

# Guide for the Time of Inquiry



## Purpose

You have been admitted as an Inquirer. This stage invites you to explore the Order of Saint Luke (OSL) through study, prayer, and conversation with your companion. The goal is to discern whether you are called to continue into the **Time of Final Discernment**, leading to annual affirmation of vows.

You and your companion are free to plan how you'll go about exploring and learning together. We offer a cohort approach (five online sessions) and a module approach as two possible ways forward. Or you may be in a face to face chapter or association and will inquire with them.

When you apply for admission to the Time of Inquiry, you'll be assigned a companion. You will also be invited to be part of a cohort group.

Whether you journey with a cohort group or work through the modules and learn with a local chapter, we are confident that you will know

who we are,  
what we do,  
how we stay in love with God, each other, and the world

And, most importantly, we trust that you will have discerned if you are called by the Spirit to test your vocation during a Time of Final Discernment, the stage that leads to first public affirmation of annual vows.

Your companion will accompany, guide, and listen deeply as you make this pilgrimage.

# Modules

## 1. History of the Order (1–2 weeks)

Explore OSL’s story from 1946 to today. Reflect on how our mission and membership have evolved. Ask your companion to share their personal history in the Order. Resource: *The Story of the Order of Saint Luke* (Hoyt Hickman, OSL).



Romey P Marshall, One of the founding members

## 2. Primary Sources: Constitution, By Laws & Rule of Life (1 month)

Study the Constitution, especially Articles II–IV. Article IV contains the **Rule of Life and Service**—central to our identity.

Resources: Constitution and By-Laws ([saint-luke.net](http://saint-luke.net)).

## 3. How We Live Together (2 months)

Though dispersed, we connect through chapters, associations, retreats, and online groups. Participate locally if possible and join OSL Facebook groups. Reflect on shared practices like praying the Daily Office.



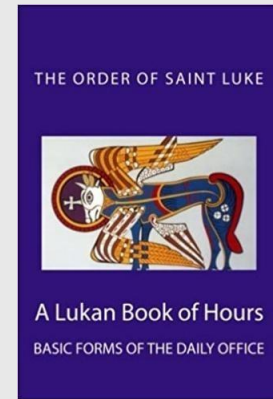
New Jersey chapter meeting

Resources: By-Laws ([saint-luke.net](http://saint-luke.net)).

## 4. Praying the Daily Office (2-3 months)



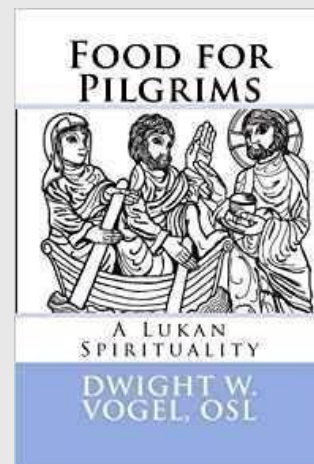
- Become familiar with WADO online daily office and try it out.
- Explore and use *A Lukan Book of Hours* and deepen with *A Lukan Book of Feasts*.
- If you are not familiar with your own denomination's daily prayer resources, explore them.



Resources: OSL publications, WADO, and Vanderbilt Daily Office Lectionary.

## 5. Living the Sacramental Life (3–8 weeks)

- Read *Food for Pilgrims: A Lukan Spirituality* (Dwight Vogel, OSL).
- Practice “spiritual reading”—slow, reflective, Spirit-led.
- Consider integrating “*A Reading for Meditation and Reflection*” into Morning/Evening Prayer.
- Supplement this with “Lukan Spirituality” in *The Book of Offices and Service*.



## Expectations

- **Take initiative:** schedule conversations, ask questions, keep appointments.
- **Keep a journal:** record insights, questions, and the Spirit's nudges.

- **Discern together:** with your companion, decide readiness for Final Discernment or another Spirit-led direction.
- **Know you are prayed for:** the Order supports you in this journey.

**Contacts** (In addition to your companion, who is primary, see the “Novitiate Contact Directory” for leaders who can assist you in this journey.)