

## *Awareness Phase*

The Vocation Awareness Phase involves being communication with the S.Sp.S vocation director for a period of at least three months. During this time you will be encouraged to continue your growth in developing a life of prayerful reflection. You will be asked to get in touch with your attraction toward religious life and with your reason for desiring to become a missionary.

We will ask you to explore other Christian lifestyles such as marriage and the single life as ways of serving Christ in His Church. We will also encourage you to ask questions about the Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters, our lifestyle, our mission, and our formation process. If your attraction to our community continues, you may wish to discern your vocation further, officially associating yourself with our community as an affiliate.

For us, Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters, formation is a continuous process of encountering our God and of responding to God's creative Word. Therefore, our missionary formation is a life-long journey of conversion and transformation in Christ. While the transformation is primarily the work of God's Spirit in us, it demands our personal response. Our formation process enables us to know Christ more deeply, to grow in the capacity for greater self-gift, and to develop the gifts that God has given us through service to others.



## *Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters*

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*Sr. A.P.*

The  
Hand of the Lord feeds us;  
He answers all our needs.

## *Affiliate*

Our Affiliate Phase offers you the opportunity to discern your call to religious life as a Holy Spirit Missionary Sister. It is an opportunity for you and for us to develop a more personal relationship with one another. You will meet periodically with our vocation director who will suggest various ways in which you can continue to grow in the Christian life. You will participate in retreats and live-ins; you will spend time in one of our small communities, and learn about the spirit and ministries of our community.

## *Pre-Novitiate*

The Pre-Novitiate Phase is essentially a time of self-discovery and God discovery. During this year, you will live in our house of formation with other young women who also desire to become Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters. As a postulant, you will prepare for your future missionary service either through study or work experience. You will learn about the spirit and charism of our community as well as our constantly evolving story. To help you make a mature vocation choice you will receive the type of personal guidance you need.

## *Novitiate*

The Novitiate Phase is a two-year period of intensive spiritual preparation for your total dedication to God through religious profession. You will be given the needed time and space to deepen your personal relationship with Christ. During the novitiate you will have alternate times of solitude and missionary service. These times will give you a chance to experience the theory and principles of spirituality and mission as you live them and make them your own. Study of scriptures, theology, and the spiritual life will aid your developing relationship with the Lord. Through intense prayerful reflection on the meaning of our vows of poverty, celibacy, and obedience, you will deepen your understanding and experience of how we, as missionaries, live our dedication to Christ and His people.

## *Profession*

Temporary Profession takes place at the end of the novitiate. After professing vows for one year, you will spend some time in study and time in ministry. In order to integrate theory and practice you will have the opportunity to experience missionary service in a cross-cultural situation.

Perpetual Profession takes place after six years in temporary vows. After prayer, reflection, and sharing with others you will desire to express your total gift of self to God by a consecration for life through perpetual vows.



# *Process of Formation*

# *Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters*