

Resident Franciscan Community

Letter of Introduction

Thank you for your interest in the Resident Franciscan Community that is being formed at St. Anthony Spirituality Center.

This letter will lay out the vision for this new adventure in Franciscan living and will give the requirements and expectations for those who apply. Please read carefully before you complete the application form. If you need clarification of any item in this letter or in the application please call or email me at the Center.

The Resident Franciscan Community (RFC) is being formed to continue the Franciscan spirit at the Center as it is essential for the ministry provided here. The Center was founded by the Capuchin Franciscans as part of their ministry 95 years ago. Its operation flowed from their Franciscan charism and brought so much hope and joy to those who lived here and came to be part of the prayerful retreats offered by the Friars.

Although we no longer have the Capuchins who are Friars to the First Order, we are able to continue a Franciscan presence by inviting Secular Franciscans of the Third Order to come together to live in community. This community of 4 to 6 members would observe the Secular Franciscan Rule and share their gifts in service to the Center.

Prospective members would need to fulfill the following requirements:

1. Be fully initiated and actively a member of the Roman Catholic Church.
2. Be an active member of a canonically established Franciscan Fraternity of the Third Order Regular.
3. Be willing and able to make a one-year commitment to the RFC with the option of renewal each year. At the end of each year the community member will hold a discernment session to determine membership for the coming year.

continued on back



4. Be in good health and able to engage in moderate physical activity. A member must have his/her own health insurance.
5. Be financially self-sufficient.
6. Be willing and able to share their life with others in community.
7. Be willing to submit to the background check required by the Center.

In addition, membership is open to men and women who wish to discern a vocation to the Secular Franciscan Order or to other church ministry. There will be two of the six places available for these applicants.

St. Anthony Spirituality Center will provide room and board to the members of the RFC. No remuneration of any kind will be provided for its members.

Each applicant will be asked to come to St. Anthony's for a personal interview with the Spiritual Leader and two Board Members.

Applicants will be required to have three references: two from persons (non-family) who know them well and one from their parish priest or spiritual director. These letters should be submitted with the application form.

Please call me at the Center (715.443.2236, ext. 117) with any questions during this process. You can also email me at frfrankc@sarcenter.com.

Sincerely in the Love of Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Frank Corradi, OFS". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Fr. Frank Corradi
Spiritual Leader