

Dear Postulant,

Here are some key readings in a MSM context:

1. “Chivalry” by Léon Gautier is required reading –I have googled and found the following source in English, through Amazon: <http://www.amazon.com/Chivalry-Leon-Gautier/dp/0548169861> --You need not read the whole book, chapters 1-4 and 7-8 are the most critical… Others, you can read over the years, at your leisure.
2. HH John Paul II’s Apostolic Exhortation « *Christi fideles laici* » of 1987 on the vocation and mission of the laity in the Church and the world
3. [*Ecclesia in Europa*](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/john_paul_ii/apost_exhortations/documents/hf_jp-ii_exh_20011122_ecclesia-in-oceania_en.html)
4. *Caritas et Veritate*
5. Biography of a Catholic Knight or chivalrous individual (e.g. St-Joan, St-Maximilian, St-Ignatius…)
6. St-Ignatius of Loyola’s Spiritual Exercises
7. Treaty on the True devotion to the Blessed Virgin (St Louis-Marie Grignion de Montfort)
8. Rule of Saint Benedict

For each of these texts, the MSM would typically request that one prepare a 2-page summary of one’s key spritual takeaways in the context of a proposed MSM vocation, one’s life.

Also, could you let me know what key monographs you have read on the topics of: Catholic Philosophy, Catholic Morality, and Catholic Metaphysics? As discussed, it is quite possible that you may have read appropriate material, and that we need not necessarily assign MSM readings in these areas. We may wish to dispense with them altogether…

I’ve also given some thought on how to replace our Founder Dom Lafond’s French-language work on chivalry (“Chevalerie d’hier et d’aujourd’hui”) with more readily available texts in English. I have come up with the following readings:

Chivalry Yesterday & Today:

* St-Bernard of Clairvaux, In Praise of the New Chivalry
* St-Thomas Aquinas, Summa Theologicae, [Secunda Secundae Partis, Q. 40,](Secunda%20Secundae%20Partis%2C%20Q.%2040%2C%20) “Of War”, <http://www.newadvent.org/summa/3040.htm>
* Dom Lafond, Principles for a Charter of Chivalry (available in softcopy through me)
* APOSTOLICAM ACTUOSITATEM, <http://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_decree_19651118_apostolicam-actuositatem_en.html>
* Gaudium et spes, Chapter IV, <http://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_cons_19651207_gaudium-et-spes_en.html>

Christendom Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow:

* St-Augustine of Hippo, City of God (Book I, Chap. 35; Book XI, Chap. 7; Book XIII, Chaps. 15-16; Book XV, Chaps. 4-5; Book XVII, Chap. 3; Book XVIII, Chap. 2; Book XIX, Chaps. 7-13; Book XXII, Chap. 24)
* Immortale Dei Encyclical, 1885, <http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/leo_xiii/encyclicals/documents/hf_l-xiii_enc_01111885_immortale-dei_en.html>
* Pius X, “Our Apostolic Mandate” Letter, 1910, <http://www.fisheaters.com/apostolicmandate.html>
* PACEM IN TERRIS, <http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/john_xxiii/encyclicals/documents/hf_j-xxiii_enc_11041963_pacem_en.html>
* John-Paul II, World Peace Day Message, 2003, <http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/john_paul_ii/messages/peace/documents/hf_jp-ii_mes_20021217_xxxvi-world-day-for-peace_en.html>

The Church’s Battles Today:

* Familiaris Consortio, <http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/john_paul_ii/apost_exhortations/documents/hf_jp-ii_exh_19811122_familiaris-consortio_en.html>
* HUMANAE VITAE, <http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/paul_vi/encyclicals/documents/hf_p-vi_enc_25071968_humanae-vitae_en.html>

On this latter “basket of readings”, one could perhaps do a single short report of a few pages (staying in the single-digits). The focus should be more on reading, understanding, than on writing. The paper should also include your gleanings from Leon Gautier’s “Chivalry.”

United in Prayer,

Jean-Paul Gauthier, Preceptor for the UK & Magisterial Delegate for the USA

*De Deu Aiez Vertut!*



<http://www.militia-sanctae-mariae.org/>

<http://www.theotokos.org.uk/pages/knights/knights.html>

<http://militiasanctaemariae.blogspot.co.uk/>

<http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Militia-Sanctae-Mariae-4430303?gid=4430303&trk=group-name>