devotional guide may help you understand Scripture better.

ALL THROUGH THE DAY

“This is the day which the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.” As we leave our devotions and launch into each day, we need to go forth with a strong sense of the companionship of Christ. We do not leave this to a chance encounter.

We make a conscious recognition of Him throughout the day. There is nothing so great or trivial in your life that you cannot refer to Christ. In our Rule of Life, we are taking seriously the promise of Christ, “Lo, I am with you always.”

WORSHIP

Remembering that the spiritual life of a Christian always leads into the whole experience of the Body of Christ, a Rule of Life always includes the corporate worship of the church. The person who practices a Rule of Life comes to the liturgical acts of Church with a fervor that makes them alive and ignites the faith of others. Though it is almost unthinkable that weekly worship would become an effort, the same discipline applies here as in daily prayer, worship God whether you feel like it or not. In our discipleship we are called to live above the level of feeling – on the level of responsive obedience. Holy Communion is a command: “Do this,” Christ said. Sacramental means of grace becomes power for action.

ACTION

Action is always a part of a Rule of Life. You are led from what could be sentimentality to a life of service. It obviously reaches into your stewardship. The tithe is a simple response to the Lord who has given you everything. Action shows your willingness to share what you have been given in both your time and talent. The church should be able to see a direct relationship between a new life in Christ and a life of offering. Remember that giving includes sharing with others what Christ means to you. Witnessing for Christ is, indeed, a reflection of what you are becoming as Christ walks with you daily. It includes the unaffected speaking forth to others concerning the goodness of God. Others hunger for Christ's love and the life of assurance and serenity that he offers. Be willing to express your faith to those whom God puts in your path.

Your Rule of Life is not meant to be a static commitment but an ever evolving one. Spiritual growth and life changes will require adjustments to be made. You will need to review your Rule of Life periodically to keep it current and give order to your spiritual life.

SUGGESTIONS FOR WRITING YOUR RULE OF LIFE

Each person's Rule of Life is different. It should never be a burden, so try not to take on more than you can handle at first and then slowly grow into your full Rule. It is important to periodically review your Rule of Life.

Prayer

To pray daily for:

- The unity of Christ's Church.
- The spread of Christ's Kingdom, especially among women and girls.
- God's blessing upon the members of The Order and the work of The Order.
- The spiritual growth of my church and for the clergy.
- The grace to follow our Rule and for our own needs.
- Include additional concerns as God leads you.

Service

- To be Christ's faithful servant in the extension of His Kingdom
 - To regularly take part in the worship, study and work of the church
 - To aid the clergy as necessary for the spiritual growth of the parish.
- Include specific service projects and commitments as God leads you.

Evangelism

1. Be ready to share God's saving grace and love as he gives me the opportunity.
2. Be ready explain the Daughter's cross when asked about it.
3. _____ (other.)

QUESTIONS FOR STUDY EIGHT

1. What is The Order's Rule of Life?
2. What are your thoughts about a personal Rule of Life – your covenant with God?
3. In formulating your personal Rule, it is helpful to define it in writing. Write your personal Rule of Life and review it periodically.
4. How does your Rule of Life help you in fulfilling your Christian duty?

PART FIVE: REACHING OUT TO SERVE



**WOMEN JOINED IN PRAYER AND SERVICE
FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD**

STUDY NINE

How Daughters Are Empowered to Serve

The Sevenfold Gift of the Holy Spirit

In the **Prayer of The Order** we ask God to “Pour out upon us the sevenfold gift of the Holy Spirit”. What is the Sevenfold Gift of the Holy Spirit? Do we really understand what we are asking? Where do we find it referenced in the Bible?

Isaiah 11: 1-3 is known as the Messianic Prophecy.

Isaiah 11:2 reveals:

The Spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

As many Hebrew/Aramaic words have multiple meanings, the Greek translation of this Old Testament verse added the seventh attribute, godliness or piety:

And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him: the spirit of wisdom, and of understanding, the spirit of counsel, and of fortitude, the spirit of knowledge, and of godliness. And he shall be filled with the spirit of the fear of the Lord.

The Sevenfold Gift of the Holy Spirit is a single gift with seven attributes. It was given to Jesus at his baptism in fulfillment of the prophecy in Isaiah. Also given to us, these attributes are infused into our inmost being at the moment of our baptism. As we grow spiritually and as our faith matures so this gift of the Holy Spirit evolves within. It is a gift that is continuous and permanent when nurtured. It is an ever-increasing awareness.

- ✠ **WISDOM** - the awareness of God’s love.
- ✠ **UNDERSTANDING** - the awareness of who God is.
- ✠ **COUNSEL** - communication with God.
- ✠ **FORTITUDE or MIGHT** - fully triumphant living.
- ✠ **KNOWLEDGE** - the awareness of God’s existence.
- ✠ **GODLINESS or PIETY** - acknowledging our need of God.
- ✠ **FEAR OF THE LORD** - the awareness of God’s presence within us-

How is this Sevenfold Gift manifest in our lives?

At Baptism, as we are surrounded by the love of others who commit to support us in our new life, the initial gift of **WISDOM** or awareness of God’s love is received. Our **UNDERSTANDING** of who God is and our need for a relationship with him becomes clear. Through **COUNSEL** the Holy Spirit opens two-way communication with God to guide us in our daily lives. In prayer we can praise God, thank God, confess our sin, communicate our wants and needs, and in silence we can listen and await love’s response. With the grace of **FORTITUDE or MIGHT**, we are given the strength to walk in faith, trusting God’s path to triumphant and joyous living. Through **KNOWLEDGE** we become aware of God’s presence and existence in us and all creation. **TRUE GODLINESS or PIETY** helps us acknowledge our need of God and inspires within us the desire to seek first the kingdom of God, to put God first in our lives. With **THE**

FEAR OF THE LORD, or HOLY FEAR we become aware of God's Spirit within us, his constant presence, so that we watch what we think, do, or say in order to become who he created us to be.

Each time the Sevenfold Gift is poured out on us it is given on a higher, yet deeper level. God's will for our lives becomes clearer. As the gift increases, so our faith grows.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Philippians 3:12

The Gifts of the Spirit

In contrast to the Sevenfold Gift of the Holy Spirit, the **Gifts of the Spirit** are multiple and are indications of God's presence at work in us at varying degrees and forms. They are given as needed, allowing us to accomplish the work of the Kingdom.

Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-6

Read 1 Corinthians 12:7-11

Note that in verse 8 we are not given the gifts of wisdom and knowledge. Those are given with the Sevenfold Gift of the Holy Spirit. In this Scriptural passage, the Spirit gives the **UTTERANCE** of wisdom and knowledge - the ability to talk to others about God with love.

Read 1 Corinthians 12:27-28

Read Romans 12:6-7

In Romans 11:29 Paul tells us "*the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.*" You can't give them back.

God has a plan for your life and will empower you with gifts uniquely your own to fulfill that plan. Pray for revelation. Listen with the ear of your heart, step forward in faith and trust God to bring them to fruition in your life.

Some Gifts of the Spirit

Each gift is equally valuable

*utterance of wisdom
utterance of knowledge
faith
healing
working of miracles
prophecy
discernment of spirits
various kinds of tongues
interpretation of tongues
apostleship
teaching*

*deeds of power
assistance
leadership
hospitality
advisor or counselor
encourager
giver
generosity
diligence
compassion
cheerfulness*

The Gift ~ A Story

There was a girl named Mary who had a best friend, Carol. Mary and Carol grew up together. They went off to college together, and Carol was there at Mary's wedding. Things changed and Mary moved away, but Mary still kept in contact with her best friend. From time to time, Mary would call Carol, especially when she needed to talk to someone who knew her well.

Each year Carol would send Mary a gift, one that Carol had carefully chosen just for her. Carol would wrap it in the most beautiful paper, decorate it with ribbon and send it to Mary. When Mary received the gift, she would thank Carol but never said much more than that. So, Carol never really knew if Mary liked the gifts or not. It was very disconcerting.

Years went by before Carol was able to make arrangements to come visit Mary. When she arrived, Mary greeted her warmly and said, "I'm almost ready. Just put your coat in the closet there, and I'll fix us a cup of tea. Then we can just sit and catch up on each other's lives." Carol walked over to the closet and opened the door. There before her were shelves filled with all the beautiful gifts she had sent Mary, **unopened!** She just stood there, frozen, looking at all the gift-wrapped boxes.

When Mary came back into the room and found Carol staring at the gifts, she said to her, "Aren't they stunning? They were just too beautiful to unwrap, so I put them on the shelves and I can look at them whenever I want."

What is your reaction to this story? How would you respond to Mary?

God sends you beautiful gifts too. Do you open them or do you tuck them away? You have the freedom to choose not to open or use the gifts that are given, but God will continue nudging, giving us the gift until we open it, waiting for us to share it for the common good.

Read 1 Corinthians 2:12-14

Read Ephesians 4:7-8, 11-13

We are given these gifts for the building up of the Body of Christ. We are endowed so that we can "be like Christ, to be his hands and feet in the world." Now reread 1 Corinthians 12 in its entirety. So, what is this "**more excellent way?**"

The Fruit of the Spirit

The Fruit of the Spirit are virtues developed in us when we live in the power of the Spirit. They are evidence that we are becoming more like Jesus. As we are formed by the Spirit of God, the Fruit of the Spirit will flourish in our daily lives and we will become salt and light for the healing of the world.

Read Galatians 5:22

Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 – God’s poetry of love.

Read James 3:17

The Fruit of the Spirit from Galatians 5:22

- † **LOVE** – agape love completely centered on the Lord
- † **JOY** – true joy in realizing God’s love for us
- † **PEACE** – an inner calm and order
- † **PATIENCE** – awaiting God’s timing
- † **KINDNESS** – seeking the best for another
- † **GENEROSITY** – giving freely of our whole life
- † **FAITHFULNESS** – reliable and trustworthy
- † **GENTLENESS** – tender and firm, not passive
- † **SELF CONTROL** – inward strength in obedience to the Spirit

QUESTIONS FOR STUDY NINE

1. What is God's purpose for the giving of Spiritual gifts?
2. What distinguishes gifts, services and activities?
3. What happens when you do not use a Gift that God has given you?
4. What Gift of the Spirit have you opened and offered to others?
5. How have you used your Gift to shine the Light of Christ in the world?
6. Is there a Gift of the Spirit you have not recognized or been afraid to open?
7. How might God be calling you to use that gift?

PART SIX:
Are You Called to The Order?



STUDY TEN

What is the Next Step?

Are You Called?

No special spiritual attributes are needed to become a Daughter of the King – only a sincere desire to draw nearer to God, and to help others do the same. We are a group of Christian women striving to fulfill the promises of our Baptismal Covenant through the adoption of a Rule of Life:

- To continue in the Apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and in the prayers.
- To persevere in resisting evil, and when we fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord.
- To proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ.
- To seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself.
- To strive for justice and peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being.

At Confirmation we promise to pray, work, and give for the spread of Christ's Kingdom. Through membership in The Order women are:

- Strengthened through prayer.
- Helped to learn through study.
- Provided community with other Daughters.

We are a group of women living a Rule of Prayer and Service to our neighbors. We are women to whom parishioners can look for love and for help in time of need or loneliness. We seek to walk with God as our guide and try to draw those with whom we come in contact into the church. We are women who work to spread Christ's Kingdom here on earth. We can never forget that prayer is the foundation from which our service grows.

*“Prayer without work is empty words,
Service without prayer is labor lost.”*

We find The Order of the Daughters of the King to be a safe place in a busy world where we can be together and support each other in Christ's love.

Spiritual Direction

There are people in your church (clergy and laity), in The Order, and in your life, who have been given the gift of the “utterance of wisdom,” the “utterance of knowledge,” and/or the “discernment of spirits.” Take time to sit down with one of these people and talk about your call. Remember, not everyone is called to be a member of The Order of the Daughters of the King. If you are called you will be making a lifelong_vow to God.

Applying for Membership in an Established Chapter

After completing the Study Guide and the three-month discernment period, your Study Guide leader and Chapter President will coordinate with the group, the clergy and Assembly President (if applicable) to determine a date for the Service of Admission.

Applying for Membership in a New Chapter

- ✠ The study guide leader will help the group choose a name for the chapter and select chapter officers near the end of the preparation period.
- ✠ The chapter name may be the same as your church or it may be that of a saint or another model, traditional or contemporary; two examples are Julian of Norwich and Mother Teresa.
- ✠ After completing the Study Guide and the three-month discernment period, your Study Guide leader and Chapter President will coordinate with the group, the clergy and Assembly President (if applicable) to determine a date for the Service of Admission.

The U.S. *National Handbook* is the guide to being well informed and a constant source of information for all members and officers. Below is an abbreviated outline of its contents.

THE ORDER'S MISSION AND VISION
RULES, EVANGELISM
DUTIES, PRAYER, MOTTO
OUR CROSS
OUR HYMN
WEBSITE AND PUBLICATIONS
TIMELINE
PRAYERS AND MEDITATIONS
THE SERVICES
U.S. NATIONAL BYLAWS

QUESTIONS FOR STUDY TEN

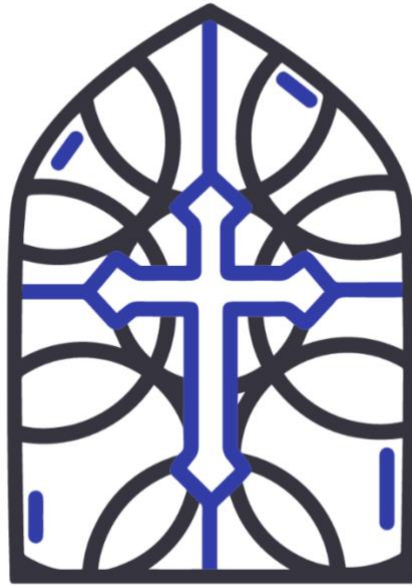
1. What is your chapter name or as a new chapter, what name have you chosen?
2. Who are your chapter officers?
3. What must you do to apply for membership in The Order?
4. Review your personal commitment to Christ, as written in your Rule of Life. How do you plan to live into your Rule of Prayer and Service in the coming months and years?
5. Why is it important to take the time to talk to someone about your call to The Order?



For His Sake, you have completed the
study designed to
prepare you for becoming a Daughter.

In His Name – Welcome!

APPENDIX



-
- ✚ Frequently Asked Questions
 - ✚ The Baptismal Covenant
 - ✚ Protecting the Cross of The Order
 - ✚ Called to Humility
 - ✚ Prayer Changes Me
 - ✚ The Service of Admission
 - ✚ Evaluation Form

Frequently Asked Questions

Below are some questions that Daughters are frequently asked, together with some suggested responses. This information is useful in publicizing The Order.

1. What is The Order of the Daughters of the King?

The Order is a spiritual, praying Order for women who are communicants of the U.S. Episcopal Church, churches in communion with it, or churches in the Historic Episcopate but not in communion with it.

2. What is the Purpose of The Order?

The purpose of The Order is evangelism. We desire, through a disciplined Rule of Prayer and Service, to encourage others and ourselves to develop a deeper relationship with our Lord Christ Jesus. A Daughter continually renews her interior spiritual life as she lives out her baptismal vows to follow Jesus as her Savior and Lord, to pray, to work, to witness, and to give for the spread of his kingdom.

3. What do Daughters do?

Daughters are called to live out the Baptismal Covenant. Members of The Order are not required to participate in any project undertaken by the chapter. However, most Daughters do wish to give some tangible service, according to their talents, toward the spread of Christ's kingdom and the spiritual growth of their church.

4. Am I good enough to be a member of The Order?

Daughters are not members of a spiritual elite, but rather women who feel a need to conform their lives more closely to God's will. The Order will help you strengthen your present religious life as you accept and follow the disciplines of a Rule of Life in a supportive community.

5. How will being in The Order help to deepen my life as a woman?

The Order can help by pointing the way to a stable grounding in Christ our King. Through prayer, study and service, with like-minded women, Daughters find their minds and hearts turning from self to God.

6. Must I become a member of The Order?

Not at all. Thousands of saints have never heard of The Order of the Daughters of the King, but those of us who are Daughters find it a source of strength and solace in the modern world.

7. How does The Order differ from other church organizations?

Many church organizations have their emphasis on service and socializing. But Daughters share a common Rule of Life and they become aware of growing toward Christ, together with their sisters in Christ. The sign of our discipline is the emblem of The Order (our cross) that we wear daily as a visible witness of a life committed to showing forth the love of Christ to all people. It reminds us that we bear Christ's name and have a responsibility to bring Him into our daily lives through thought and action. The disciplines of The Order pervade your entire life as a woman.

8. I belong to a women's group in my church, isn't that enough?

As a Daughter, you are not expected to change the way you participate in general parish life. You will not be asked to do anything more than you are already doing, but you will find your service will have more purpose and meaning. Anything you do in Jesus' name is Daughters' work, whether done at church or away.

9. Is there a similar program for girls?

Yes, girls and young women between seven and twenty-one years of age may become Junior members of The Order. Through their promise of daily prayer and service, they have a special opportunity to grow in the Christian faith and commitment. Junior members must be baptized but may belong to any Christian church. Junior members wear a cross with the initials FHS, For His Sake. They may transition to senior membership in an eligible church at sixteen years old with the permission of their Directress and parents. These girls pray, serve, and reach out in love to all.

10. To whom does the Cross of The Order belong?

The cross belongs to The Order, but it is entrusted to a Daughter as long as she remains a member. It is worn as a constant reminder of her vows and points to Christ.

The Baptismal Covenant

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

People I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People I will, with God's help.

Episcopal Book of Common Prayer page 416-417
(If available, please refer to your denominational equivalent.)

Protecting the Cross of The Order



“Accept and wear faithfully the cross of The Order, remembering the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, ‘Take up your cross and follow me.’”

(The Service of Admission)

When a new member has completed the three-month preparation period and has prayerfully discerned a call to become a member of The Order, the cross she has chosen to wear as a mark of her membership is blessed by the clergy and handed to her with the powerful words quoted above. The cross she now wears is the sacred emblem of The Order of the Daughters of the King handed down to her from our foremothers over 130 years ago.

The badge, or cross, of The Order was officially adopted in its first Constitution on November 5, 1891.

BADGES AND COLORS. The badge of The Order shall be a Greek Fleury cross, of silver color, with the words “Magnanimiter Crucem Sustine,” the initials of the motto of The Order – FHS – “For His Sake.”

Just as a nun’s habit identifies her as one who is called to religious life, members of The Order wear the cross to identify themselves as one who has been called to live according to its Rule of Life – a Rule of Prayer and Rule of Service. As Daughters of the King we pledge ourselves to a lifelong program of prayer, service and evangelism, dedicated to the spread of Christ’s Kingdom and the strengthening of the spiritual life of our parish.

As members of The Order we understand the responsibility that comes with wearing our sacred emblem. We understand that we must protect the cross we wear because in doing so we protect both the identity and integrity of the cross.

Daughters of the King acknowledge that the cross we wear as a mark of our membership belongs to The Order. We are essentially guardians of the cross, charged with protecting its identity and integrity from the time we first obtain it at admission until the time we are no longer members due to resignation or death. We further acknowledge that only members in good standing may wear the cross of The Order. ‘In good standing’ means a member is current in paying her dues (if applicable.)

Daughters of the King understand that the cross is to be worn as a pendant on a necklace, or as a pin on the left side of our chest so that it is near her heart. The cross may not be worn as ornamentation or jewelry. Further, the cross of The Order may not be altered in any way or permanently attached to anything that could be perceived as jewelry, such as charms, pins, or bracelets.

Since both the senior and Junior crosses are registered trademarks of the United States, they can only be used exclusively by members of The Order. More information on the trademarked emblems of The Order can be found in “The Trademark Policies and Procedures of The Order of the Daughters of the King” available on the website.

Called to Humility

This section serves as a reminder that we are called to follow Jesus and his life of true humility. Ultimately, Jesus humbled himself even to death on the cross. Likewise, we are called to humble ourselves throughout life, avoiding-thinking more highly of ourselves than we ought, putting ourselves above others, and being arrogant. We should strive to love ourselves as Jesus loves us, to love others as Jesus loves them, and to respect the dignity of every person.

²*Remember the long way that the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, in order to humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commandments... ¹⁶and fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you, and in the end to do you good.* Deuteronomy 8:2, 16

What does God require of us?

⁸*He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?* Micah 6: 8

Humility is the quality of being humble, which is the absence of pride or arrogance, and understanding that you are not greater or lesser than others. Being humble does not mean that you need to become weak, gullible, or submissive. In fact, most people who practice humility are strong, confident individuals with great leadership skills, like Jesus.

Our guide for this study is based on the twelve (12) steps of humility that St. Benedict included in his Holy Rule (A guide for those who live under the discipline of a Rule of Life). These steps have been adapted for our use in The Order.

What is the Rule of St. Benedict?

Fifteen centuries ago, a young Christian from Nursia, Italy named Benedict retreated to a cave, disillusioned by the disorder and immorality of Rome. However, others sought him out, asking for spiritual guidance. After his first attempt at a monastery failed, he founded 12 others, with 12 men in each. In 516 A.D., he gave them a concise guide to living in community that balanced strict discipline with allowance for human need. Benedict's rule was so practical and wise that it has been adapted by many Roman Catholic religious orders ever since. It often guides Anglican orders as well. In the 21st century fresh interpretations have been published to show how St. Benedict's principles still offer a path to living holy, ordered lives.

As you read through the twelve steps, allow the Holy Spirit to guide you deeper into what humility looks like for you personally. Try to see how the practice of each step will bring you into a closer walk with Jesus and a more loving relationship with your sisters in The Order.

Benedict's Twelve Steps of Humility

Step 1 Keep the fear of God always before you.

Have a reverent knowledge of God through prayer and the study of God's word.

But this is the one to whom I will look, to the humble and contrite in spirit, who trembles at my word.
Isaiah 66:2b

If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land
2 Chronicles 7:14

Step 2 Put God's will for your life before your own will and do not take pleasure in the satisfaction of your desires.

Trust that God's plan for your life is better than anything you can imagine or wish for.

They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper. Psalm 1:3

Be still before the LORD, and wait patiently for him; do not fret over those who prosper in their way, over those who carry out evil devices. Psalm 37:7

All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted. Matthew 23:12

Step 3 Submit to the authority that God has placed above you.

Have a willing yet discerning respect for those placed in authority over you.

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities; for there is no authority except from God, and those authorities that exist have been instituted by God. Romans 13:1

Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you. James 4:10

Step 4 Be obedient even under difficult, unfavorable, or unjust conditions.

Endure adversity patiently and calmly.

He humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Philippians 2:8

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 1 Corinthians 12:4-7

Step 5 Confess any sinful thoughts or wrongs committed whether done openly or in secret.

Be willing to acknowledge and repent of your sin.

For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved.
Romans 10:10

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
1 John 1:8

Step 6 Be content with what you have and what you are given.

You have been given the gifts and abilities needed to accomplish the work God has given you to do; accept and use your gifts with thankfulness and joy.

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. James 3: 13

Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Matthew 11:29

Step 7 Admit not only in your words but also with your heart that you are not the center of your life or of those around you.

Put God first in your life and be open to learning God's ways. Make God the center of your life.

But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Matthew 6:33

For thus says the high and lofty One who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with those who are contrite and humble in spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite. Isaiah 57:15

Step 8 Be in community with others and not want to be different or draw attention to yourself.

Community is about the common good. Be a good listener and a reflection of Christ's love.

¹⁸*At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, 'Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?' ²He called a child, whom he put among them, ³and said, 'Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.⁴Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.*
Matthew 18:1-5,10,12-14

Step 9 Control your tongue.

Be aware of how your words affect others. Use your words for building up each other, spreading Christ's kingdom, and praising God.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. James 1:26

But no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. James 3:8-10

For those who desire life and desire to see good days, let them keep their tongues from evil and their lips from speaking deceit. 1 Peter 3:10

Step 10 Do not make jokes or laugh at the expense of others.

Laughter that delights in the Lord and in others is a gift from God. Always be kind and take into account the feelings of others

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets. Matthew 22:37-40

Step 11 Be gentle and loving towards others and do not raise your voice.

See others as beloved children of God. Be understanding and treat them with dignity and respect.

Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for one another, a tender heart, and a humble mind. Do not repay evil for evil or abuse for abuse; but, on the contrary, repay with a blessing. It is for this that you were called. 1 Peter 3: 8-9

And all of you must clothe yourselves with humility in your dealings with one another, for 'God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.' 1 Peter 5:5

Step 12 *Be humble.*

You are a beloved child of God. Seek to think, do, and say what is pleasing in God's sight, For His Sake.

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: 'Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax-collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, "God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax-collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income." But the tax-collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner!" I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.'

Luke 18: 9-14

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. Ephesians 5: 1-2

Prayer Changes Me



*We gratefully acknowledge the Anglican Fellowship
of Prayer for permission to use their material*

The Gift of Prayer

The desire to pray is God's gift to us. In longing to communicate with the Creator, the soul seeks the source of its being and worships the Presence that knows each one of His creations as intimately as a mother knows her child. As we ponder the mystery of God, who talks to and listens to us, the believer realizes an inborn agility to take the leap of faith required to be in communion with God.

Communion with God is as simple as a silent moment in His Presence and as complex as the liturgy of the church. What prayer is and what prayer is not is a discussion one can have only with the bestower of the gift. The discussion itself is a prayer. Allowing the Lord to enter any activity makes that activity a prayer. David danced before the Lord; the shepherds knelt before the Christ Child; a man paces a hospital waiting room, his heart crying out for comfort; a mother cradles her infant in her arms and wordlessly worships the mystery of creation.

Private moments before the Lord are as unique as fingerprints. Although fifty people may be saying the same prayer at the same time, each person is having their own conversation with God. Each person brings a different shade of meaning to the words spoken in unison. To one, "Give us this day our daily bread," may mean, literally a loaf. To another, this petition may mean an extra ration of patience to deal with a difficult situation.

Our Christian heritage offers a wealth of prayer forms that we can call upon to bring us closer to God. These prayer forms have been given names and underlying each name is an action that will initiate communication with God.

TALKING

We can talk to God in our words or by praying specific written and/or remembered prayers such as the Lord's Prayer, The Rosary, novenas, prayers from daily meditation books, and prayers for different occasions such as familiar table prayers.

READING

"Lectio Divina" is the formal word for the prayerful reading of the Word of God. When the Bible is read reverently, God speaks through His divine Word to the soul of the reader. Writings by saints, theologians, and other Christians can also speak to the seeking soul. The prayer becomes a conversation between the reader, the writer, and God.

WORSHIPPING

The Liturgy of the Hours; The Liturgy of the Church; and the sacramental prayers of Baptism, Eucharist, Reconciliation, Confirmation, Matrimony, Healing, and Holy Orders bring the Body of Christ together in one voice. Participation in the prayers of the Church makes the Christian one with the community and gives a firm foundation on which to build their faith.

THINKING

A focused “thinking about God” becomes a prayer of meditation. Meditations can be focused on a Scripture verse or Biblical story. A picture, a flower, a word, any natural or God-inspired scene can be used for a focus. Sounds, colors, and images that appear in the mind’s eye are all valid beginning places for God to reveal Himself through you, His creation.

LISTENING

Contemplation is the act of emptying the mind of all thoughts and images to reach the level of listening where we are in the presence of God. We seek nothing for ourselves, but are receptive to all He wishes to bestow upon us and all He plans to be through us.

INTERCEDING

As we grow in faith and our relationship with God deepens, we realize that we can— we must— bring the needs of others before Him. Intercessory prayer, praying for the needs of others, is public, private, or shared with the person in need, depending on the situation and the circumstances.

EXPRESSING

Prayer can be expressed in song, dance, painting, poetry, or in any action that is taken in His service or in His praise. Kneading dough for a loaf of bread can be a prayer; planting a garden can be a prayer. Teaching, nursing, cleaning, helping in any way can be a prayer when the heart turns to God as the mind and body begin a work of mercy, an act of sharing, or an expression of praise.

INTEGRATING

Communication with God affects and transforms each moment of our existence. As prayer becomes integrated into our lives, we experience the reality of the gift: the conversion of our hearts to God and the passing on of the gift of God’s love and fellowship in service to others.

The Practice of Prayer

TODAY

The desire to pray is within us all but the practice of beginning each day with prayer often becomes another item on the agenda, an item which becomes easier and easier to postpone as the duties of the day command our presence and attention.

Like all good habits, the practice of prayer requires a commitment. Will you commit the first ten minutes of tomorrow to be with God in prayer?

Begin right now by asking God to help you remember your desire to begin tomorrow with Him.

Lord, I want to meet with You first thing in the morning for at least ten minutes. Tomorrow, when the alarm clock rings, I have an appointment with You.

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. 'The Lord is my portion,' says my soul, therefore I will hope in him. The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him.
Lamentations 3:22-25

TOMORROW

The next morning, take your Bible to a quiet place where you can be alone in the Presence of God who has promised to meet with you. Begin by preparing your heart for prayer:

Lord, cleanse my heart so You can speak to me through the Scriptures. Open my heart. Fill my heart. Make my mind alert, my soul active, and my heart responsive. Lord, surround me with Your Presence. Amen.

Open your Bible and read it for at least five minutes. The Book of John is a good place to begin. Read consecutively—verse after verse, chapter after chapter.

Don't rush; don't stop to do a study of a word, thought or theological problem that may present itself. Read for the joy of reading and allow God to speak. In the weeks to come, you may want to read another one of the Gospels, or you may wish to turn to the Psalms or to another Book. The Holy Spirit will faithfully guide you through the Scriptures.

After God has spoken to you through His Book, speak to Him in prayer. Four elements of prayer are Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Supplication. (Remember the word ACTS) From these elements, you can grow into a union with Christ that is uniquely your own.

Be what God enables you to be at this moment and pray as you can, using each of these elements, first in your own words and then by praying a verse of the Bible.

ADORATION

This is the purest element of prayer because it is all for God. There is nothing in it for you. You are in the presence of royalty. Begin with the proper salutation and express your words of worship. Tell the Lord that you love him. Reflect on his greatness, his power, his majesty, and his sovereignty.

Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the victory, and the majesty; for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is Thine; Thine is the kingdom, O Lord, and Thou are exalted as Head above all.
I Chronicles 29:11

CONFESSION

Having realized His love and His majesty, you now want to be sure every sin is cleansed and forsaken. Confession comes from a root word meaning "to agree together with." Agree with God about your actions and decisions of the day before. In the light of God's love was that "slight exaggeration" in fact, a lie? Were you really "too busy" to help your neighbor, or were you uncharitable? Ask God to reveal the true nature of your thoughts and deeds. Ask his forgiveness for the sins he has helped you name.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
I John 1:8-9

THANKSGIVING

Express your gratitude to God. Think of several specific things you are thankful for in different areas of your life: your family, your work, your leisure activities. Thank Him for your hardships and sorrows too.

In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ concerning you.

I Thessalonians 5:18

SUPPLICATION

This means to “ask for, earnestly and humbly.” Make your petitions known to Him. Be as specific as you are comfortably able to be. For example, can you expand “Lord, help me to be kind” to “Lord, help me to be kinder to _____ whom I hurt yesterday”? Ask for yourself and ask for others. Ask God to help you form your petitions.

Ask and it will be given you; seek and you will find; knock and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. Matthew 7:7-8

End your meeting with God with your own “amen”: a favorite Scripture, a song, the Lord’s Prayer, a moment of silence. Go into this new morning of your life knowing

This is the day that the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24

AND ALWAYS

As prayer becomes a habit, you will grow into it, and the prayers you express will become uniquely your own. You may realize a desire within you to explore and “try on” other forms and styles of prayer such as those discussed previously. No one form of prayer is “recommended for beginners only” or “available only to advanced Christians.” Many books may be available from a local library or your church about prayer and the different forms of prayer. Much can be learned about prayer from Christians in your own community. But the highest authority and the only authority who is beside you at this moment and will be with you in every moment is the Giver of the gift.

The Spirit too helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought. Romans 8:26

PRAY *For His Sake*

The Service of Admission

Presenter: It is my privilege to present _____ as candidates for membership in The Order of the Daughters of the King.

Clergy: We are gathered here in the sight of God and before this congregation to admit *these women* into The Order of the Daughters of the King. We commend *them* to your earnest prayers that *they* may have grace to fulfill the obligations of The Order and that *their* labors may be to the glory of God and to the welfare of all His people.

Addressing the candidates:

Clergy: The Daughters of the King is an Order for women whose mission is the extension of Christ's Kingdom, especially among women and girls, through prayer, service and evangelism. Do you desire to become a member of The Order of the Daughters of the King?

Candidates: I do.

Clergy: Do you promise to obey faithfully the two Rules of The Order, the Rule of Prayer and the Rule of Service? To offer your support to the clergy for the good of the parish and the extension of Christ's kingdom? To wear faithfully the cross of The Order? And to work for its purposes, as God may give you the opportunity?

Candidates: I do with God's help.

Clergy: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit I receive and admit you as members of The Order of the Daughters of the King.

Addressing the congregation:

Clergy: Will you support *these women* in *their* ministry of prayer and service?

Congregation: We will.

The clergy blesses the crosses.

Clergy: Bless, O Lord, *these crosses* and grant to your *servants* now admitted into this Order such an abundance of your grace that *they* may wear this sacred symbol in the spirit of humility and with devotion to the service of the King of kings. *Amen.*

Each new member is presented her cross with the following words:

“Accept and wear faithfully the cross of The Order, remembering the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, “Take up your cross and follow me.”

New Members: Almighty God, help me to pray so faithfully that I may draw near to you and learn your will. Help me to serve so joyfully that others may be drawn to you. May your Holy Spirit guide me each day, that all I think, do, or say may be pleasing in your sight. I ask it all for the sake of Him whose cross I wear, my King and Savior, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

All Daughters of the King: *O Eternal Father, you have sent us your Son to teach us things pertaining to your heavenly Kingdom. Give your blessing to our Order wherever it may be throughout the world. Grant that we, your Daughters, ever may discern your truth and bear the cross through the battles of our earthly life. Give us strength to overcome temptation and the grace to work to spread your Kingdom and to gather your scattered sheep within your fold. Pour out upon us the sevenfold gift of the Holy Spirit that we may always remember it is your work we are called to do; that all we think, do or say may be pleasing in your sight. We ask it all For His Sake, our King and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.*

Clergy: May your love, O Lord, help the Daughters live lives of love, and may your holiness lead them to be examples of virtue, that they, strengthened by your Holy Spirit, may pray and serve you all their days, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Clergy: The blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Evaluation of the International Study Guide

Please take a few minutes and fill out this evaluation form. Your feedback will help determine how effective the preparation class has been. You do not need to sign your name.

PARISH _____ CHAPTER NAME _____

Leader(s)

Name _____

Name _____

Date Study Program began: _____ Date completed _____

1. How would you evaluate the International Study Guide? (Please circle one.)

Excellent Good Fair Poor

2. Did you find it user friendly? Yes _____ No _____

If not, please explain _____

3. Did you find it informative? Yes _____ No _____

If not, please explain _____

4. Do you feel your time was well spent? Yes _____ No _____

If not, please explain _____

5. How would you rate the class overall?

Excellent Good Fair Poor

6. Do you have any other comments or suggestions? (Please use the back of this sheet if additional space is needed.)

Your name (optional) _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE!

