
Membership

Membership is open to any confirmed communicant in the CEC, clergy and laity, men and women, adult and youth.

Members promise to lead an enriched Christian life according to the Gospel as reflected in the Rule of Saint Benedict. In this way they share in the spiritual benefits of a disciplined life of prayer and service.

The Members strive after stability and fidelity in their lives by regular worship in their local parish. They pledge their support to the clergy and members of the parish, as well as that of the wider Church.

If a Member transfers parish membership within the CEC, their membership in the Fellowship can be transferred at the same time. If a member chooses to leave the CEC, his or her affiliation with the Fellowship will end.

HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER

On the back of the St. Benedict Medal is a cross, containing the letters C S S M L - N D S M D, initials of the words *Crux sacra sit mihi lux! Non draco sit mihi dux!*
“May the holy cross be my light! May the dragon never be my overlord!”



INQUIRER:

An Inquirer is one who has expressed an interest in this deeper seeking after Christ and the mission of the Church. An Inquirer must work with his or her Rector to discern this calling. Together, the Rector and Inquirer would then approach their Bishop and the Fellowship Director about becoming a Novice and complete an application.

Application for admission as a Novice is submitted to the Fellowship Director with a one-time \$5.00 membership fee. At a convenient time the Inquirer would be invested as a Novice in a ceremony conducted as part of a Sunday morning Eucharist in the Inquirer's home parish. At the service they receive a copy of the Rule of Saint Benedict.

NOVICE:

The novitiate is a period of six months. This is a time for the Novice to spend in intensive reflection on the Rule of Saint Benedict and to make efforts to develop the personal discipline to live out those Benedictine values. Regular communication with the Fellowship Director and other members of the Fellowship is key during this novitiate. Regular daily prayer, fidelity in worship and reception of the Eucharist, and support of the parish in tithes and service are essential elements of a productive novitiate.

At the conclusion of the novitiate, the Novice, with the Rector's approval makes application for full membership.

PROFESSED MEMBER:

Reception as a full member in the Fellowship of Saint Benedict takes place in an "Act of Profession" . This ceremony takes place at a Sunday morning Eucharist in the home parish of the new member. At the service the new member recites the Act of Profession, signs the certificate, and places the certificate on the Altar. He or she is then given a Saint Benedict medallion, and receives the blessing of the Fellowship Director, or in his absence, the Rector of the parish. A copy of the certificate is kept by the individual member, and duplicate copies are deposited with the Fellowship Director and in the Diocesan Office.