

# *Troubadours of Peace Region*

## *Formation Process Guide*

### *2013*

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#### **First contact: Introduction to the Secular Franciscan Order**

Content: Overview of the formation process

Resources:

- For Up to Now Companion CD – “Overview of the Rule” and Overview of the Way of Life”
  - The Francis Digests – Available from Barbo-Carlson Enterprises, P.O. Box 189, Lindsborg, Ks. 67456: *Francis of Assisi, Clare of Assisi, Prayer, Christ the Center*, etc.
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#### **Interviews**

Content: Interviews are to take place periodically during all phases of initial formation.

Resources:

- Samples can be found in:
    - Come and See – pg. 20-21, 59
    - For Up to Now Companion CD – Interview Guides Folder
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#### **ORIENTATION**

*Time frame: The time spent in Orientation should be sufficient to adequately cover the foundational topics outlined in For Up to Now and not less than three months.*

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#### **Basic Catholic Doctrine**

**Content:** Determine basic understanding of the primary doctrines of the Catholic Church and the basic disposition to Franciscan Charism & life in fraternity.

**Resources:**

- The Franciscan Journey pg. 28
- The FUN Manual – Basic Catholic Doctrine pg. 1-24
- The FUN Companion CD – Basic Catholic Doctrine Folder
- The FUN Companion CD – Creed Folder
- Catechism of the Catholic Church – Section II Profession of Christian Faith - pg. 51, par. 185

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## **Ecclesiology of the Laity**

**Content:** Origin and Goal of the Church; Laity in the Mission of the Church; Lay Spirituality

**Resources:**

- The FUN Manual - *Elements of Ecclesiology and Theology of the Laity* pg 1-14
  - For Up to Now Companion CD – *Ecclesiology of the Laity Folder*
  - The Franciscan Journey – *Lay Secular Spirituality* pg. 46
  - The Franciscan Journey – *Foundations for the Kingdom* pg. 236
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## **Introduction to the Franciscan Family**

**Content:** The structure of the Order

**Resources:**

- The FUN Manual – *Our Identity as a Secular Franciscan* pg 3-7
- The FUN Manual – *The Franciscan Family, a Brief Introduction* pg. 7&8
- The Franciscan Journey - preface (i)
- The Franciscan Journey – *Three Orders...Structures...Discernment* pg 8

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## INQUIRY

*Time Frame: The period of Inquiry, which begins with the Ceremony of Introduction of Welcoming, [cf. Ritual, page 9], shall consist of not less than six (6) months per NAFRA Statutes , 2005 Article 19, Section 2A page 14. Inquiry is the first phase of initial formation – a time of seeking and choosing.*

✦ *Rite of Welcoming - the fraternity welcomes the new inquirers and Initial Formation begins.*

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***Required additional reading: A Biography of Francis of Assisi***

### Vocation

**Content:** Recognizing a Call

**Resources:**

- The FUN Manual - *What is formation?* – pg. 13-20
  - The FUN Manual – *Vocation: God's Call* – pg. 3-18
  - For Up to Now Companion CD - *Vocation Folder*
  - Franciscan Journey – *Being Faithful* pg. 195
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### Identity of a Secular Franciscan

**Content:** Understanding who we are as part of an Order and who we are called to be

**Resources:**

- The FUN Manual – *Our Identity as a Secular Franciscan* – pg. 3-24
  - For Up to Now Companion CD – *Identity as an SFO Folder*
  - The Franciscan Journey – *Gospel – Conversion – Reconciliation* pg.164
  - The Franciscan Journey – *Freedom to Love* pg. 216
  - The Franciscan Journey - *How to Love People* pg. 226
  - Fully Mature with the Fullness of Christ – *Inquiry #6* – pg. 06-1 – 06-19
  - Fully Mature with the Fullness of Christ – *Candidacy #5* pg. 11-1 – 11-24
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### Nature of the Secular Franciscan Order

**Content:** Understanding the Order and the Franciscan Family

**Resources:**

- The FUN Manual – *Nature of the Secular Franciscan Order* – pg. 3-24
  - For Up to Now Companion CD - *Nature of the SFO Folder*
  - Franciscan Journey – *Vatican II – SFO Rule & Constitutions* pg. 98
  - Fully Mature in the Fullness of Christ – *Inquiry #4* – pg. 04-1 – 04-20
  - Fully Mature in the Fullness of Christ – *Candidacy #7* – pg. 13-1 – 13-24
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## **Vocation, Charism and Mission**

**Content:** Understanding the Franciscan concepts of Charism and Mission

**Resources:**

- The FUN Manual – *The Vocation, Charism and Mission of Secular Franciscans*
  - For Up to Now Companion CD – *Charism and Mission of the SFO Folder*
  - Franciscan Journey – *Foundations for the Kingdom* – pg. 236
  - Fully Mature with the Fullness of Christ - Candidacy #6 – pg. 12-1 – 12-28
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## **Franciscan Movement I – Life of St. Francis**

**Content:** Francis' call by God and his spirituality

**Resources:**

- The FUN Manual – *Franciscan Movement: part I – The Journey of Francis* – pg 1-7
  - For Up to Now Companion CD – *Francis and Divinity*
  - Franciscan Journey – *Scripture in SFO Life* pg. 83
  - For Up to Now Companion CD – *Francis and the Blessed Virgin Mary*
  - The Journey and the Dream
  - Fully Mature with the Fullness of Christ – *Inquiry #3* – pg. 03-1 - 03-24
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## **Franciscan Movement II – Your Own Journey**

**Content:** Your call by God and your spirituality

**Resources:**

- The FUN Manual – *Franciscan Movement Part II* – pg. 8-10
  - Your own experiences
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**✦ *Prior to the Rite of Admission the following documents must be on file:***

- *Baptism Certificate, annotated with other sacrament dates*
- *If married provide verification of validity*
  - *Decree of Nullity, if applicable*
- *If ordained, provide copy of letter verifying faculties*
- *Two letters of recommendation, one being from the Inquirer's pastor*

*An interview will be scheduled with the Inquirer – conducted by the Spiritual Assistant and another member of the council.*

*The Rite of Admission is scheduled only after the Council approves the Inquirer(s) for Admission. Provide adequate planning to insure this Rite is celebrated appropriately.*

*After the Rite of Admission Candidacy begins.*

## **CANDIDACY**

**Time frame:** The period of Candidacy, which begins with the Rite of Admission, shall consist of not less than eighteen (18) months but not more than thirty-six (36) months.

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### **The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order (Session 1)**

**Content:** Understand the place of the Order in the Church

**Resources:**

- The FUN Manual - *The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order* pg. 5-17
- For Up to Now Companion CD – *Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order Folder*
- The Franciscan Journey – *The SFO Rule* – Ch. 11 pg. 122 – 130

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### **The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order (Session 2)**

**Content:** Understand the way of life of the OFS

**Resources:**

- The FUN Manual – *The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order* pg. 18-27
  - For Up to Now Companion CD – *Rule of the SFO Folder*
  - The Franciscan Journey – *When You Pray* pg.176
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## **The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order (Session 3)**

**Content:** Understand life in fraternity

**Resources:**

- The FUN Manual – The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order – pg. 28-45
- For Up to Now Companion CD – *Rule of the SFO Folder*
- For Up to Now Companion CD – Spiritual Assistance to SFO Folder ( See Ch. 33 of Franciscan Journey)
- The Franciscan Journey - *Encounters with Christ* pg. 142

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## **JPIC (Session 1)**

**Content:** Understand articles 15 through 19 of the Rule

**Resources:**

- The FUN Manual – *JPIC* – pg. 3-17
- For Up to Now Companion CD – *JPIC & CST Folder*
- Franciscan Journey – *Justice in Franciscan Life* pg. 246
- The Franciscan Journey – *The Gift of Work* pg. 258
- The Franciscan Journey – *Bearers of Peace* pg. 287
- Fully Mature with the Fullness of Christ – *Candidacy #8* – pg. 14-1 – 14-26

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## **JPIC (Session 2)**

**Content:** Understand articles 15

**Resources:**

- The FUN Manual – *JPIC* – pg. 18-26
- For Up to Now Companion CD – *JPIC & CST Folder*
- The Franciscan Journey – *Universal Kinship* pg. 280
- The Franciscan Journey – *In Their Family* pg. 268
- Fully Mature with the Fullness of Christ – *Candidacy #8* – pg. 14-1 – 14-26

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## **Francis and his Approach to Divinity (Session 1)**

**Content:** Understand Franciscan Theology

**Resources:**

- The Fun Manual – *St Francis and his Approach to Divinity (Session 1)* – pg. 3-11
  - The Franciscan Journey – *A Simple Way to Live* pg. 204
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## Francis and his Approach to Divinity (Session 2)

**Content:** Understand Articles 15 through 19 of the Rule

**Resources:**

- The FUN Manual – *St. Francis and His Approach to Divinity* (Session 2) pg. 12-16
- For Up to Now Companion CD - *Francis and Divinity Folder*

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## Franciscan Theology, Tradition and Spirituality

**Content:** Understanding the origins of Franciscan Theology, Tradition & Spirituality

**Resources:**

- The FUN Manual – *Understanding Franciscan Theology, Tradition & Spirituality* pg. 3-16
- The Franciscan Journey – *A Focus on Jesus* pg. 131

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## Profession (Session 1)

**Content:** Understanding what Profession means

**Resources:**

- The FUN Manual – *Profession and the Secular Franciscan* pg. 3-11
- Franciscan Journey – *Membership in the SFO* pg. 329
- Franciscan Journey – *A Rebuilding Task* pg. 155

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## Profession (Session 2)

**Content:** Understanding Profession

**Resources:**

- The FUN Manual – *Profession and the Secular Franciscan* – pg. 11-16
- For Up to Now Companion CD – *Sample Profession Preparation Folder*
- Franciscan Journey – *Fraternities—Gathering as One*

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## Penitence and Conversion

**Content:** The conversion process and its fruits

**Resources:**

- The FUN Manual – *Penitence and Conversion*
  - For UP to Now Companion CD – *Conversion Folder*
  - The Franciscan Journey – *Candidacy in the SFO*
  - Fully Mature with the Fullness of Christ – *Candidacy #2* pg. 08-1
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## Fraternity

**Content:** Understanding the Fundamental Elements of St. Francis Spirituality

**Resources:**

- The FUN Manual – “*Fraternity and Francis*” & *Fraternity as a Fundamental Element of St. Francis Spirituality*
- For Up to Now Companion CD – *Fraternity Folder*
- The Franciscan Journey – *Fraternity Life* pg. 319
- The Franciscan Journey – *Servant Leadership* pg. 310
- The Franciscan Journey – *Enriching the Franciscan Spirit* pg. 341
- The Franciscan Journey – *Franciscan Family Connections* pg. 353

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## Francis and the Blessed Virgin Mary

**Content:** The Role of Mary to Franciscans

**Resources:**

- The FUN Manual – *Francis and the Blessed Mother* pg. 1-16
- For Up to Now Companion CD – *Francis and the Blessed Virgin Mary Folder*
- The Franciscan Journey – *The Mother of God and Our Mother* pg. 188
- Fully Mature with the Fullness of Christ – *Candidacy #11* pg. 17-1

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## St. Clare of Assisi

**Content:** The Influence of St. Clare in Franciscan Life

**Resources:**

- **The FUN Manual** – *St. Clare of Assisi*
- For Up to Now Companion CD – *Clare Folder*
- The Franciscan Journey – *The Writings and Stories of St. Francis and St. Clare* pg.59

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## History of the Secular Franciscan Order and its Rules

**Content:** Our History

**Resources:**

- The FUN Manual – *A Brief History of the Secular Franciscan Order and its Rules* pg. 1-34
  - For Up to Now Companion CD – *Rules of the SFO Folder*
  - The Franciscan Journey – *SFO History – Development of the SFO Rule* pg. 71
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