

In the 1970s, an Assumptionist religious, Fr. Mutien Lambert, was leading a Bible study group. Over time he was drawn to the Charismatic Renewal and to its develop-ment in the United States and Europe. The Scripture group gradually became a prayer group in the style of this new movement. Visiting various similar groups outside the country and the arrival of young people to share this new experience led to the formation of a prayer group which took the name Maranatha. Three principal aspects define it: prayer and praise, fraternal life, evangelization.

The summaries found in the Acts of the Apostles describing the early Christian community (Act 2: 42-47; 4:32-33) served as inspiration. The Christian life is perceived at the level of its basic elements and the call of God is common to all, whatever one's status in life, married or celibate. Fraternities of common life were set up. Several young people discovered the meaning of a commitment to following Christ in the consecrated, celibate life. From this larger Community, two new religious communities would be born: one masculine (Assumptionists) and one feminine (Orants of the Assumption). But the larger Community continues to draw persons of all states.













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