



Dominican Center
at Marywood

a ministry of Dominican Sisters - Grand Rapids

Spiritual Direction Practicum

Recommendation for _____

Name of person completing this form: _____

Full Address: (Number, Street) _____

(Apt #) _____

(City, State, Zip) _____

Date: _____

To the Applicant: Please enter your name in the space immediately below and mail to your reference, enclosing a stamped envelope addressed to Registration, Dominican Center at Marywood, 2025 Fulton Street East, Grand Rapids, MI 49503-3895.

TO THE PERSON COMPLETING THIS RECOMMENDATION:

_____ is a participant in the Spiritual Formation Program. The next phase of the program offers the possibility of participation in the Spiritual Direction Practicum. This is an intensive, advanced two-year formation and education in the art of spiritual direction. Those applying for admission into this process should be above average in personal and ministerial maturity. They should also be capable of engaging in a dialogical program of theological study and reflection, individual and peer group supervision and the practice of spiritual direction with a diverse population.

You can assist in the selection of applicants by taking the time to respond to the following items. Please rate the applicant on each item using a scale of 1 to 10 (10 being the highest). If you have any other comments or would like to supplement your ratings, please use the space provided at the end or append an additional page. Once the staff has read your evaluation, it will be destroyed. We understand discernment as both an individual and communal process. Your feedback will be most helpful.

INTELLECTUALLY:

_____ Manifests the ability to think independently and to be challenged by difficult areas of concentration

_____ Has the ability to articulate, question, discuss, and challenge

_____ Has an eager attitude toward reflection, study, research

_____ Satisfactory achievement in prior degree work

MINISTERIALLY

_____ Shows potential for creative developments in pastoral ministry in general and in spiritual direction in particular

_____ Has satisfactory interpersonal relationships, especially listening skills

_____ Has the ability to work well with groups

_____ Has the ability to deal with persons on a one-to-one basis

_____ Satisfactory demonstration of responsible behavior

_____ Satisfactory demonstration of responsible leadership potential

_____ Has vision of ministry in spiritual direction that would embrace a variety of lifestyles and spiritual traditions and geographic locations as well as a variety of persons: men, women, educated and uneducated; middle class and poor, including the Third and Fourth World.

_____ Availability of the applicant for work as a spiritual director after the completion of formation and studies

(over)

PSYCHOLOGICALLY:

- _____ Is open, honest and frank in relationship with peers
- _____ Is open, honest and frank with persons in positions of leadership
- _____ Demonstrates maturity of thought, attitudes and feelings
- _____ Has regard for persons and their development and growth as well as one's own personal growth
- _____ Has the ability to talk about one's feelings
- _____ Has a self-confidence radiated rather than asserted
- _____ Has potential for change of attitudes, ways of living, ideas, ways of relating to people

SPIRITUALLY:

- _____ Shows evident faith dimension in his/her life
- _____ Has ability to talk about his/her spiritual life
- _____ Shows stability in his/her faith life
- _____ Shows an eagerness to grow in prayer and in relation to God

Further Comments:

1). Would you send a member of your family to this candidate for spiritual direction? Why or why not?

2). Would you go to the candidate for spiritual direction? Why or why not?

3). Do you have any additional observations or comments?

Please return this form to:

**Diane Zerfas, OP, Program Director
Dominican Center at Marywood
2025 Fulton Street East
Grand Rapids, MI 49503**