

## OUR FORMATION

While we use organizational methods, the Cenacle is not just another group or organization to which we belong. The Cenacle is a way of life. We are not involved in forming an organization; we are involved in forming apostles.

As we seek to live the apostolic life according to the Cenacle method, the love of God we experience in prayer and community transforms us into incarnations of love. All of our actions become expressions of love.

While we are apostolic, spending our- selves in loving service of others, we cannot live this way unless we are per- sons of daily, personal prayer, which enables us to experience the love of God for us as individuals. Prayer is an essential element in our spiritual and apostolic growth.

It is also essential that we seek guidance in our continuing growth. Since we are growing with the aid of the Cenacle method, we ordinarily seek a spiritual guide who is familiar with this method. This person may be a priest, a sister, a brother, or a lay member of the Missionary Cenacle Family.

### **Candidacy**

When someone seems attracted to our way of life, we may invite that person to participate with us and to be formed with us by the power of the love that abides with us, the Holy Spirit. Since the Holy Spirit has given us through Father Judge the method we are to use for this formation, we seek to be faithful in its use and thus cooperate with the Spirit of Love.

Persons attracted to the Cenacle way of life are asked to spend a minimum of one year in community with us, praying with us, receiving spiritual guidance and performing apostolic works. During this year, the candidates should undertake a systematic study of (1) our Rule of Life and Constitution, (2) the life and grace of our founder, Father Judge, and (3) our spirit, mission, method and history. This study should be planned and directed by the local Missionary Cenacle. This book contains some of the basic information for this study, and there is material in other Missionary Cenacle publications that can supplement and enhance such a study. Some additional readings are suggested at the end of each section of this book. If the local Associates discern with the candidate at the completion of candidacy that the Missionary Cenacle Apostolate is the appropriate context for this person's continuing growth in the apostolic life, the candidate may make the act of consecration, a commitment to continue living the apostolic life within the Missionary Cenacle Apostolate. The act of consecration is made in the presence of the General Custodian, signifying that the person's commitment is to be part of the entire community of the Missionary Cenacle Apostolate and to live according to its Rule of Life and Constitution.

Members of the other branches of the Missionary Cenacle Family also may attract candidates for the Missionary Cenacle Apostolate, supervise their formation, and present them to the General Custodian when they are ready to make their acts of consecration.

**Reading 2: "Our formation", *The Apostolic Life*, Missionary Cenacle Press 1986, pp. 88-92.**

When there are two or more Cenacle Lay Missionaries in the same area, they may form a local community called a Missionary Cenacle which is to be officially established by the General Custodian when requested by the Regional Custodian who works with local Missionary Cenacles in a region.

**SUMMARY**

We seek to glorify our Triune God by being a community that reflects the unity of the Trinity.

We seek always to be faithful people of God, the Church, and we encourage all Catholics to be apostles in the every day lives to which they are called by the providence of the Father.

We seek to put on the mind of Jesus to love as He loves by our presence to and service of the abandoned that their faith might be preserved.

We seek in all things to be prompted by the love of God, the Holy Spirit.

We seek to proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God by bearing witness, in a simple and direct way, to God our Father revealed by Jesus Christ in the Holy Spirit so that all persons might accept this great gift of our Triune God which is liberation from everything which can oppress us, especially sin.

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