

March 21, 2021 – Lent 5 (B) Meet Our Religious Communities: Community of Divine Love

The Community of Divine Love (CDL) is an Episcopal monastery for both men and women.

How have CDL members experienced their call to monastic life?

Our call to the monastic life includes a deep desire to know the love of God and to serve others. We seek to live out our contemplative stream of life in balance with our apostolic work of justice and mercy in the world, especially with those in prison. Our common life is both contemplative and active in ministry.

What do members do all day?

The Community is inspired by the classic pattern of traditional Benedictine religious orders in maintaining a life based in *Ora et Labora*: prayer and work. We have a regular schedule of praying the Divine Hours, beginning each day in the chapel with Lauds followed by meditation, and ending the day praying Compline. We currently celebrate Holy Eucharist two or three times each week in the monastery.

The monks of Community of Divine Love as well as some of our oblates visit those in prison offering worship, teaching, and individual spiritual direction and pastoral care. We also offer individual spiritual direction, spiritual formation groups, and contemplative programs such as weekly Centering Prayer and monthly Taize worship.

What are your ministries?

Our main ministry is with the incarcerated community through in-person spiritual companionship and care in prison facilities, written correspondence, and publication of our monthly newsletter for our incarcerated friends. We also lead retreats, write books and articles for publication, preach, offer spiritual direction, and advocate for equal justice, particularly criminal justice reform.

Do you take vows?

All members eventually take life vows in the classic Benedictine tradition of stability, conversion of life, and obedience; we also observe the disciplines of poverty and celibacy.

How can I get involved with the Community of Divine Love?

- Visit our website and join our mailing list at www.cdlmonks.org.
- Follow us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/groups/CommunityofDivineLove and www.facebook.com/Community-of-Divine-Love-144055532320276.
- Explore a vocation at https://www.cdlmonks.org/vocational-inquires.





