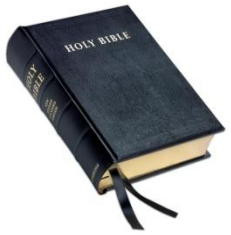
Basic Expectations

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.

St. Joseph
Lay Carmelite Community
(Ancient Observance)

Community Meetings:

2nd Saturday of each month
at
Holy Trinity Catholic Church
7595 North Federal Blvd.
Westminster, CO 80030

For more information:

Daneen Luna, *Community Director*
(303) 210-9703
52patient@gmail.com

Linda Craven, *Formation Director*
(720) 503-5010
lhalpincraven@gmail.com

www.laycarmcolorado.org

Lay Carmelites
A Vocation

St. Joseph
Lay Carmelite Community

20220904

What are Lay Carmelites?

The Lay Carmelite Order of the Blessed Virgin Mary is an association of laypersons. Its members, responding to a special call of God, freely and deliberately commit themselves "to live in the followings of Jesus Christ" according to the charism, traditions, and spirit of Carmel under the authority of the Prior General of the Carmelite Order.

Carmel is not an organization but a Christian community committed to leading an evangelical life (poverty, obedience, and chastity). The call to Carmel is a vocation . . . rooted in careful discernment . . . and requires careful maintenance as the grace of a vocation implies.

The challenge of Carmel is to see God's presence in prayer while living an active, busy life in the midst of the world.

Mount Carmel in the Holy Land

Admission Requirements

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 (St. Joseph 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 <u>not</u> be:

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

The Formation Process

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.