

The Responsibility to Form One's Self

Miles Jesu is balanced and adaptable, according to each person's particular capacity and needs, and takes into consideration the duties and obligations of each one's state in life...By striving to live out our Miles Jesu commitment, we receive formation in the daily apostolate in the world, according to the initiative, capacity and calling of each member.

The formation of Miles Jesu members is conveyed in many ways, e.g., conventions, retreats, reunions, private reading, prayer, publications, studies, days of recollection, and especially spiritual direction from another Miles Jesu member. It includes a deepening of ourselves in the spirit of Miles Jesu in prayer, study, and in the history and charism of the Institute. (All of which can be found in the Miles Jesu Faith Family Formation Handbook found online in the Miles Jesu bookstore).

This formation is assimilated over a long period of time. Holiness is never instantaneous; it requires time for practice and improvement. For this reason the formation includes mutual support and encouragement, along with goals and motivation...

Our formation consists above all in living out our Miles Jesu commitment conscientiously in its call for daily renewal of our baptism consecration in word and action...the Miles Jesu newsletter and the Miles Jesu reunions provide formation and direction. We also have the opportunity to attend and receive formation at the Miles Jesu international Convention held annually...we should study the Miles Jesu formation books (Faith Family Handbook and Epiphany Prayerbook primarily) and especially the writings of the Founder (found monthly in the Miles Jesu newsletter), and pray and meditate on the Miles Jesu prayers...

Having weekend retreats, days of recollection, and formative conferences in our local area with Miles Jesu domus members on a regular basis is the ideal we strive for. But if we haven't the opportunity for that at the moment, we still are responsible for our spiritual growth and development. One of the most effective tools for growing in our Miles Jesu formation is to buy, read and understand the great wealth of formation in the Miles Jesu Faith Family Formation Handbook.

The bottom line is: No one can form me if I first don't begin to form myself.