

COMMUNITY LIFE

326. A rule of life, approved by appropriate ecclesiastical authority, should govern the rhythm of community life by balancing participation in community activities and solitude.

327. The rule of life should provide a reasonable schedule with community prayer at its center, allowing time for physical exercise, study, and leisure; theologians should develop discerning habits in regard to reading, television viewing, movie going, and other forms of entertainment.¹⁵⁰

328. The rule of life should be included as part of a student handbook, which clearly presents the seminary's expectations for community life along with its academic, pastoral, and formational policies.

329. The principles in the rule of life and student handbook should form the basis of an annual evaluation. Seminarians are accountable for all aspects of priestly formation within the parameters of the external forum. This includes participation in spiritual exercises, the spiritual direction program, liturgical activities, community life as well as the academic and pastoral dimensions of priestly formation.

PRIESTLY WAY OF LIFE

330. Matters pertaining to celibate and chaste living should be included in the seminary rule of life. The rector of the seminary has the responsibility clearly to delineate behavioral expectations that are appropriate to a life of celibate chastity.

331. The rule of life and student handbook should foster the value of simplicity, encouraging seminarians to live a frugal life, including a measure of fasting and almsgiving. The seminary environment itself should foster a simple way of life and a spirit of forthright detachment. Seminarians should be made aware that they are accountable for the proper stewardship of material goods.

332. The rule of life and student handbook should encourage appropriate, adult relations with others, respect for those in authority, and a mature sense of obedience.