



The Order of the Daughters of the Holy Cross

Service for Beginning Three-Month Period of Study and Discernment Daughter-at-Large

The Order encourages all interested women to begin the three-month period of study and discernment with a prayerful commitment to fully examine her call to the Order. It is fervently hoped that every woman will finish the whole course of study before making a final decision about being admitted to the Order but, if at any time, she determines that she is not being called to the Order she may end her participation. A woman doing the study to potentially become a DAL may do this service with her priest in private.

Candidate: I come seeking your blessing as I begin a period of study and discernment which will allow me to decide whether I have been called by the Lord Jesus into the Order of the Daughters of the Holy Cross.

Clergy: Prayer, Service, Study and Evangelism are disciplines that deepen and strengthen every Christian life, however, to some women there comes a call to follow the fourfold Vow of The Order of the Daughters of the Holy Cross. As you undertake these three months of study and discernment, may the Holy Spirit be your Teacher, and may your calling be made clear. Remember, *there are many gifts and many callings, but it is the one Spirit who gives them all.* Every part of the body is needed; every member of the Church has received a gift for the good of all. Membership in The Order of the Daughters of the Holy Cross may be God's plan for you or maybe it is not. You will know as you pursue it.

Will you commit yourself to complete the full course of study, diligently communicating with your mentor and faithfully fulfilling the assigned study and self-examination?

Candidate(s): I will with God's help.

Clergy or Leader: To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy—to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power, and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages now and forevermore.

May the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be upon you now and remain with you throughout this discernment process.