

# Formation 101: Sources

## Formation Information/Sources:

**What: Resources/ Documents = Best Practice in the Franciscan Intellectual Tradition**

- **Resources and Documents**

- **Essential Documents of the Secular Franciscan Order**

- *Contents:*

- The Rule of the OFS
- General Constitutions of the OFS 2000
- Statutes of the National Fraternity of the OFS in the USA
  - Article 19. Formation. *Pages 28-31.*
- Ritual of the OFS
- Statutes of the International Fraternity of the OFS
- Statutes for Spiritual and Pastoral Assistance to the OFS

- **Early Documents: Francis of Assisi (Published by The Franciscan Institute of St. Bonaventure University, St. Bonaventure, NY)**

- **The Saint- Volume 1 (Published- 1999): Contents**

- The Writings of Francis of Assisi (1205/06- 1226)
- The Life of Saint Francis by Thomas of Celano (1228-1229)
- The Liturgical Texts (1230-1234)
- The Life of Saint Francis by Julian of Speyer (1232- 1235)
- The Versified Life of Saint Francis by Henri d' Avranches (1232- 1239)
- The Sacred Exchange between Saint Francis and Lady Poverty (1237- 1239)
- Related Documents (1215- 1237)

- **The Founder- Volume 2 (Published- 2000): Contents**

- The Beginning or the Founding of the Order and the Deeds of Those Lesser Brothers Who Were the First Companions of Blessed Francis in Religion (1240- 1241)
- The Legend of the Three Companions (1241- 1247)
- The Assisi Compilation (1244- 1260)
- The Remembrance of the Desire of a Soul by Thomas Celano (1245- 1247)
- The Treatise on the Miracles of Saint Francis by Thomas Celano (1250- 1252)
- An Umbrian choir Legend (1253- 1259)
- A Letter on the Passing of Saint Francis Attributed to Elias of Assisi (After 1253)
- The Legends and Sermons about Saint Francis by Bonaventure of Bagnoregio:
  - The Morning and Evening Sermons, October 4, 1255
  - The Major Legend of Saint Francis (1260- 1263)
  - The Minor Legend of Saint Francis (1260- 1266)
  - The Evening Sermon, October 4, 1262
  - A Sermon, October 4, 1266
  - A Sermon on the Feast of the Transferal of the Body of Saint Francis, May 25, 1267
  - The Morning and Evening Sermons, October 4, 1267
- Related Documents (1237- 1272)

- **The Prophet- Volume 3 (Published- 2001): Contents**

- A Book of the Praises of Saint Francis by Bernard of Besse (1277- 1283)
- The Versified Life of Saint Francis by Henri d' Avranches Additions, Amplifications in Light of *The Major Legend* (After 1283)
- A Collection of Sayings of the Companions of Blessed Francis (Late 13th- Early 14<sup>th</sup> Century)
- The Tree of the Crucified Life of Jesus Book Five (Excerpts) by Ubertino Da Casale (1305)
- A Mirror of the Perfection, *Rule*, Profession, Life and True Calling of a Lesser Brother (the



- Identity of a Secular Franciscan
- Nature of the Secular Franciscan Order
- Vocation, Charism and Mission in the Church
- Franciscan Movement part 1- Journey of Francis
- Franciscan Movement part 2- your own journey
- Candidacy
  - The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order (3 sessions)
  - JPIC with synopsis of Catholic Social Teachings (2 sessions)
  - Francis and his approach to Divinity (2 Sessions)
  - Franciscan Theology, Tradition and Spirituality (1 or 2 sessions)
  - Profession (2 sessions)
  - Penitence and Conversion
  - Fraternity
  - Francis and the Blessed Virgin Mary
  - St. Clare of Assisi
  - History of the Secular Franciscan Order and its Rules
- **Introduction**
  - Forward from the Minister General of the Secular Franciscan Order
  - Introduction from the International Presidency of the SFO
  - Conclusions of the XII General Chapter of the Secular Franciscan Order
- **The Priorities of the General Chapter**
  - FORMATION
  - The Presidency
- **Forward to the RS version**
  - From our National Minister
- **Brief History of the Formation Process**
- **Toward an SFO Ratio**

## Where: Do you find the Resources and Documents?

- **The Franciscan Intellectual Tradition**
  - Website: <http://franciscantradition.org>
    - Contains online, all three Francis of Assisi Volumes and the Volume on Clare of Assisi: The Lady- Early Documents
- **Amazon, copies of the volumes of the Early Document of Francis of Assisi are in their Book Store.**
- **Franciscan Institute Publications- website:**  
<https://www.franciscanpublications.com/collections>
- **Important information for Formation can be found under the “Formation” Tab, under “Regional Formation” on the Queen of Peace website-**  
<https://queenofpeaceregion.org>
- **Sources for *The Franciscan Journey and The Essential Documents of the Secular Franciscan Order* and other important Secular Franciscan Books, manuals, and documents (including the Little Red Rule Book) are available via mail/phone order from Smoky Valley Printing. There is a product list and order form on the back page of almost every issue of the Tau-USA Newsletter.**
  - **Order from: NAME: PHONE: ADDRESS: CITY: STATE: ZIP: E-MAIL or FAX:**  
**Smoky Valley Printing, Box 189, Lindsborg, KS 67456 785.227.2364, Fax**

785.227.3360, E-mail [lindabce@kans.com](mailto:lindabce@kans.com)

## **When and Who: Stages of Initial Formation- Inquiry through Candidacy.**

- *Current Initial Formation Text: Inquiry through Candidacy*
  - ***The Franciscan Journey: Embracing the Franciscan Vision* by Lester Back OFM Cap**
    - The Readings/Questions for Dialogue listed before the Questions for the chapters within *The Franciscan Journey* can be found on the Regional Website: <https://queenofpeaceregion.org/> , under the “Formation” tab, under “The Franciscan Journey, Supplemental Reading”.
  - A Formation Schedule to combine the *The Franciscan Journey* with teaching found in the FUN Manual can be found within the Formation Director's Tips- Formation. Distributed to the Fraternities within the Queen of Peace Region by the Regional Formation Director during 2017.
    - Arranged with/by Monthly meetings with those journeying through Orientation, Inquiry and Candidacy, combining the teachings of *The Franciscan Journey* with the FUN Manual.
    - Also this document can be found on the Queen of Peace website under the “Formation” tab under “Regional Formation”.
  - Upcoming Resources for Formation within the OFS:
    - Three new OFS Initial Formation books are currently being composed. They will cover Inquiry and Orientation; Candidacy; and a book for Formators.

## **How: Within Stages of Formation- Inquiry through Candidacy for entrance into OFS.**

- **Information found within all three Early Document Volumes of Francis of Assisi- The Saint- Volume 1; The Founder- Volume 2; The Prophet- Volume 3, are utilized within the Readings/Questions for Dialogue at the end of each of the chapters of *The Franciscan Journey: Embracing the Franciscan Vision* by Lester Back OFM Cap.**
  - Remember- These Readings/Questions for Dialogue for all thirty three chapters of *The Franciscan Journey*, can be found on the Queen of Peace website under the “Formation” tab, under “The Franciscan Journey, Supplemental Reading”.
- Ability to share with your brothers and sisters within Fraternity the writings and documents attributed to our Founders- Francis of Assisi and Clare of Assisi. Also, to read and share about the founding of the Franciscan Family/Order- learning how the Order developed and grew from humble beginnings. Developing a sense for where we came from and what we stand for as an Order.