



# International Community of the Divine Savior

## General Committee

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### COMMUNITY ...

The Wikipedia definition of “community” is: “A **community** is a social unit (a group of living things) with commonality such as norms, religion, values, customs, or identity. Communities may share a sense of place situated in a given geographical area (e.g. a country, village, town, or neighborhood) or in virtual space through communication platforms. Durable relations that extend beyond immediate genealogical ties also define a sense of community, important to their identity, practice, and roles in social institutions such as family, home, work, government, society, or humanity at large.”



Wow!!!! Does this describe Salvatorian Community or what?!?!

In the Salvatorians we loosely use the term “community” to describe **many** different types of gatherings. These communities vary from small “intentional communities” that gather daily to pray, minister, eat, and possibly live together, to parish communities, to regional communities, to large nationwide communities. Often we don’t live **in** community but rather we live **as** community. Whether small or large, the commonalities are religion, values, and identity. Gathering as community serves to strengthen these commonalities through interaction with our fellow Salvatorians who embrace the same ideals. While Salvatorians come from diverse cultures and backgrounds, the commonalities of religion, values, and identity are what bind us together as community to carry out the vision of our founders, Fr. Francis Jordan and Blessed Mother Mary of the Apostles, to bring the goodness and kindness of The Savior to all.

“Community” is not always easy. It takes time and effort to make up a community. Many must **make** time for community in their busy schedule. Some must travel great distances. **All of us** must make the conscious decision to put forth the effort to participate in our Salvatorian communities!

When I am with our Salvatorian Community I find a sense of “being at home” and being accepted. Discussions with other Salvatorians about our various collaborative or individual ministries certainly reinforce my commitment to teach the goodness and kindness of The Savior by all ways and means. After community gatherings, I feel that the “flame” has been re-kindled. I feel energized.

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Finally, community is not something you were born into. Rather, community is something you create. Put some effort into participating in your Salvatorian community and you will be well rewarded!

For reflection:

**What does "community" mean to me and what effort do I put into making community happen?**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kenzia Drake".

Kenzia Drake  
Vice-President of the ICDS