

Study Questions for Dominican Laity Candidates

Meeting 5 January

Selections from the *Catechism*, CCC #1066-1075 (Celebration of the Christian Mystery)

United States Catholic Conference. “The Historical Development of the Liturgy of the Hours” in *Study Text VII: The Liturgy of the Hours*. Washington, DC: United States Catholic Conference, 1981, pp. 11-15.

United States Catholic Conference. “A Theology of the Liturgy of the Hours” in *Study Text VII: The Liturgy of the Hours*. Washington, DC: United States Catholic Conference, 1981, pp. 17-21.

Lagrange, Reginald Garrigou-. *The Three Ages of Interior Life.*, Vol. 2 Ch. 24. “The Sacrifice of the Mass and Proficients”

<http://christianperfection.info//tta73.php>

[Part 3 – “The Illuminative Way of Proficients” Ch. 24](#)

Benedict XVI. *Spe Salvi (Saved in Hope)*. Libreria Editrice Vaticana, Vatican City: 2007, excerpt from paragraph #34

Saint: <http://www.nashvilledominican.org/community/our-dominican-heritage/>

Questions for Study/Discussion

Questions on the USCC Readings: Chapter 1: Historical Developments . . .

1. It has been said that Catholics are fulfilled Jews. Whether from this article or something else, discuss ways in which you see this is true in the Church’s Liturgy.

2. The “Liturgy of the Hours” and the “Divine Office” are used interchangeably at times. What is the origin of each? Is there one that appeals to you more and why?

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3. In your area, are there places that pray the Liturgy of the Hours? Are there resources you can share with your group on the Liturgy of the Hours? What apps might be available on your phone?

Questions on the USCC Readings: Chapter 2: Theology of the LofH

4. You are not an ordained priest, but when you pray the Liturgy of the Hours you are participating in a priestly work. Can you explain in simple terms how you are 'priestly' when praying the Liturgy of the Hours?

5. Dominicans love "primary sources." Where can we find what the Church says about the Liturgy of the Hours? What are things you would type into an Internet search box to find this? What web-site(s) do you know that give us access to the Church's exact words on this topic?

6. Time. *Kairos* and *Chronos*. God's time and our time. Jesus entered (and still enters) into 'our time'. How can we say the Liturgy of the Hours allows us to enter into His?

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Qs for Garrigou-Lagrange, Reginald, O.P. Chapter 24

7. If the general public was asked to give a picture of “adoration,” responses may include kneeling, incense, raised hands to emotional music, etc... Garrigou-Lagrange in this article gives the picture of Gethsemane. Even though human language can never fully describe the eternal, try to put into 1 sentence the attitude within adoration Garrigou-Lagrange is recommending to us. (There is no one answer to this).

8. The distinctly human activity of reparation, like the others, is ‘cross cultural’. Garrigou-Lagrange places reparation in the distinct Catholic view of Christ. Referencing this article, can you explain how, if Christ died for us once and for all, what role the Mass has in reparation? Can you explain what our role is in reparation?

9. Petitioning the Lord comes easily when we recognize our dependence. In this article, Garrigou-Lagrange recommends uniting ourselves with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world as a form of ‘petition’ for what significant life event? As lay Dominicans, what ‘practical applications’ can be made to our individual and group practices in light of this concept?

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10. Garrigou-Lagrange did not use many of Paul's apt statements on the "logic of the cross" in his section on Thanksgiving yet he writes within this frame. Thanksgiving for suffering?? Discuss how living within this 'logic' as described by Paul and Garrigou-Lagrange can transform our lives? What in Dominic's life (or other saints) give evidence of having an understanding of this dimension of Thanksgiving?

11. In this article, Garrigou-Lagrange suggests we should live like we are dying because in reality we are – on natural and supernatural levels. What 'practical ways', especially in light of Dominican Spirituality, can our daily lives reflect this? Can you think of examples that demonstrate this mindset from the lives of Dominican Saints?

12. In light of this article, do you think attending the Sacrifice of the Mass can have value even if your "mind and heart" seem elsewhere during it? Why or why not?

CCC, Spe Salvi and Pope Saint Pius V

13. Explain the meaning of Liturgy as explained in the Catechism.

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14. Why does the Liturgical celebration of the Mass surpass all other actions?

15. How does “praying involve the intermingling of public prayer and person prayer”? (Spe Salvi)

16. Explain the origins of the Feast of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary. (Pope St. Pius V)

17. In what ways did Pope Saint Pius V strengthen and unify the Church? (Pope St. Pius V)