

Order of Saint Luke Novitiate Series

Formation Modules for the Time of Inquiry



You have been admitted as an Inquirer. During this Time of Inquiry, one approach is to explore in depth with one or more of the following “modules”. Each module offers readings, activities, and reflections to help you and your companion engage the breadth of our common religious life.

The modules are not numbered. Begin with the one that best matches your interest or need. As you work through the modules, we trust you will gain greater clarity about:

- who we are,
- what we do,
- how we stay in love with God, one another, and the world.

Your companion will accompany, befriend, guide, and—most importantly—listen deeply as you make this pilgrimage.

Review the modules and decide where to begin. The suggested time frames are approximate; modules may overlap.

A Caution

The Time of Inquiry can be spacious, even meandering. *This outline is not a road map* but a sampler. You and your companion are free to use it in ways that support your exploration. Attend to the Spirit’s wisdom and promptings.

Module: History of the Order



Romey P. Marshall,
one of the founding
members of the Order
of Saint Luke

(a week to a month)

Explore the history of the Order of Saint Luke from its founding in 1946 to the present. Notice how our story has evolved—how changing contexts have shaped our membership, our place in the church, and our understanding of our mission. Ask your companion to share their own history in the Order.

Resource: “[The Story of the Order of Saint Luke](#)”

Module: Primary Sources—The Rule of Life and Service and The Constitution

(a month to two months)

In this module, you will read and reflect on **The Constitution of the Order of Saint Luke**, the primary document that shapes our life as a dispersed religious community.

Give particular attention to Articles II, III, and IV. Article IV contains **The Rule of Life and Service**, a central text for your discernment. A version of the Rule with commentary appears in Section II of the **Bylaws**.

Resources:

- *The Constitution of the Order of Saint Luke* (saint-luke.net)
- *The By-Laws of the Order of Saint Luke* (saint-luke.net)
- *The Customary of The Order of Saint Luke*

Module: How We Live Together

(two to four months)

Although we live as a dispersed order, we cultivate meaningful ways of being “together.” Your companion will introduce you to practices and settings that foster connection.

If you live near a chapter or association, participate in their gatherings. Consider joining the OSL Facebook Group and the special Facebook group for Seekers, Inquirers and Discerners.



Some of the New Jersey Chapter members at a meal.

As you pray the daily office, reflect on how shared rhythms of prayer deepen our common life.

This module includes reading the **Bylaws** to understand how leaders and communities organize our life together—General Officers, Priors, chapters, associations, covenant communities, and other structures that sustain our dispersed fellowship.

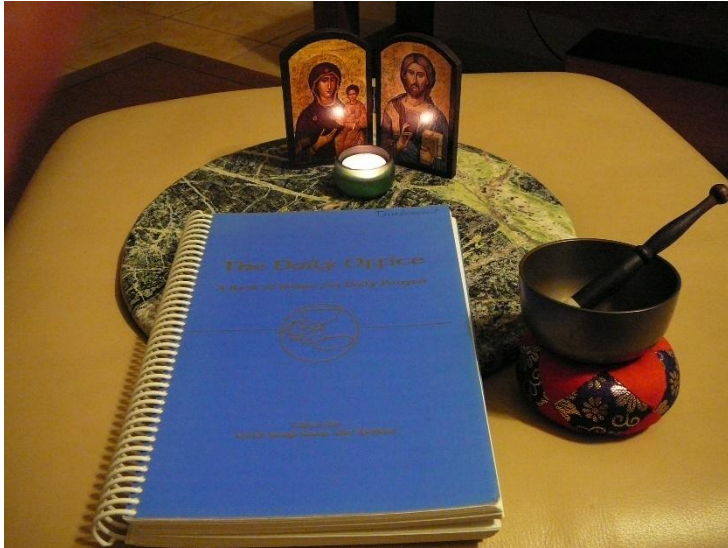
If you are in North America, we urge you to attend the General Chapter Retreat (October) and the Spring Council Meeting (May). Chapters in Singapore and the Philippines also host annual retreats, and all are welcome to travel to them.

Resource: *The By-Laws of the Order of Saint Luke* (saint-luke.net)

Module: Praying the Daily Office

(two to three months)

Praying the daily office is a central practice of the Order of Saint Luke. Along with the celebration of the Eucharist, it forms us in the apostolic hope and the sacramental life. We encourage you to pray the daily office throughout your Time of Inquiry and to reflect on the practice with your companion.



If you are new to the daily office, begin with “**Getting Started with Praying the Daily Office**” by Br. Daniel Benedict, available on the Facebook page for Seekers, Inquirers, and Discerners.

You may use the daily office of your own denomination or a widely available form such as

that in the *Book of Common Prayer* (1979). The Order also offers its own resources:

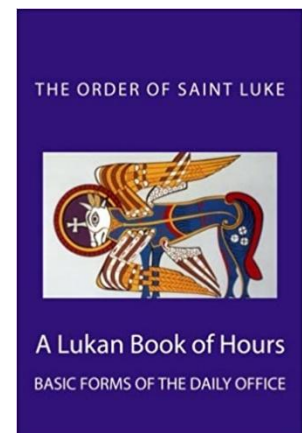
- **The Book of Offices and Services of the Order of Saint Luke**
- **A Lukan Book of Hours**
- **A Lukan Book of Feasts**
- **[The Web Amplified Daily Office \(WADO\)](#)**

For simplicity and ease of use during the Time of Inquiry, we recommend WADO that you can access at “Get Involved” tab on the Order’s website.

Or, you can use **A Lukan Book of Hours**, which provides basic forms for the seasons of the year. You may supplement these with a daily office lectionary, such as the Revised Common Lectionary readings available through Vanderbilt University lectionary.

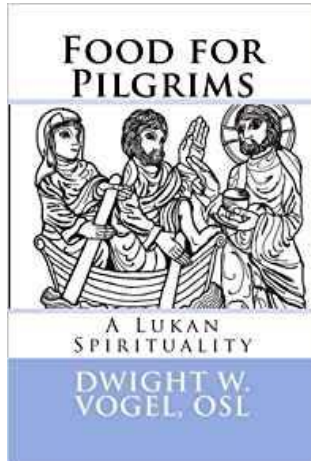
We encourage reading the introductions in *A Lukan Book of Hours* (pp. 1–8) and, when ready, the Preface and Introduction in *A Lukan Book of Feasts* (pp. 7–19).

These volumes are available through Amazon or OSL Publications (with a discount form in your Inquirer’s Packet). If you did not receive the packet including the discount form, contact the Registrar.



Module: Living the Sacramental Life

(three weeks to two months)



“Living the sacramental life” expresses the heart of our vocation. It concerns the nourishment we need for the spiritual journey and where we find it.

In this module, you will read **Food for Pilgrims: A Lukan Spirituality** by Br. Dwight Vogel. Through the lens of Luke–Acts, Br. Dwight invites reflection on worship as central to our living the Rule of Life and Service. Read this book slowly, as spiritual reading—pausing when a word or phrase invites deeper contemplation.

If you are praying the daily office, consider reading a portion of *Food for Pilgrims* at the point designated for “A Reading for Meditation and Reflection.”

You may also read “[Lukan Spirituality](#)” by Br. Daniel Benedict on the Facebook page for Seekers, Inquirers, and Discerners.



Share your questions and insights with your companion as you reflect together.

Expectations for Your Time of Inquiry

During this period, we ask you to:

- **Take initiative.** Your companion is available to you, but you are responsible for your inquiry.
- **Explore thoroughly.** Ask questions, seek answers, schedule conversations, and keep your appointments.
- **Keep a journal.** Note insights, questions, and the movements of the Spirit. Pay attention to the ebb and flow of your attraction to the Order.
- **Discern mutually.** You and your companion will listen together for the Spirit's guidance regarding readiness for Final Discernment or a different path.
- **Participate in the Cohort sessions:** you will be invited by the Novitiate Team Leader to share in the five-session series.
- **Remember you are held in prayer.** Members of the Order are praying for you as you seek a deeper sense of your calling within the baptismal covenant.



Service of Profession at a chapter meeting in Perkins Chapel at SMU.

Who to Contact During the Time of Inquiry

If you have questions

- See the **Novitiate Directory**
- **Your companion.** If you have not been assigned one, contact the Companion Coordinators. If your assigned companion is not a good fit, contact the Companion Coordinators