

THE RITE OF ADMISSION TO FORMATION

(This Introductory Rite replaces the Penitential Rite during Mass)

The Celebrant makes the Sign of the Cross and greets those taking part in the rite in these or similar words:

Dear Friends in 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, accompanied by the President, approaches the altar and addresses the candidates for reception of the Scapular and initial Formation. Each candidate comes forward after her/his name is called.

Formation Director: Let the following candidates who desire to be admitted to the Community of St. Teresa of Jesus of the Andes come forward.

The Celebrant then asks the candidates:

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

All of 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 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 petitions:*

The Church and the Order of the Teresian Carmel accepts and confirms your petitions. May the Lord grant that you 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.

*Assisted by the **Formation Director** and **President**, the **Celebrant** then clothes each candidate with the Scapular of Our Lady of Mt. 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** then addresses the candidates in the following words:*

Friends of Christ, the Constitutions of the Secular Order of Carmel 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 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 Carmel, 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.