

Meaning of the Terms “Spiritual Life” and “Community Involvement”

▪ Definition of “spiritual life”

An individual quest within the context of a community, one rooted in the fundamental questions of the meaning of life, and that tends toward the **construction of a consistent, motivating** and continually evolving **vision of existence**.

▪ Definition of “community involvement”

A contribution of the individual to community life based on the recognition of the value and dignity of human beings and oriented toward the **construction of a more harmonious and supportive society**.

▪ Main concepts

	Spiritual life	Community involvement
Function	To construct a consistent and motivating vision of existence	To construct a more harmonious and supportive society
Key concept	Meaning of life	Social conscience
Values	Love, hope, confidence, perseverance, courage to live, self improvement, inner life, dignity, happiness, wisdom, truth, quest, creativity, etc.	Sociability, honesty, dialogue, tolerance, respect, responsibility, mutual help, service, friendship, altruism, participation, compassion, peace, solidarity, justice, etc.
Links between both components	Spiritual life and community involvement are distinct, yet interrelated, notions. In fact, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the individual’s vision of existence motivates and guides his contribution to social life – his involvement in society enriches and transforms his spiritual life As a result, a person’s spiritual life and community involvement are symbiotically related.	