OUR LADY OF FATIMA MISSION

Book Club Guidelines and Format

Revised November 20, 2026

Purpose

The purpose of the Our Lady of Fatima Book Club is to deepen our understanding of the Catholic Faith through thoughtful reading and discussion of spiritual classics, saints' lives, Catholic history, and works addressing the Church and her teachings, while strengthening fellowship among members.

Our guiding principles are commitment, engagement, accountability, and friendship.

Participation and weekly discussions

When and where do we meet?

Book Club meets online on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. Eastern Time on the OLF Discord server. Live discussions take place in the voice channel used for Book Club and typically last 40–60 minutes. It is not essential to attend every discussion. Please join whenever you can and know that you are most welcome!

How do we communicate between meetings?

Members may share questions, comments, and observations about the reading in the Book Club text thread or on the OLF Discord server in the Book Club chat.

How much do we read each week?

We typically read about 20–30 pages each week, with the pace adjusted to the material. We take time to reflect on the reading and allow for thoughtful discussion.

How are books selected?

We generally rotate book selections among members. Books are selected with attention to their spiritual value, suitability for discussion, and a manageable reading schedule. If you have a book you would like to suggest, please post it in the Book Club text thread or on Discord chat.

Who leads the discussions?

The member who suggests a book generally leads its discussions. If you are not comfortable leading, other members can help. Everyone is encouraged to come with at least one prepared question, observation, or point for discussion.

Are there any in person activities?

Occasional in-person gatherings or activities related to our reading may also be arranged.

Meeting format

1. Opening prayers. Come, Holy Ghost; Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be.

2. Housekeeping. Discuss any scheduling or logistical matters.

3. Brief synopsis. Summarize what is happening in the assigned reading.

4. Vocabulary review. Clarify unusual words or unfamiliar terms.

5. Discussion. Share questions, observations, and insights from the reading.

6. Next reading assignment. Confirm the reading for the coming week and any questions or themes to consider.

7. Closing prayers. Hail Mary; Glory Be; invocations asking the intercession of the saints.

Preparing for discussion

As you read, consider these questions and bring at least one point to share:

1. What is happening?
2. Why is it happening?
3. What overarching principles are involved?
4. Where have you observed similar phenomena?
5. How could this apply to you?