Concerning The Service of Preparation for Membership

This Service of Preparation for Membership takes place before prospective members begin the study and discernment period. During this Service prospective members promise to be faithful in their study and preparation for membership in The Order. Junior Daughters make the same promise and receive a candle as a symbol of their promise. Candles are optional in the senior Service of Preparation.

The Service of Preparation for Membership takes place either at an appropriate time during the celebration of Eucharist or during a chapter meeting. The Presenter is the Chapter President or her designee.

If the Service is held during a chapter meeting, it is appropriate for the Study Guide Leader or Chapter President to preside.

If candles are used as part of the Service of Preparation held during the Eucharist they are lit from the Altar Candle and handed to each candidate. If the Service is held during a chapter meeting they are lit from a chapter candle and handed to each candidate. In either case, be sure to insert the optional “Candle Lighting Service” after the second clergy reading.

The Service of Preparation for Membership

PRESIDER: 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 three-month 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 sessions using the National 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. **

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.
The blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.
** An optional Candle Lighting Service, with the following prayers, may be inserted here.

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 the candle is lit and handed to each 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 Daughter of the King.

After receiving their candles, the candidates then pray:

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, Jesus, our Lord and Savior. 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.

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THE ORDER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE KING®
101 Weatherstone Drive, Suite 870 / Woodstock, GA 30188
Phone (770) 517-8552 Fax (770) 517-8066
www.doknational.org

Prayer and Service for the spread of Christ's Kingdom since 1885