

INSTALLATION OF CHAPTER COUNCIL & OFFICERS
DOMINICAN LAITY



[Use this ceremony to formally seat the councilors and officers of your chapter of the Dominican Laity at or near the time of the first meeting of the new Council (when the terms of the newly elected members take effect). All members of the Council should participate even though some may be renewing pledges made the earlier. If possible, the ceremony should take place during Mass with the Religious Assistant presiding.]

[After the homily or after Communion, the Presider begins the ceremony.]

PRESIDER: Today we install the newly elected Councilors and Officers of the _____ Chapter of the Dominican Laity who begin their terms _____ (date). Returning Councilors and Officers are asked to renew their pledges at this time.

Please come forward:

_____, Moderator / Prior / Prioress

_____, Asst. Mod. / Sub-Prior / Sub-Prioress

_____, Formation Director

_____, Secretary

_____, Treasurer

_____, Lay Provincial Council Representative

_____, Councilor

_____, Councilor

_____, Councilor

[All stand in a single row, if possible, facing the assembly in the order in which they were called.]

PLEDGES: [Each Officer or Councilor should step forward to read his/her pledge and step back when finished. The pledges should be read in the order listed above. The pledges should be read smoothly, without pause, from one person to the next.]

MODERATOR / PRIOR / Prioress: Before God, Mary, our father Dominic, St. Catherine of Siena, and all of you, I pledge to fulfill the office of Moderator / Prior / Prioress of the _____ Chapter, providing leadership with the assistance of the Council and the Religious Assistant, according to the Rule and Particular Directory of the Lay Dominicans of the Western Province. Trusting in the grace of God, I commit my willing efforts, energies, and talents in service to our chapter.

ASST MODERATOR / SUB-PRIOR / SUB-PRIORESS: Before God, Mary, our father Dominic, St. Catherine of Siena, and all of you, I pledge to fulfill the office of Asst. Moderator / Sub-Prior / Sub-Prioress of the _____ Chapter, according to the Rule and Particular Directory of the Lay Dominicans of the Western Province. I will provide leadership and faithfully fulfill my duties. Trusting in the grace of God, I commit my willing efforts, energies, and talents in service to our chapter.

FORMATION DIRECTOR: Before God, Mary, our father Dominic, St. Catherine of Siena, and all of you, I pledge to fulfill the office of Formation Director of the _____ Chapter, according to the Rule and Particular Directory of the Lay Dominicans of the Western Province. I will provide for the education and spiritual development of new members and the ongoing formation of existing members. Trusting in the grace of God, I commit my willing efforts, energies, and talents in service to our chapter.

SECRETARY: Before God, Mary, our father Dominic, St. Catherine of Siena, and all of you, I pledge to fulfill the office of Secretary of the _____ Chapter, according to the Rule and Particular Directory of the Lay Dominicans of the Western Province. I will keep accurate records and facilitate the orderly conduct of chapter business. Trusting in the grace of God, I commit my willing efforts, energies, and talents in service to our chapter.

TREASURER: Before God, Mary, our father Dominic, St. Catherine of Siena, and all of you, I pledge to fulfill the office of Treasurer of the _____ Chapter, according to the Rule and Particular Directory of the Lay Dominicans of the Western Province. I will keep complete and accurate records and handle community funds responsibly. Trusting in the grace of God, I commit my willing efforts, energies, and talents in service to our chapter.

PROVINCIAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE(S): [If two, step forward together and read in unison.] Before God, Mary, our father Dominic, St. Catherine of Siena, and all of you, I pledge to fulfill the office of representative of the _____ Chapter to the Lay Provincial Council of the Western Province, according to the Rule and Particular Directory of the Lay Dominicans of the Western Province. I will represent the chapter faithfully and honestly, keeping in minds the needs of our community. Trusting in the grace of God, I (we) commit my (our) willing efforts, energies, and talents in service to our chapter.

COUNCILOR(S): [If two or more, step forward together and read in unison. The LPC representative should join the Councilors since s/he is an ex-officio voting member of the Council.] Before God, Mary, our father Dominic, St. Catherine of Siena, and all of you, I pledge to fulfill the office of Councilor of the _____ Chapter, according to the Rule and Particular Directory of the Lay Dominicans of the Western Province. I will faithfully assist in the governance of our chapter and the building of our community. Trusting in the grace of God, I (we) commit my (our) willing efforts, energies, and talents in service to our chapter.

PRESIDER: To the guidance of our Lord Jesus, his mother Mary, our holy father Dominic, St. Catherine of Siena and all Dominican saints and blessed of our Order, we commend these officers of the _____ Chapter of the Dominican Laity. Be with them as they fulfill the roles to which you have called them. Holy Spirit of God, grant them your gifts of wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord that they may govern wisely and well.

MODERATOR / PRIOR / Prioress: [Step forward to receive the pledge of the Religious Assistant and step back when s/he is finished.] We also install (re-install) our chaplain, _____ (name).

PRESIDER: [Or RELIGIOUS ASSISTANT, if s/he is not the Presider.] Before God, Mary, our father Dominic, St. Catherine of Siena, and all of you, I pledge to fulfill the office of Religious Assistant to the _____ Chapter, according to the Rule and Particular Directory of the Lay Dominicans of the Western Province. I will actively assist in the education and spiritual development of all the members and participate as much as I am able to in the life of the chapter. Trusting in the grace of God, I commit my willing efforts, energies, and talents in service to the chapter.