

THE RITE FOR TAKING THE VOWS

After the reception of the Eucharist, and a suitable period of silence, the Director of Formation invites the candidate(s) for Vows to come forward and take their Vows.

Let the following candidate(s) who desire to make their/her/his Vows in our Community come forward.

They are called by name. The candidate(s) petition to make their Vows.

What do you ask of the Order and the Community?

With the help of God We/I wish to follow Christ more perfectly, the chaste and obedient one. We/I therefore ask you, Father, to allow us/me to make the Vow of chastity and obedience in the Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites for the glory of God.

The priest answers.

May God who has begun in you this good work being it to completion for the day of Christ the Lord. All: **Amen.**

I, (Name), in order to live in union with the Virgin Mary in following Jesus Christ. make a vow of chastity and obedience to God in the hands of the Superior of the Order of the Teresian Carmel according to the Rule of St Albert and the Constitutions of the Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites for the rest of my life. I confidently entrust this, my Vow, to the Virgin Mary, Mother and Queen of Carmel.

The celebrant then confirms their commitment.

In the name of the Teresian Carmel, I confirm your new commitment of your Vows. I welcome you with joy. All of us here present wish you the grace and peace of the Lord.

Revised 08/10/11 (Edited to correct omission)

SECULAR ORDER OF DISCALCED CARMELITES A SUMMARIZED VERSION OF THE RITES FOR USE

DURING THE EUCHARIST

APPROVED ON DECEMBER 10, 1990

ADMISSION TO FORMATION

THE MAKING OF THE TEMPORARY PROMISE

THE MAKING OF THE FINAL PROMISE

THE TAKING OF THE VOWS

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RITE OF ADMISSION TO FORMATION

(This Introductory Rite replaces the Penitential Rite)

The celebrant makes the Sign of the Cross and greets the Community. He addresses them in these or similar words:

Dear Friends of Christ,

The Lord has called you to live an Evangelical Life in the world as sisters and brothers in the family of Carmel. He brings us together today to receive those who have expressed their desire to begin Formation in the Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites. This stage of Formation, with God's help, will lead to an Evangelical commitment.

Let us ask the Lord always to give them the grace of the Holy Spirit so that they may persevere in their purpose. May God also enable us to support them along the way.

Let us pray.

Holy and merciful Father, you call us to holiness in Christ in order that our life may be a spiritual oblation. Look with favor on these your friends. They desire to live in the world and to walk in the light of the Gospel in the spirit of the Teresian Carmel and under the protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Grant that they may come to know your will and to follow your inspirations with filial and generous love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

The Formation Director addresses the candidate(s) for reception of the Scapular and initial Formation:

Temporary Promise:

I, (Name...), inspired by the Holy Spirit, in response to God's call, sincerely promise to the Superiors of the Order of the Teresian Carmel, and to you my brothers and sisters, to tend toward evangelical perfection in the spirit of the evangelical counsels of chastity, poverty, obedience, and of the Beatitudes, according to the Rule of St. Albert and the Constitutions of the Discalced Carmelites for three years.

I confidently entrust this, my Promise, to the Virgin Mary, Mother and Queen of Carmel.

The celebrant then confirms their commitment:

In the name of the Teresian Carmel, I confirm your new commitment of your Promise. I welcome you with joy. All of us here present wish you the grace and peace of the Lord. Let us greet one another with a Sign of Peace.

Final Promise:

I, (Name...). inspired by the Holy Spirit, in response to God's call, sincerely promise to the Superiors of the Order of the Teresian Carmel, and to you my brothers and sisters, to tend toward evangelical perfection in the spirit of the evangelical counsels of chastity, poverty, obedience, and of the Beatitudes, according to the Rule of St. Albert and the Constitutions of the Secular Order of the Discalced Carmelites for the rest of my life.

I confidently entrust this, my Promise, to the Virgin Mary, Mother and Queen of Carmel.

The celebrant then confirms their commitment:

In the name of the Teresian Carmel, I confirm your new commitment of your final Promise. I welcome you with joy. All of us here present wish you the grace and peace of the Lord. Let us greet one another with a Sign of Peace.

Beloved Brothers and Sisters of Christ in the family of Carmel, in the presence of this Community, and our family and friends, I ask you:

Do you wish to embrace the form of Evangelical Life which is inspired by the example and words of St. Teresa of Jesus and of St. John of the Cross and which is set forth in the Constitutions of the Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites?

Candidate(s): Yes, I do.

You are called to give witness to the Kingdom of God by living an Evangelical Life in the world in fraternal communion. Taking the Virgin Mary as your model, do you wish to be faithful to this vocation?

Candidate(s): Yes, I do.

You have been made members of the People of God through Baptism and you have been sealed with the Holy Spirit in Confirmation. You must witness to Christ in words and deeds. Do you wish to bind yourself more strictly to the Church in order to collaborate in her mission by means of contemplative prayer and apostolic activity?

Candidate(s): Yes, I do.

May Almighty God grant you this by his Grace.

INVOCATION

Let us pray.

Look with favor, Lord, on these your friends. Fill their hearts with your Spirit of Love so that, by your help, they may persevere faithfully in the life they propose to live. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Each member now makes her/his temporary or final Promise.

Let the following candidates who desire to be admitted to this Community come forward (each by name). *The candidate(s) come forward after her/his/ name is called.*

Friends of Christ, what do you ask of this Community of the Secular Order of the Teresian Carmel?

All the candidates together express their wish to join the Secular Order of the Teresian Carmel:

Trusting in the mercy of God and in the fraternal help of all of you, we ask to be admitted to the period of Formation in this Community of the Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites. We wish to live our Baptismal consecration according to the ideal of life of the Teresian Carmel, and to collaborate in fulfilling the mission of the Teresian Carmel in the Church.

The celebrant accepts the petition in the following, or similar words:

The Church and the Order of the Teresian Carmel accept and confirm your petition. May the Lord grant you to persevere in your purpose, so that when the time comes, you may make your Promise for the glory of God and the good of the whole Church.

All: Amen.

Assisted by the Formation Director, the celebrant clothes each candidate with the Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, while saying to each one by name:

(Name...), receive this Scapular. It is the habit of the Order of Carmel. Wear it worthily by imitating Mary in the service of Jesus Christ.

The celebrant addresses the candidates in the following words and gives each a copy of the Rule, Constitutions and Statutes

Friends of Christ, the **Constitutions** of the Secular Order of Cannel say that we are: To live in allegiance to Our Lord Jesus Christ, following the doctrine and example of St. Teresa of Jesus and St. John of the Cross. May the Word of Christ dwell abundantly in your hearts. In all that you do, whether in words or in works, do it in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

The celebrant concludes by praying:

We ask you, Lord, that the powerful intercession of the Holy Virgin Mary. Mother and Queen of Cannel, may assist us always; so that, guided by her example and protection, we may reach the summit of the Mount of Perfection, Christ Our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

All: Amen.

To show that the candidates have been welcomed into the Community of Carmel, the celebrant says:

Let us now welcome our candidates with a Sign of Peace. *The candidates then return to their places.*

The Mass then continues with the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

THE RITE OF MAKING THE PROMISE

If there were no candidates to receive the Scapular, the Mass begins in the usual manner with the following introduction.

My Brothers and Sisters, we are present at this Eucharistic celebration during which some Member(s) of this community will make their Promise (and/or take their Vows) in the Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites. We give thanks to God our Father for having called them to follow more closely his Son Jesus Christ, and we beg God to accept them as an oblation in Christ, who offered himself as a living victim for the life of the world.

After the Homily has been proclaimed. The Director of Formation comes forward and addresses those who will make their Promise.

Let the following members who desire to make their Promise in the Community come forward. *Each is then called by name.*

The celebrant then invites the group or individual to petition to make their temporary and/or final Promise.

What do you ask of the Order and the Community?

Temporary Promise:

We/I ask to be admitted to the temporary Promise in this Community of the Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites. The experience of the period of Formation has confirmed me/us in the certitude that the Lord is calling me/us to live the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the world in union with Mary, Mother of God, and under her protection, as Secular member(s) of the Teresian Carmel.

Final Promise:

We/I ask to be admitted to the final Promise in this Community of the Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites. The experience of living my/our Promise for three years has confirmed me/us in the certitude that the Lord is calling me/us to live the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the world in union with Mary, Mother of God, and under her protection, as Secular members of the Teresian Cannel.

The celebrant answers:

The Order and this Community of Secular Carmelites accepts your petition and it promises to accompany you with its prayers. May the Holy Spirit confirm in you the work which has already begun.

All: Amen.