**Morning Star**

Lay Carmelite Community

(Ancient Observance)

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**Community Meetings:**

3rd Saturday of each month

at

St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish

8755 Scarborough Drive

Colorado Springs, CO 80920

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**For more information:**

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**Basic Expectations**

**Meetings:** Attend one 3-hour community meeting per month. While in Formation I and II, an additional 2-hour meeting per month is required.

**Days of recollection and retreats:**

1 to 2 per year

**Prayer:** A Lay Carmelite sets aside time for prayer each day including:

- Daily Mass *(schedule permitting)*
- Liturgy of the Hours *(Morning, Evening, and Night Prayer)*
- Meditative and contemplative prayer
- Prayers common to Carmelite spirituality:
  - Reading Scripture
  - Lectio Divina

**Community:** The primary purpose of the monthly Community and Formation meetings is to provide structure and support to its members through learning, sharing, and praying together.
A candidate must be a Catholic in good standing who feels called by God to live more deeply his or her baptismal vocation as a member of the Carmelite Family. This entails a deeper formation in Christian values according to Carmelite spirituality and its three charisms of prayer, community, and service.

Candidates for Reception will apply for membership through the local Council (Morning Star Community). Candidates are received into the Order after a formal introductory program lasting a minimum of 12 months. They may then be received with the approval of the local Community Council.

Candidates must be:

- At least 18 years old
- Free from an untreatable mental disorder
- If married, married within the Church

Candidates must not be:

- A member of another Order’s lay or secular community
- An indicted felon facing trial or sentencing

Inquiry Sessions: Find out what a Lay Carmelite vocation is about (3 or more months)

Phase I: Preparation for Reception (minimum of 12 months up to 2 years, if necessary)

Phase II: Preparation for Temporary Promises (2 to 3 years)

Phase III: Preparation for Final Promises (minimum of 3 years)

Phase IV: Ongoing Formation (part of the community meetings)

Lay Carmelite Ceremonial Scapular

It is also understood by the application that admission to formation, as well as later Reception and Profession, are not automatic and are subject to your desire, compatibility with the community, and the approval of the Lay Carmelite Community Council.