



POLICY COMMITTEE

Position Paper

Clarification of the Beginning and Ending of the Tres Dias Weekend Phase and Attendance Stipulations for Candidates

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There have been questions that have come up as to what constitutes the beginning and end of a weekend and when anyone may join the weekend and when can a candidate consider the weekend completed in order to be a Pescador, a member of the Tres Dias community in full standing. This paper is to address, clarify and standardize those questions and concerns. As we clarify these beginning and ending times, we are not doing so to be legalistic but rather to provide a consistent standard across the ministry.

In the Essentials, it states that the weekend phase of the ministry consists of approximately 72 consecutive hours (Essentials 3.2.9). This time period is also the time period that is impacted by the cloister which is the attempt to isolate from our busy lives in the world in order to focus both our time and efforts on growing our relationship with God and other Christians (Essentials 3.2.10). As stated in the Essentials, the weekend phase begins on the first evening with the start of the cloister and ends on the third day after the Apostolic Hour or before the closing (Essentials 3.2.10). Given that context, candidates are expected to start their experience of the weekend phase with the Rector's comments on the first evening. Only under some extraordinary or unforeseen circumstance that may be approved by the local Secretariat, can a candidate start his or her weekend experience after the start of the Rector's comments on the first evening. No one is permitted to join the weekend after the start of the chapel visit on Thursday evening under any circumstances (The Review of Cloister – Position Paper p.2.4).

As to what constitutes a completed weekend, again according to the Essentials, the candidate or team members must attend through the end of the Apostolic Hour. So, if a candidate was to, for any reason, leave the weekend experience prior to its completion, the end of the Apostolic Hour (Essentials 3.2.10), then they are not considered to have "finished" the weekend and thus, if desired, could repeat their weekend experience. There is no prescribed number of times this could happen. However, if the local Secretariat has reasonable cause to believe that this is being abused, they may place a limit on the number of times that person can attend. If after leaving a cloistered weekend environment, the candidate may not return to the same weekend but may in fact go on another weekend in its entirety in order to become a Pescador, one who has completed the weekend portion of the ministry.

The position paper – Determining the Self-Determination of a Candidate, addresses that a candidate does not have to be in the rollo room for every rollo, although that is certainly the ideal, but as this paper lays out, they must remain in the cloistered environment for the entire time of the weekend (Essentials 3.2.10).

So, just as the weekend experience bridges the span from the start of the cloister on the first evening through the end of the Apostolic Hour or before closing on the third day (Essentials 3.2.9, 3.2.10), the candidate must be present in the cloistered environment from at least the start of the chapel visit on the first evening until the end of the Apostolic Hour in order to have "completed" the weekend phase of the Tres Dias experience in order to be deemed a Pescador, that qualifies to serve on the local Secretariat or on a local team (Essentials 4.0.3, 4.0.4)(Review of the Cloister p.2.4).

Prayerfully re-submitted,

Mike

Mike Shellman
Policy Chair
On June 30, 2023

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