



The Carthusian monks consecrate  
their lives **to praising God**  
and praying for the needs  
of the entire world



THE **CARTHUSIAN**  
ORDER

Carthusian monks and nuns form a contemplative Order, founded by Saint Bruno in 1084.

Hidden in the heart of the Church, they dedicate themselves to a life of prayer in solitude.





*A novice is received by the Prior as a member of the community*

## THE HEART OF A CARTHUSIAN MONASTERY

The main trait of the Carthusian vocation could best be described as intimacy with God in silence and solitude. Within a Carthusian monastery there are three essential elements which combine to help each monk attain this sublime ideal:

- ✚ **True Solitude:** implying separation from the world, symbolized by the observance of strict enclosure.
- ✚ **A wise blending of solitary and community life:** although solitude prevails, there are times of fraternal meeting which balances solitude and make it more fruitful. Precisely this balance and harmony is characteristic of Carthusian life as a whole.
- ✚ **The Carthusian liturgy:** centred on morning Mass, afternoon Vespers and the midnight Office of Matins and Lauds, all celebrated in harmony with the characteristic simplicity of Carthusian life-style.

## CARTHUSIAN SPIRITUALITY

Retiring to a hermitage is a decision that can only be taken when in the heart burns the intimate certainty that in the deepness of solitude hides an incomparable love that cannot be equalled by any other:

- ✝ The Carthusian monk experiences how the Lord leads him ever deeper into solitude so as to speak to his heart.
- ✝ He also learns that the way to God is not complicated at all; however, to set out and preserve on such a journey requires leaving behind all that burdens him.





*The community gathers together to celebrate the Liturgy*

## FORMS OF CARTHUSIAN LIFE

- ✚ There are monks who spend the greater part of the day secluded each one in a hermitage. Time is dedicated not only to prayer and study but also to manual labour in the solitude of the hermitage workshop and garden. They are called **Fathers** and are priests.
- ✚ Other monks, besides prayer and study in solitude, realize tasks outside their hermitages in different workshops within the monastery enclosure. They are the **Brothers**.

# THE CARTHUSIAN ORDER IN THE WORLD





Wenn Du Dich in die Kartause berufen fühlst,

*Rückkehr vom wöchentlichen Spaziergang*

Weitere Informationen über den Kartäuserorden

[www.vocatiochartreux.org](http://www.vocatiochartreux.org)

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DER MONASTISCHE ORDEN  
DER KARTÄUSER



hab keinen Zweifel, Gott wird Dir entgegenkommen und aus deinem Leben in der Einsamkeit einen privilegierten Ort der GEMEINSCHAFT machen.



*DIE GROßE KARTAUSE (Frankreich)*