

The Essentials of Tres Dias

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Essentials - Preamble

Tres Dias endeavors to bring Christians to

- A closer, more personal walk with their Lord Jesus Christ

and encourage them to

- Christian Leadership and Apostolic Action in their environments

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Essentials - Paraphrase

- Follow Christ
- Under Christ's Leadership,
Work With Christ
to Christianize the World

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Essentials - Preamble

Main teachings of Tres Dias:

- God's unqualified love for each of us
through grace
- Grow in
 - Piety
 - Study
 - Action

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Essential of the Movement

- Christian Movement

- Objective to strengthen and extend the Body of Christ
- Not change Tres Dias to accommodate non-christians
- “For the purpose of these Essentials, ‘Christian’ is intended to refer to those who are seeking a closer relationship with Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior”

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Essentials of the Movement (Cont' d)

- Christian Ecumenical Movement

All Tres Dias organizations shall:

- Seek participation of all Christian denominations in the community's environment
- Stress those things which denominations have in common
- Respect those things which are different
- Duty and authority to protect ecumenical structure

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Essentials of the Movement (Cont' d)

- Lay led movement
 - Clergy participation essential and encouraged
- Non-profit movement
- Not assume role of a denomination
 - Not church substitute
 - Worship and serve in home congregations as leaders
- Not a service organization
 - Tres Dias organizations shall limit their activities to those related to carrying out the Tres Dias method

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Essentials of the Method

- Three sequential phases for individual involvement
 - Pre-weekend
 - Purpose is to prepare the individual for the Weekend
 - Weekend
 - Purpose is to prepare the individual for the Fourth Day
 - Fourth Day

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Essentials of the Pre-Weekend Phase

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Essentials of the Pre-Weekend Phase

- Candidate sponsored for all three phases NOT just the weekend
- Sponsored by a member of the Tres Dias community or a similar community approved by Tres Dias
- Candidate have desire for closer relationship with Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.
- Candidates be accepted from all Christians denominations

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Pre-Weekend Phase (Cont' d)

- Candidates be at least 21 years of age
However, if sound and compelling reason (such as spouse or military), at least 18
- Candidates have not previously made a Tres Dias or a similar experience

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Weekend Phase

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Weekend Phase

Weekend characteristics:

- Christian community
 - Activities and teachings meant to lead to a fuller personal commitment to Christ
- Personal witness but not a revival meeting
- Group dynamics but not sensitivity training or group therapy
- Theological instruction to encourage candidate to study own Christian beliefs but not doctrine

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Weekend Phase (Cont' d)

Weekend Characteristics (Cont' d)

- Period of silent introspection, but not a retreat
- Renewal experience not a conversion experience
- Asks for basic faith, openness and a seeking attitude by the candidate; but involves dedication, prayer, and careful planning by the team
- Encounter with the Holy Spirit ; not charismatic

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Weekend Phase (Cont' d)

Weekend Characteristics (Cont' d)

- A tool of God, not an end in itself
- No permanent effect without Fourth Day

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Weekend Phase (Cont' d)

- Spiritual Directors be qualified to teach and counsel in spiritual matters
- At least one Spiritual Director be ordained and authorized to regularly celebrate communion by his/her denomination
- Men and women attend separate weekends. Spiritual Directors are exempted

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Weekend Phase (Cont' d)

- Team members represent a spectrum of Christian denominations
- Team members must have made a Tres Dias or similar experience recognized by Tres Dias
- Rector a lay person, responsible for all aspects of the weekend, under authority of the local sponsoring secretariat

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Weekend Phase (Cont' d)

- Team: Meet prior to weekend; promote community; instructions on dynamics; critique ALL rollos
- Weekend - 3 days - approx 72 continuous hours
- Cloistered environment entire weekend
- Lay talks not by clergy;
Spiritual Director talks not by lay persons

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Weekend Phase (Cont' d)

- **Begin in evening**
 - Introduction by Rector
 - Silent retreat to end after chapel
 - KNOW YOURSELF meditation by clergy
 - PRODIGAL SON meditation (or alternatively on a women's weekend, the Hosea-Gomer account as recorded in Hosea 1-3, or the account of the woman caught in adultery as recorded in John 8:1-11) given by clergy

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Weekend Phase (Cont' d)

- **First day agenda**
 - THREE GLANCES OF CHRIST meditation clergy
 - IDEALS rollo lay
 - GRACE rollo clergy
 - THE CHURCH rollo lay
 - THE HOLY SPIRIT rollo clergy
 - PIETY rollo lay

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Weekend Phase (Cont' d)

- Second day agenda
 - THE FIGURE OF CHRIST meditation clergy
 - STUDY rollo lay
 - SACRED MOMENTS OF GRACE rollo clergy
 - Followed by Holy Communion
 - ACTION rollo lay
 - OBSTACLES TO GRACE rollo clergy
 - LEADERS rollo lay
 - Table chapel visits afternoon second day

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Weekend Phase (Cont' d)

- Third day agenda
 - CHRIST' S MESSAGE TO THE PESCADORES meditation clergy
 - ENVIRONMENTS rollo lay
 - LIFE IN GRACE rollo clergy
 - CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY IN ACTION rollo lay
 - REUNION GROUPS rollo lay
 - LIVING THE FOURTH DAY rollo lay
 - Table chapel visits in the morning
 - Apostolic Hour - - - Closing

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Weekend Phase (Cont' d)

- Table discussion follow each rollo except LIVING THE FOURTH DAY
- ALL rollos/meditations follow dynamics and outlines authorized by Tres Dias
- Holy Communion each full day
- Diversity in planning weekend and forming tables
- Respect candidate' s freedom of self-determination

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Weekend Phase (Cont' d)

- Lay rollos be informal talks witnessing/sharing
- Friendly creative Christian environment, not coercive or manipulative
- Allow time for informal personal contact
- Closing well prepared
- Local secretariat encourage community to participate with spiritual and service palanca

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Fourth Day Phase

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Fourth Day Phase

- Reunion Groups
(THE METHOD to change the world)
 - Local secretariats encourage Reunion Groups
 - Local secretariats use
“The Working Reunion Group”
to carry out activities of Tres Dias Movement

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Fourth Day Phase (Cont' d)

- Secuelas
 - Local secretariats sponsor regularly scheduled Secuelas; preferably once a month
 - Each Secuela include time for “The Floating Reunion Group”
 - Each Secuela include a “Fourth Day Talk”

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Local Secretariat Organization

- Function of local secretariat is to conduct an effective program in accordance with the TRES DIAS method
- All members of local completed a weekend
- Organizing document approved by membership
- All Pescadores in the community eligible to serve as voting members and officers of the local
- Periodic election of officers
- Sole sponsor of weekends in their community
- At least two weekends per year (unless waived)

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TRES DIAS DYNAMICS



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TD Essential Agenda Items

- **Thursday Introductions**
- **Silent Retreat**
- **Morning & Evening Chapels, 5 Meditations**
- **15 Rollos in order, following guidelines**
- **Table discussions**
- **Holy Communion each day**
- **Table Chapel Visits Saturday & Sunday**
- **Apostolic Hour**
- **Closing**

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MCTD Agenda Items

To fulfill TD Essentials:

- Diversity at tables
- Freedom for candidates
- Friendly, creative atmosphere
- Time for informal contact
- Spiritual & Service Palanca
- Opening, Sponsor Prayer
- Way of the Cross
- Piety Chapel
- Summaries & Posters
- Photo
- Poster Party, Sat Fun
- Agape
- Mananita
- Palanca (T&C, Personal)
- Kitchen Palanca
- Music

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
The Weekend “Spirit” Rector’s Options

- Assign Tables & Bedrooms
- Chapel Palanca
- Location of Events
- Rollistas - Introduction, Visual aids
- Plan details of events
- Music
- Reading Palanca

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FLOW OF THE WEEKEND

Witness		Increases each day Increases throughout the weekend
Appeal		Mind Will Heart
Focus		Individual Action Community

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RELATIONSHIP AMONG THE LAY TALKS

	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Amount of Witness	Appeal
1 st Rollo	Ideals (Grace)	Study (Sacred Moments Of Grace)	Environments (Life in Grace)	Increased from none to strong	Mind
2 nd Rollo	The Church (The Holy Spirit)	Action (Obstacles)	Christian Community in Action	Increased from moderate to strong	Will
3 rd Rollo	Piety	Leaders	Reunion Group (Living the Fourth Day)	Increased from strong to stronger	Heart
Range	Individual	Action	Community	Fourth Day	Home Groups
				Work / church	Secretariat Sequelas Sponsoring

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THURSDAY Night

Why am I here?

Opening Welcome with Low Key Familiar Music, De Colores
Rector's Rollo
Introductions
Chapel - Way of the Cross
Know Thyself Meditation
Prodigal Son Meditation (or Hosea or Woman at the Well)
Silence

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FRIDAY

Who Am I ?

Chapel - Three Glances of Christ Meditation
Ideals – What are my Ideals?
Grace – God's Gift of Grace is received personally
Communion
The Church – God fulfills His mission through His people
The Holy Spirit – God Empowers His people
Palanca
Piety – Qualities of a Christian's Life in Grace – Our Ideal
Piety Chapel
Poster Party
Chapel

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SATURDAY

Who is Christ? Action

Chapel – Figure of Christ meditation

Study – Know Christ - Bible

**Sacred Moments of Grace – Signs of God's presence and power
Communion, Abrazo**

**Action – Make a friend, be a friend, bring a friend to Christ
Table Chapels**

Obstacles to Grace – overcoming what hinders God's Grace

Leaders – Witness of one living the Life in Grace

Poster Party, Fun (Skits)

Agape

Chapel

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SUNDAY

Community

**Chapel – Christ's Message to the Pescadore
Mananita**

Environments – People in our Community

Life in Grace – How to Grow Spiritually

Table Chapels

Christian Community in Action – Greater Action in Community

Lunch with Jesus

Reunion Groups – The Tres Dias Method - summary of Weekend

How to nourish each other in small groups and secuelas

Living the Fourth Day – Witness of Rector living the Tres Dias Method

Persevere!

Apostolic Hour – Commissioning

Closing, Communion

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THE WEEKEND

Ideals
Grace
The Church
The Holy Spirit
Piety
Study
Sacred Moments of Grace
Action
Obstacles
Leaders
Environments
Life in Grace
Christian Community in Action
Reunion Groups
Living the Fourth Day

Introductions, Way of the Cross, Silence

Communion

Palanca
Piety Chapel, Poster Party

Communion, Abrazo
Table Chapels

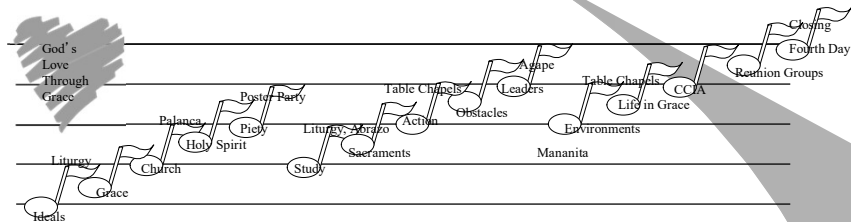
Poster Party, Skits, Agape, Chapel
Mananita

Table Chapels

Apostolic Hour, Closing, Communion³⁹

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The Tres Dias Message



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THE TRES DIAS METHOD

