**Five Franciscan Martyrs Region**

**Secular Franciscan Order**

**Initial Formation Manual**

**Visitor First Contact Portfolio**

**Forward**

Do not start to read or use this material until you read this page!

This portfolio provides you with all the material needed to conduct the first two meetings with a Visitor and prepare a report of the results for the Formation Director to submit to the Fraternity Council.

These meetings are interviews and should always be conducted by at least two members, preferable a member of Council or a Formation Team member. **At least one of the members must be present for both meetings**. It is desirable the same two members conduct both interviews.

**First Meeting -** Usually after the Visitor has spent at least one or two meetings just listening to the Fraternity meeting procedures and prayers.

At the first meeting with the visitor the fraternity member will do most of the talking and give the visitor several handouts to assist in understanding the Secular Order. There are three handouts in the left folder pocket:

* What “In the World” Is a Secular Franciscan
* Pathway to Profession
* Life Event Base Line - Given to the Visitor at the end of the meeting if the person is interested.

If the visitor has not read a biography of St. Francis, give the visitor a copy of a biography of St. Francis or the “Sign of Contradiction” CD. Make certain if they come to the next meeting to be sure to bring the “Life Event Base Line” it will make the second meeting easier for all parties.

**Second Meeting** – Usually the next month, if the Visitor is still interested in the Order.

At this meeting one member conducts the interview using the material provided in the manual. The other member records the answers on the three-page Visitor Information Sheet in the Right Pocket of this folder. The recorder should have available the Visitors Life Event Base Line given to the visitor last month. **If you do not have the sheet, I suggest you postpone this meeting until the Visitor completes the sheet.**

**After the meeting both members of the interview team should review the Visitor Information Sheet for completeness and make any comments you feel are appropriate. Sign and give it to the Formation Director along with the attendance sheet completed for the initial meetings.**

Now you can review the remaining material to familiarize yourself with this process and the background you need to conduct an informative and productive meeting with a new visitor to the fraternity.

**Five Franciscan Martyrs Region**

**Secular Franciscan Order**

**Visitor First Contact Guide**

**Contents**

Forward 2

Introduction 4

Lesson Plans 6

Visitor First Interview Guide Discussion Points 8

Pathway to Profession Chronology 10

Visitor Second Interview Guide Life Events 13

Visitor Second Interview Faith Background Questions 15

Signs a Person May Have a Vocation 17

Signs a Person May Not Have a Vocation 18

Visitor Information Sheet 19

Catholic Faith Inventory 23

Catholic Faith Inventory Answers 32

Appendix 37

**Additional Material**

(In the Folder Pockets make copies to use as needed)

What “In the world” is a Secular Franciscan Left Pocket

Pathway to Profession Left Pocket

Life Event Base Line Left Pocket

Visitor Information Sheet Right Pocket

Initial Formation Attendance Form Right Pocket

**Introduction**

**Background**

The prior practice in meeting with visitors for the first time was one of a friendly welcome and encouragement on the part of the fraternity to consider joining the fraternity as a Secular Franciscan. That process was effective for some applicants but was a source of disappointment on the part of the applicant and the fraternity in many situations.

With the start of a new Initial Formation Program (FUN) for the Secular Franciscan Order, we are placing a greater emphasis on ensuring that applicants who start the initial formation program have a greater chance for success in the new program. Our first contact now entails a two-part process to ensure the visitor has the basic foundation in interest, secular status and religious foundation to be considered an applicant for the SFO Initial Formation Program. The two-step process consists of:

* A meeting discussing the Secular Franciscan Order, the role of formation in Franciscan life and a discussion of the Fraternity’s expectations of the visitor’s possible future role in the Secular Franciscan Order Community.
* An interview, of the visitor, which focuses on ensuring there are no secular obstacles or lack of Catholic faith and practice that would prevent the possible future profession in the SFO.

These steps are designed to be the first steps in a focused discernment plan to bring into the order members who will become servants of God and “gifts to the fraternity” at the time of profession. The motivation of this approach is to reduce to a minimum the situations we find many times in the Inquiry Phase of formation. It is better to deal with these issues now, not when a person believes” they are a candidate for profession”.

These two steps go hand and hand and require the active participation of preferably two fraternity members, to conduct the initial meeting and the follow up interview. Once the steps are complete, the fraternity visitor team prepares a report and presents its findings and recommendation to the Fraternity Council.

The Fraternity Council then considers the report and makes one of three decisions:

* Invite the visitor to start the Orientation Program.
* Require the visitor to complete other actions before starting the Orientation Program
* Reject the visitor because of an obstacle or an apparent lack of vocation calling.

These steps should be approached with careful planning and loving consideration for the visitor who has expressed an interest in the Secular Franciscan Order. If you have to take a negative course of action on the part of the visitor, it is important to be completely honest but sensitive to the individuals’ feelings and appreciative of their interest in the Order.

**Procedure to Be Followed**

The lesson plans for the “First Contacts” describe the objectives of each meeting and the items to be covered. Remember your focus in these meetings is discernment. ***When one person is talking the other team, member should be focusing on what the visitor is saying and taking notes.***

In the visitor’s first meeting it is very important to make two key points:

* That the reason a person is there is because a calling to the SFO is a vocation, a calling from God.
* That acceptance into the Order is a promise of lifetime service to God carried out through Fraternity life.

The visitor should understand your statements and acknowledge they are interested in pursuing the subject further. If the visitor has not read a book on the life of St Francis, ensure they do so before your next meeting if you expect to bring the person back for interviews. You may want to have a brief biography of St Francis (Example: The Journey and the Dream) to lend to the visitor.

If the visitor does not appear to be a possible applicant, then prepare a report for the Fraternity Council obtain their resolution on the visitor and inform the visitor promptly of their status.

If you invite the visitor back for interviews, you may want to briefly tell them what you will be discussing at the next meeting.

At the Interview meeting with the visitor again, the lesson plan describes the objectives and the material to be covered. ***The primary purpose of this interview is to ensure, that at this time, there are no known obstacles to eventual profession in the SFO.***

Again, two people should conduct the interview session, one-person asking questions the other taking notes on the answers. **Do not attempt to fill out the Interview sheet at this time.** Do it together at the end of the session.

**After the interview, prepare a report and recommendation for the Fraternity Council. Meet with them and then inform the visitor of the Council’s action.**

**Lesson Plans for those conducting the Interviews.**

**Phase: First Interview Topic: What is Formation?**

**Overview and Scope of the Lesson:**

* Our tradition, charism and secular life style.
* Vocation is a “calling”
* What is Formation?
* Pathway to Profession
* Purpose of the Initial Interview and Faith Inventory
* Has visitor read any life of St. Francis?

**Objective:**

* This is to be a very positive and upbeat meeting for the first-time visitor and to express our appreciation for their interest in the SFO.
* Explanation of the Secular Franciscan Order, our charism, tradition, expectations and basic process of Initial Formation to any first-time visitor to the fraternity.
* Be attentive to the presence or absence of discernment signs of a vocation.

**Formator Preparation and Material:**

* Two-person formator team is desirable.
* Understanding of topic “What is Formation?” Anne Mulqueen, SFO
* Pathway to Profession graphic – Copy for visitor
* Initial Formation chronology
* SFO Vocation pamphlet
* Copy of a small St. Francis biography
* Arrange next steps if appropriate

**Visitor Preparation**:

* None

**Summary and Next Action:**

* Conduct visitor briefing, determine if there is further interest on their part.
* Schedule initial interview and Faith Inventory if appropriate.
* Document visitor name and phone number on an Initial Interview Form

**References:**

* FUN Manual Cross reference sheets

**Phase: Second Interview and Faith Background**

**Overview and Scope of the Lesson:**

* Conduct a background interview covering basic life events and faith experiences.
* Ensure the visitor is being open with the answers to your questions
* Ensure the visitor has a basic understanding of the foundational beliefs of the Catholic Church.
* Conduct both parts of the interview by taking notes.
* Complete the interview forms. (see additional material)

**Objective:**

* Determine if the basic background in the Catholic faith is present.
* Determine if there are any known impediments to a future Profession at this time. Are there obstacles that need to be addressed?
* Look actively for the presence of a vocation calling later.

**Formator Preparation and Material:**

* Two-person formator team is very desirable
* Initial Interview Guide
* Initial interview Forms
* Faith Background Guide
* Catholic Faith Inventory (Use as appropriate after interviews)

**Visitor Preparation**:

* Should have read a brief biography of St. Francis if they had indicated “no” on the first interview meeting. Give them a brief biography of St. Francis.

**Summary and Next Action:**

* Conduct interviews
* Apprise the visitor you will contact them after meeting with the Fraternity Council.
* Complete the background and Faith Interview forms.
* Present your findings and recommendation to the Fraternity Council.
* Apprise the visitor of the next course of action.

**References:**

* Regional Formation Manual

**Visitor First Interview Guide Discussion Points**

Thank them for their interest in the SFO – Appreciate their taking time to visit.

(Get name and phone number).

Would like to take a few minutes and provide you with some background on our Order.

1. We are a Catholic lay religious order. – Organized under Canon Law – a worldwide organization, part of the Franciscan Family
2. Basic organizational unit is local fraternity, served by an elected Council and an appointed Spiritual Assistant. Guest of the parish where we meet.
3. Local Fraternities reports:
4. thru elected Region Councils who report
5. thru elected National Councils who report
6. thru an elected International Council
7. We live in a secular world with family responsibilities and work toward brotherhood in our society. “Gospel to life and life to Gospel”.
8. The local fraternity is our primary community for spiritual growth and interaction in our society. Attendance at all our meetings is a responsibility for all SFO’s.
9. We are brothers and sisters with a common goal and interest.
10. Admission in the Order comes about through a process of discerning if a vocation is present.
11. Vocation is a calling from God. – May be the reason we are talking today.
12. Membership is obtained through a process, which we call the Initial Formation Program.
13. Initial Formation Program consists of three phases – Orientation, Inquiry and Candidacy. A period of about 3 years. (Show Pathway to Profession page 36)
14. First two phases focus heavily on the question: “Do you have a vocation?”
15. Candidacy completes the Initial Formation program and usually results in Profession in the Secular Franciscan Order.
16. At Profession, the person “becomes God’s property and therefore sacred” for the rest of their life. (Fr. Felice Cangelosi, OFM Cap)
17. Promise is made publicly, at Mass, in the presence of your fraternity members and accepted by your fraternity Minister and confirmed by the Spiritual Assistant.
18. You become an active member of the fraternity and continue to develop spiritually through On-Going Formation and Franciscan Family activities.

Did this give you a little better understanding of the SFO? Do you have any questions?

Does this life style seem to appeal to you?

How did you learn about the SFO?

If no interest thanks them for coming.

If there is interest invite them back next month. Give them SFO brochure.

Tell them about the Initial Interview purpose and scope.

Have you read a biography of St. Francis of Assisi? If “no”; offer a biography to be read and returned at the next meeting.

**After the meeting prepare some notes with your partner about the visitor to be given to the Fraternity Council**.

A close up of a map

Description generated with very high confidence

**Pathway to Profession**

**First Interview to Permanent Profession Chronology**

*Give the Visitor a copy of the Pathway to Profession*

*Review the steps in detail with the Visitor*

The Foundational Topics for SFO Initial Formation FUN Manual (For up to Now) places a major emphasis on discernment and ensuring the presence of a vocation on the part of the applicant. This approach requires significantly more time on the part of the Formation Team and the Fraternity Council to assess the vocational call and make certain the visitor has a sufficient background in the Catholic faith, Christian formation and Franciscan community life understanding, before Welcoming the visitor as an Inquirer to our community.

This chronology sets no minimum time on a planning calendar, but assumes the fraternity will complete all of the required steps outlined below in regular monthly fraternity meetings.

**Month 1-3** First time visitor: Procedure conducted by Formation Team Members

* + - * “What is Formation” topic presented
      * Initial Interviews and Faith Background
      * Recommendation to Council on applicant
      * This procedure should take two or three months

Formation Team recommends and Council approves visitor to begin Orientation Phase (Verbal report or letter to the Fraternity council)

**Month 3-6** **Orientation** – Faith foundation: Catholic Doctrine, Ecclesiology, Franciscan Family, Faith Inventory Questionnaire

Request for Welcoming Ceremony, (Letter to the Fraternity council)

Recommendation by Formation Team to Council for Welcoming Ceremony

Assignment of a sponsor if it is the practice for your fraternity.

**Welcoming Ceremony** – After the Welcoming the Inquiry Phase begins

**Month 7 - 12** **Inquiry Phase** – Vocation, Identity, Nature, Charism, Movement of the Franciscan Order. The Primary focus of this phase is “Do you have a vocation to the SFO?’

**Month 12** Begin Interviews by Spiritual Assistant and Formation Director to finalize Application Admission and Documentation

Recommendation to Council for Admission to the SFO and the Candidacy Phase

**Rite of Admission**

**Month 13 – 36** **Candidacy** (Chapter 10 to 25. Of the For up to Now (FUN) Initial Foundation Manual or other supporting material

**Month 33** Candidate begins preparation of Request for Profession documents.

Formation Team prepares final recommendation to Council. Request to be Professed in to the OFS, (Letter to the Fraternity council)

Approval by Council

**Rite of Profession** at Mass with Fraternity

**A summary of the Pathway to Profession chronology time frame is as follows:**

**Visitor First Contact**: As long as the fraternity feels it is necessary

**Orientation:** A minimum of 3 to 6 months (Initial Discernment Phase)

**Inquiry:** A minimum of 6 to 9 months (Focused Discernment Phase)

**Candidacy**: A minimum of 18 months but not more than 36 months (Additional Discernment and Spiritual Growth)

The Fraternity Council and the Formation Team can add topics to the Initial Formation Program as long as the topics support the spiritual growth of the candidate. You may add another session to a topic if you believe it assists the applicant in understanding the SFO life.

Remember that the objective of the Initial Formation program is to prepare a person for a life in the service of God as a Secular Franciscan. Any instruction that enhances the program will benefit your fraternity and the order.

The supporting documentation and forms necessary to carry out the procedures described in the chronology are contained in FFMR Formator Manual. When the Initial Formation Program is finalized and distributed the Regional Formation Manual needs to be changed to reflect the new steps, forms and procedures.

**Visitor Second Interview Guide**

**Background:**

The purpose of this guide is to prepare you for the second Interview. The second interview will be the basic life events and the visitors Faith background. **One person should conduct the interview the other person should be filling out the Visitor Application form.**

The primary purpose of this interview is to determine if the visitor has the necessary credentials, catholic knowledge and secular Catholic background to be considered for an applicant in the Secular Franciscan Order. The focus is on discernment and any possible impediments or obstacles to continuing the evaluation process. If there is a problem, it needs to be pointed out at this interview and a resolution developed by the Fraternity Council.

You are conducting this interview because you were satisfied at your first meeting that a possible vocation exists. Again, this interview should be conducted with two professed fraternity members. One person asking the questions the other taking notes on the interview. Do not attempt to complete the Interview Form during the interview leave that until later.

**Suggested Questions to collect Life Events**

**Name, Address, Phone, E-Mail, Name of Parish**

* Let me be certain that I have the correct spelling of your name.
* Your current address? How long have you lived there? (If it is brief where did they live before?), phone number? Do you have an E-mail address?
* What is your current home parish? Who is the Pastor there? How long have you been a member?

**Family Information**

* Are you married, single, or divorced? If married what is the name of the spouse, how long have you been married?
* Do you have children, if so names and ages?
* Are you married in the eyes of the church? **\*** Do you have a copy of your marriage certificate?
* If previously married, do you have a Degree of Nullity or not? **\***

**Religious Formation**

* When did you receive your first instruction in the Catholic religion, time and place?
* Have you participated in other Catholic religious study groups, classes, and seminars? If so where, when for how long?
* Do you call yourself a practicing Catholic? What does that mean to you?
* Do you support the doctrine, dogma, and teachings of the Roman Catholic Church**\*** as presented by the Church's Magisterium, especially in regard to Sacred Scripture, the Sacraments, and the primacy of the Roman Pontiff?"

**Sacramental Information**

* Where and when were you Baptized?
* When did you receive your First Communion?
* Have you been Confirmed,if so, when and where?
* Do you regularly attend religious services?
* How frequently do you attend Mass?
* How often do you receive the Sacrament of Penance?

**Secular Franciscan Order**

* When did you first learn of the Secular Franciscan Order? Do you know any people who are members of the Secular Franciscan Order, our fraternity?
* What draws your interest to the SFO and St Francis?
* Membership in the SFO will require a period of initial training, which requires active study and participation once or twice a month. Will there be any problem in you participating in those formation classes and future Fraternity meetings?
* After profession you are expected to be an active member of the fraternity, participating in the regular monthly meetings and other activities. Will there be any problem in you participating in those sessions?
* You might choose to remind the visitor that we expect the monthly meeting dates always belongs to the SFO.
* Has this decision been discussed with your family? Are there any problems with members of your family?
* Do you have any spiritual goals that the Secular Franciscan Order could help you achieve? If so ask for an explanation?
* Have you considered any other secular third order religious organizations (Carmelites, Dominicans, Benedictines, Opus Dei, etc.)? If so, what was their attraction? Have you ever been in any religious organization that required you to promise to follow their spiritual charism?

**Second Interview Faith Background Questions**

A faith background and assessment are made during the second interview. The prospective member (Visitor) must be a fully initiated Catholic, having received the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation and in good standing in the Church. All of this information will be covered if you followed the initial Interview guidelines.

This step is to discern if there is a necessity to review the Catholic teachings in light of Vatican II Christology and ecclesiology. What you are attempting to determine is:

* Is there a good understanding and a committed practice to the Catholic faith?
* Is there a good mix of apostolic activity and prayer life?

This knowledge will be explored in greater detail in the Orientation Phase if the visitor is approved for Orientation.

To determine that attitude in a visitor you can discuss some of the following topics and see how they feel about them and what practices they follow in those areas.

**Scripture**

* Do they attempt to read scripture and mediate on the meaning in their life?

**Trinity and Christology**

* What is their understanding of the Trinity?
* Where does Christ fit in their life?

**The Church**

* Over the past 25 years there have been many encyclicals, which define, expand and explain the laity role in Christian life. Have you had an opportunity to read or participate in a seminar or workshop on any subject?

**Liturgy and Sacraments**,

* How do you feel about the Liturgy of the Mass?
* Have you ever participated in the Liturgy of the Hours?

**Mary Model and Mother**

* What is Mary’s role in your prayer life?

**Canon Law**

* Canon Law is the internal governing laws of the Catholic Church. The Pope is the final arbiter. How do you feel about that practice?

**Miscellaneous Information**

* Have you ever been a member of another Religious Order? **\*** If so, when, where, what is your present status with the order?
* Remember that a candidate for the SFO cannot be a professed member of any other Religious Order, first second or third order. ***If they are a member of another third order, they will need to obtain a release from their order before the visitor can continue with the SFO.***
* There are some Catholic Secular organizations that do not call themselves “third orders” they may use the terms “Auxiliary, Associates, Helpers, Supporters, or similar terms to indicate some relationship to a First or Second order of the Church. If a visitor is or has been a member of such an organization it is very important to understand their status and their “promise” practices in the organization.

**If there is a formal learning process and steps of acceptance for the organization you should consider that organization a “Third Order”. They will need to obtain release from that organization before they can continue in the Visitor process of the SFO.**

* The visitor can be an ordained diocesan deacon or priest.
* Do you participate in any of your home parish or community activities?
* Do you do anything special in your leisure time?
* Do you have any questions about the SFO?

**Future Information**

If you get to this part of the interview and do not see any obvious impediment or obstacles, then tell the visitor about the certificates they will need as they progress through the formation process.

* Certificates of Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation and if necessary, Matrimony, or Holy Orders if a diocesan priest or deacon is involved. Ensure there will not be a problem obtaining the certificates.
* They will need to supply references from their home parish pastor and one other active practicing Catholic who can attest to their spiritual life

You may decide to give the “Catholic Faith Inventory “quiz (page 23). and discusses the quiz with the visitor. This is appropriate if you are not comfortable with the visitors answers on the Faith Background Questions listed above. If you are satisfied with the above questions then the Faith Inventory Quiz can be carried over to the Orientation Phase.

When you have finished the interview, you and your partner should think about the responses and look for signs of a call. Compare what you heard to the list of signs described below. “Complete the Visitor Information form. If you have missed any information, follow up with a phone call. The Fraternity Minister, Formation Minister and Council should see the information form as soon as possible.

**Signs that a person MAY have a call to the O.F.S.**

* A person who is good practicing Catholic.
* A person who has a desire to follow Jesus. Jesus and his Gospel are at the heart of the Franciscan way of life.
* A person who has a personal faith relationship with Jesus, not simply intellectual knowledge about him. Franciscans follow Francis’ example in loving God, our sister earth and all its people.
* A person who is hope-filled and is willing to deal with life’s issues. Pessimists, nay-sayers, and persons who want to hide from the world are typically not good candidates for the OFS.
* A person who realizes that we are all sinful people in need of conversion. “Perfect” people do not need the OFS, and the OFS certainly does not need them!
* A person who has at least some knowledge of the persons and spirits of Francis and Clare.
* A person who is willing and able to make a commitment to the Rule of the OFS and to live in fraternity. Basic communication skills are needed to listen to and interact within the fraternity.
* A person who trusts in God and realizes that God is needed in his/her life. Anyone who is prejudiced, arrogant and closed-minded will not make a good candidate for the OFS.
* A person who has a reverence for all of creation. Courtesy and respect are part of the spirit of reverence for all of creation.
* A person who is willing to live the countercultural reality of a life in fraternity. Secular Franciscans live in fraternity and are willing to share creative ideas and life with others.

**IF THERE IS ANY DOUBT,**

**THE FRATERNITY RECEIVES THE BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT!!**

**Signs that a person MAY NOT have a call to the O.F.S.**

* A person who already belongs to a religious Order or another “Third Order” may not belong.
* A person who is a non-Catholic may not be received as an Inquirer into the OFS, although may be able to participate to some extent in the life of a fraternity. Good dialogue can determine a healthy form of participation.
* A person who has interpersonal problems, problems with relationships, or wants to escape home or family problems is not likely to be a good candidate for the OFS. The OFS is not a therapy group/society, although we do offer our members supportive encouragement.
* A person who is a “professional joiner” is not a good candidate for the OFS.
* A person who forces personal devotions and ideas on others is not a good candidate for the OFS.
* A person who is too individualistic and self-centered is not likely to be a good candidate for the OFS. The SFO fraternity must be united by a common goal, to integrate life and Gospel.
* A person whose lifestyle is obviously counter to the Gospel is not a good candidate.
* A person who continuously gossips, or criticizes everything and everybody, or is irresponsible in family and/or work situations is not a good candidate for the OFS.
* A person with rigid and unbending opinions and attitudes is not a good candidate for the OFS. We are involved in servant leadership and need to work collaboratively.
* A person who uses violence, power or prestige to control life is not suitable for a Gospel way of life.

**IF THERE IS ANY DOUBT,**

**THE FRATERNITY RECEIVES THE BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT!!!**

**Visitor Information Sheet 1 of 3**

This information is to be obtained through ***dialogue*** and is ***NOT*** to be “filled out” by the interested person!

Name: **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

## Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name your Parish: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address of Parish: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How long active in this parish? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Family Information**

Are you married? \_\_\_\_\_\_ Date, city, church where you were married \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Spouse’s Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Names and ages of children \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If married; are you married in the eyes of the Catholic Church? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If divorced and remarried, do you have a copy of your Decree of Nullity? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Religious Formation**

Are you a practicing Catholic? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do you fully support the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Visitor Information Sheet 2 of 3**

How have you obtained a foundation in the Catholic religion? (Check all that apply)

Catholic schools \_\_\_\_\_

CCD Classes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

RCIA \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parish study classes \_\_\_\_\_

Religious studies and seminars \_\_\_\_\_

**Sacramental Information**

Name of the Catholic Church, and city, where you received the Sacrament of Baptism.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Where did you make your First Communion? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How frequently do you receive Holy Communion? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Where did you receive the Sacrament of First Penance? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How frequently do you receive the Sacrament of Penance? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Have you received the Sacrament of Confirmation? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name of the Church, city and date where you received the Sacrament of Confirmation?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How frequently do you attend Mass? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Secular Franciscan Order**

How did you learn about the Secular Franciscan Order?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Visitor Information Sheet 3 of 3**

What draws your interest to St Francis?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Are you willing and able are you to participate in the monthly formation and fraternity gatherings?

Is your family supportive of your decision to explore the possibility that you have a calling to the Secular Franciscan Order? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have spiritual or secular goals you feel you could be achieved through affiliation with the SFO?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been a member of another Religious Order or any other religious organization which required training and promises of personal commitment to that particular organization? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Are you active in your parish community? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Are you active in your local community? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What do you with your leisure time? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Future Information**

If you decide to continue this journey you will need, in the near future, to provide the following information.

* A copy of Baptism certificate, annotated with the sacrament dates of Eucharist, Confirmation, Matrimony, Holy Orders (If diocesan priest or deacon).
* Letters of references from your pastor or spiritual director and one other person (an active practicing Catholic) who can attest to your spiritual involvement.

**Comments** (Use back of form if necessary)

**This page is left blank**

**Catholic Faith Inventory**

This section of the Visitor Portfolio is included here so you are aware of the information and how it may be used.

The purpose of these questions is to provide the visitor and the Fraternity Council with an understanding of their depth of knowledge about the Catholic Church. For many years the visitor who applied was a long term practicing Catholic who in most case attended Catholic grade, high school and possibly college. Their knowledge of the church was extensive. This is not the common situation today. Many have been earlier practicing catholic but have slipped away as their parents or family left the church. Some have come through RCIA programs and are now interested in growing more spiritually. The important thing is to ensure that the visitor has the fundamental knowledge of the Catholic Church to undertake the Initial Formation process and understand what they are studying.

These questions can be given to the visitor after the second interview or as a part of the 3-month Orientation process. Either way the information should be a part of the Fraternity Council information used to approve the Welcoming Ceremony for the visitor.

There is no pass or fail grade!

It is one part of the total picture you have from the interviews and the Orientation sessions and this Faith Inventory Quiz.

**Catholic Faith Inventory**

**Name**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Date**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. The procession to the sanctuary at the beginning of Mass is led by the: a. Priest b. Lector c. Processional Cross
2. The part of the Mass during which we express sorrow for our sins is called: a. The Eucharistic Prayer b. The Act of Penitence c. The Gloria
3. After “Glory to God in the highest,” we say: a. “And on earth peace to people of good will” b. “Hosanna in the highest” c. “And with your spirit”
4. The Profession of Faith is: a. When we say Glory to God b. Our affirmation of our Catholic beliefs c. When we praise the Lord, and ask for mercy
5. The Profession of Faith is called the: a. Creed b. Our Father c. Gloria
6. The Universal Prayer (or Prayer of the Faithful) is when we: a. Pray for the needs of the Church and the world b. Pray for God’s mercy c. Pray that the Lord will accept our sacrifice
7. At the beginning of the Liturgy of the Eucharist, this is brought to the altar along with the unconsecrated bread and wine: a. Lectionary b. Collection c. Processional Cross
8. The word “Hosanna” expresses: a. Heartfelt sorrow b. Adoration, praise or joy c. Terror
9. The part of the Mass in which the priest, using the words of Our Lord, changes bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ is called the: a. Blessing b. Abstinence c. Consecration
10. In the course of Mass, we are reminded of the mystery of faith in which we remember the Lord’s death, resurrection, and ascension during the: a. Memorial Acclamation b. Liturgy of the Eucharistic Sequence c. Holy Communion
11. Complete this sentence: Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world: a. Amen b. Have mercy on us c. Look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and grant us peace
12. When the minister of Holy Communion says, “The body of Christ,” we reply: a. “And with your spirit” b. “Amen” c. “Thanks to be to God”
13. When the deacon or priest says, “Go forth, the Mass is ended,” we reply: a. “Amen” b. “Thank you, Father” c. “Thanks be to God”
14. In the early Church, stained glass windows were used to: a. Add beauty b. Explain the faith c. Give credit to an artist
15. The first three Commandments describe our relationship with: a. Creation b. Humankind c. God
16. Three Persons in one God is called the: a. Blessed Trinity, b. Blessed Covenant, c. Blessed Sacraments
17. The Roman governor who condemned Jesus to suffer and die was: a. Caiaphas, b. Pontius Pilate, c. Thaddeus Maximus,
18. The first Pope was: a. Peter, b. Jesus Christ, c. Paul,
19. The place Jesus performed his first miracle of turning water into wine: a. Nazareth, b. Cana, c. Jerusalem, d. Samaria,
20. During Mass, readings from Sacred Scripture are proclaimed at this time: a. Holy Communion, b. Homily, c. Liturgy of the Word,
21. The Grandparents of Jesus were: a. Anne and Joachim, b. Elizabeth and John, c. Veronica and Jacob,
22. When the Church teaches that the Pope is infallible, she means that he: a. Can never make a mistake, b. Cannot err when solemnly defining a matter of faith and morals, c. Is incapable of committing personal sin,
23. The First Universal Catechism of the Roman Catholic Church was published in: a. 1566 (after the Council of Trent), b. 1378 (after the Second Great Schism), c. 1054 (after the Great Schism),
24. The last seven Commandments describe our relationship with: a. Creation, b. Humankind, c. God,
25. The mystery of God becoming human is known as the: a. Eucharist, b. Resurrection, c. Incarnation,
26. The day Jesus died: a. Palm Sunday, b. Ash Wednesday, c. Holy Thursday, d. Good Friday,
27. “Catholic” means: a. Christ-like, b. Universal, c. Powerful,
28. Canonization is the process by which one is declared a: a. Bishop, b. Cardinal, c. Saint,
29. A metal container used to carry Holy Communion to the sick is a: a. Corporal, b. Pyx, c. Paten,
30. In case of emergency (i.e., someone is in danger of death), the Sacrament of Baptism can be administered by: a. Only a priest or deacon, b. Any baptized Catholic, c. Anyone who has the Church’s intention in mind,
31. The Magisterium of the Church is the: a. Authentic teachings of the Bishops in union with the Pope, b. Majority opinion of Catholic theologians on a given subject, c. Pope’s personal opinion,
32. The current Catechism of the Catholic Church is divided into four parts: a. Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer, Sacraments, Sacramentals, b. Church History, Theology, Scripture, Prayer, c. Creed, Sacraments, Commandments, Prayer, d. Eucharist, Commandments, Scripture, Church History,
33. The basic source of teaching in the Catholic Church is the: a. Bible, b. Catechism, c. Roman Missal,
34. This person was conceived without original sin and was called the Immaculate Conception: a. Jesus, b. Mary, c. Joseph,
35. The devotion we pray when we recall Jesus’ passion and death is the: a. Franciscan Crown Rosary, b. Stations of the Cross, c. Liturgy of the Hours,

1. The outer garment the priest wears is called: a. Chasuble, b. Dalmatic, c. Alb, d. Cassock,
2. According to the Catholic Faith, is Jesus fully human or fully divine? a. Human, b. Divine, c. Both,
3. The vessel which holds the consecrated Hosts for distribution: a. Ciborium, b. Chalice, c. Surplice,
4. This Sacrament cannot be administered by a Deacon: a. Baptism, b. Anointing of the Sick, c. Matrimony,
5. A “well-formed” conscience means one that is: a. Informed by public opinion, b. Informed by our personal feelings, c. Informed by the authentic teachings of the Catholic Church,
6. The three angels named in the Scriptures are: a. Raphael, Gabriel, Michael, b. Peter, Paul, Bartholomew, c. Ezekiel, Aaron, Abraham,
7. The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is celebrated on: a. August 15, b. September 15, c. December 8, d. December 25,
8. . How long was Jesus in the tomb? a. One day, b. Two days, c. Three days,
9. According to Canon Law, Catholics are required under pain of serious sin to attend Mass on: a. Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, b. Only Christmas and Easter, c. Every day,
10. This saint was named in 1979 by Pope St. John Paul II as the patron of ecology: a. Saint Linus, b. Saint Francis of Assisi, c. Saint Clement, d. Saint Lawrence,
11. A room in a church where vestments, church furnishings and sacred vessels are stored: a. Sanctuary, b. Vestibule, c. Sacristy,
12. This is true about the Sacrament of Matrimony: a. It is a sign of the covenant between Christ and His Church, b. It is only valid between one man and one woman, c. It creates a life-long communion of love open to the possibility of new life, d. All of the above,
13. Abraham’s son was: a. Michael, b. Isaac, c. Jeremiah,
14. The four Gospel writers were: a. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Zechariah, b. Paul, Peter, Timothy, Titus, c. Matthew, Mark, Luke, John,
15. The final writing contained in the New Testament: a. Letters to the Corinthians, b. Book of Revelation, c. Gospels,
16. The Sacrament of Holy Orders gives the Church: a. Bishops and Priests, b. Deacons, c. Both a and b
17. Jesus’ foster father was: a. Moses, b. Peter, c. Joseph,
18. Jesus’ Resurrection from the dead is celebrated on: a. Easter Sunday, b. Good Friday, c. Holy Thursday,
19. The Liturgical Season immediately prior to Christmas: a. Advent, b. Lent, c. Pentecost,
20. The feast that commemorates the initial descent of the Holy Spirit upon the early Church: a. Christmas, b. Easter, c. Pentecost,
21. The mother of John the Baptist was: a. Mary, b. Elizabeth, c. Veronica,
22. Catholics believe that the Pope is the: a. Vicar of Christ on earth, b. Successor of St. Peter, c. Bishop of Rome, d. All of the above,
23. The shortest season of the Church’s liturgical year is: a. Easter, b. Triduum, c. Advent,
24. On Mount Sinai, God gave Moses the: a. Ten Commandments, b. Seven Sacraments c. Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy,
25. How many Gods are there? a. One, b. Two, c. Three,
26. Catholic tradition considers bishops to be the successors of the: a. Apostles, b. Pharisees c. High Priests, d. Disciples,
27. Founder and head of the Catholic Church: a. Peter, b. Jesus Christ, c. Paul,
28. The liturgical season leading into the Triduum: a. Easter, b. Advent, c. Lent,
29. This person asked Pilate for Jesus’ body and put it in the tomb: a. Mary Magdalene, b. Joseph of Arimathea, c. Paul, d. John
30. God created this on the first day: a. Air, b. Water, c. Light,
31. Cain and Abel’s parents were: a. Adam and Eve, b. Mary and Joseph, c. Elizabeth and John,
32. The number of wise men who brought gifts to Jesus: a. Three, b. Bible never says, c. Four,
33. After the flood, God gave this sign that He would not destroy the earth with a flood again: a. Rainbow, b. Rising Sun, c. Full Moon,
34. King Solomon asked God to give him: a. Courage, b. Strength, c. Wisdom, d. All of the above,
35. Placed in front of the opening of Jesus’ tomb to close it: a. Wall, b. Fence, c. Stone,
36. God created this on the seventh day: a. Woman, b. Nothing, c. Man,

1. Most of the Old Testament was written in: a. Hebrew, b. Latin, c. Greek,
2. Jesus’ name “Emmanuel” means: a. Anointed One, b. God with us, c. Son of God, d. All of the above,
3. The river where Jesus was baptized: a. Jordan River, b. Tiber River, c. Nile River,
4. This first miracle of Jesus recorded in the Bible was: a. Raising of Lazarus, b. Expelling seven demons, c. Turning water into wine,
5. Which is NOT a Sacrament of Initiation? a. Baptism, b. Confession, c. Eucharist, d. Confirmation,
6. The pope who issued the encyclical letter Pacem in Terris: a. Pope St. John Paul II, b. Pope St. John XXIII, c. Pope Benedict XVI,
7. The name given to the first five books of the Bible: a. Pentagram, b. Pentateuch, c. Pentagon,
8. The book of prayers used at Mass: a. Roman Missal, b. Lectionary, c. Sacramentary,
9. One of the Twelve Apostles who initially doubted that Jesus was risen: a. Andrew, b. Thomas, c. Simon Peter,
10. God created the woman out of: a. Stone, b. Dust, c. A piece of the man’s body,
11. These writings are NOT found in the Old Testament: a. Numbers, b. Revelation, c. Deuteronomy,
12. Jesus was born in this city: a. Bethlehem, b. Nazareth, c. Galilee,
13. All were Apostles except: a. Matthew, b. John, c. Luke,
14. The saint who translated the Bible from the ancient languages into Latin: a. John Chrysostom, b. Francis of Assisi, c. Jerome,
15. This is the “source and summit” of Christian life: a. Eucharist, b. Baptism, c. Holy Orders,
16. Chrism refers to: a. Incense used during a funeral Mass, b. Perfumed oil used during Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders, c. Blessed oil used for Anointing of the Sick, d. Wax used to make the Easter candle,
17. The “Decalogue” refers to the: a. Cardinal and theological virtues, b. Writings of the Church Fathers, c. Breakdown of the Our Father, d. Ten Commandments,
18. The essential elements of Baptism are: a. Immersion in water and invocation of the Trinity, b. Immersion or pouring of water and invocation of the Trinity, c. Immersion or pouring of any liquid and invocation of the Trinity,
19. An individual soul’s final purification takes place here: a. In heaven, b. In hell, c. In purgatory, d. On earth before death,
20. The first Christian martyr was: a. Saint Stephen, b. Saint Peter, c. Saint Lawrence, d. Saint Joan of Arc,
21. Church teaching on a “heavenly liturgy” comes from: a. Gospel of John, b. Book of Isaiah, c. Acts of the Apostles, d. Book of Revelation,
22. The “Feast of Feasts” refers to: a. Christmas, b. Easter, c. Good Friday, d. Pentecost,
23. The words “Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit” are spoken in the Sacrament of: a. Baptism, b. Ordination, c. Confirmation, d. Anointing of the Sick,
24. Ecclesiastical Law refers to laws found in the: a. Code of Canon Law, b. Old Testament, c. New Testament, d. Code of Conduct,
25. Believing in superstitions like horoscopes, tarot cards and clairvoyants goes against this Commandment: a. First, b. Fourth, c. Ninth,
26. The Catechism includes a section on the following type of prayer: a. Meditative, b. Contemplative, c. Vocal, d. All of the above
27. “Maranatha” means: a. “Come, O Lord”, b. “It is finished”, c. “He is risen”,
28. Priests are ordained by: a. Deacons b. Acolytes c. Bishops d. Lectors

100.The tabernacle is the place in which: a. The Blessed Sacrament is reserved, b. A candle is kept burning, c. Children are baptized.

**True or False Questions**

1. T or F You can leave Mass right after you receive Holy Communion because Mass is ended

2. T or F During the Anointing of the Sick, the priest anoints the sick person with Holy Water

3. T or F Baptism takes away all sins

4. T or F Jesus instituted the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper

5. T or F Deacons are permitted to say Mass

6. T or F An examination of conscience is not needed before Confession

7. T or F Meditation is a Catholic form of prayer

8. T or F Chastity is expected of all people, even married couples

9. T or F The Church does not allow cremation

10. T or F The “domestic church” refers to the Church in the United States

11. T or F During the Consecration, the transubstantiation of the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ is brought about

12. T or F In the Mass, it is Christ who both offers the sacrifice and is offered as the sacrifice

13. T or F The sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is to be given only at the point of death

14. T or F Official Catholic Church teaching has nothing to say on the subject of abortion

15. T or F Eucharistic adoration is still recommended as a proper way to adore Christ

16. T or F The book that contains the readings for Mass is called the Lectionary

17. T or F The Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion is allowed only to minister the chalice containing the Precious Blood

18. T or F Only a priest can administer the Sacrament of Baptism

19. T or F Catholics believe in the “real presence” of Jesus in the Eucharist

20. T or F The term “paschal mystery” refers to the mystery of the death and resurrection of Jesus

*[Created by Deacon Dave and Thérèse Ream OFS]*

***Catholic Faith Inventory - Answers***

1. *The procession to the sanctuary at the beginning of Mass is led by the: c. Processional Cross*

1. *The part of the Mass during which we express sorrow for our sins is called: b. The Act of Penitence*

1. *After “Glory to God in the highest,” we say: a. “And on earth peace to people of good will”*
2. *The Profession of Faith is: b. Our affirmation of our Catholic beliefs*

1. *The Profession of Faith is called the: a. Creed*

1. *The Universal Prayer (or Prayer of the Faithful) is when we: a. Pray for the needs of the Church and the world*

1. *At the beginning of the Liturgy of the Eucharist, this is brought to the altar along with the unconsecrated bread and wine: b. Collection*
2. *The word “Hosanna” expresses: b. Adoration, praise or joy*

1. *The part of the Mass in which the priest, using the words of Our Lord, changes bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ is called the: c. Consecration*

1. *In the course of Mass, we are reminded of the mystery of faith in which we remember the Lord’s death, resurrection, and ascension during the: a. Memorial Acclamation*
2. *Complete this sentence: Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world: b. Have mercy on us*

1. *When the minister of Holy Communion says, “The body of Christ,” we reply: b. “Amen”*

1. *When the deacon or priest says, “Go forth, the Mass is ended,” we reply: c. “Thanks be to God”*
2. *In the early Church, stained glass windows were used to: b. Explain the faith*

1. *The first three Commandments describe our relationship with: c. God*

1. *Three Persons in one God is called the: a. Blessed Trinity*
2. *The Roman governor who condemned Jesus to suffer and die was: b. Pontius Pilate*

1. *The first Pope was: a. Peter*
2. *The place Jesus performed his first miracle of turning water into wine: b. Cana*

1. *During Mass, readings from Sacred Scripture are proclaimed at this time: c. Liturgy of the Word*

1. *The Grandparents of Jesus were: a. Anne and Joachim*
2. *When the Church teaches that the Pope is infallible, she means that he: b. Cannot err when solemnly defining a matter of faith and morals*

1. *The First Universal Catechism of the Roman Catholic Church was published in: a. 1566 (after the Council of Trent)*
2. *The last seven Commandments describe our relationship with: b. Humankind*

1. *The mystery of God becoming human is known as the: c. Incarnation*

1. *The day Jesus died: d. Good Friday*

1. *“Catholic” means: b. Universal*

1. *Canonization is the process by which one is declared a: c. Saint*

1. *A metal container used to carry Holy Communion to the sick is a: b. Pyx*

1. *In case of emergency (i.e., someone is in danger of death), the Sacrament of Baptism can be administered by: c. Anyone who has the Church’s intention in mind*

1. *The Magisterium of the Church is the: a. Authentic teachings of the Bishops in union with the Pope*
2. *The current Catechism of the Catholic Church is divided into four parts: c. Creed, Sacraments, Commandments, Prayer*

1. *The basic source of teaching in the Catholic Church is the: a. Bible*
2. *This person was conceived without original sin and was called the Immaculate Conception: b. Mary*

1. *The devotion we pray when we recall Jesus’ passion and death is the: b. Stations of the Cross*

1. *The outer garment the priest wears is called: a. Chasuble*
2. *According to the Catholic Faith, is Jesus fully human or fully divine? a. Human b. Divine c. Both*
3. *The vessel which holds the consecrated Hosts for distribution: a. Ciborium*
4. *This Sacrament cannot be administered by a Deacon: b. Anointing of the Sick*

1. *A “well-formed” conscience means one that is: c. Informed by the authentic teachings of the Catholic Church*

1. *The three angels named in the Scriptures are: a. Raphael, Gabriel, Michael*
2. *The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is celebrated on: c. December 8*
3. *How long was Jesus in the tomb? c. Three days*

1. *According to Canon Law, Catholics are required under pain of serious sin to attend Mass on: a. Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation*
2. *This saint was named in 1979 by Pope St. John Paul II as the patron of ecology: b. Saint Francis of Assisi*

1. *A room in a church where vestments, church furnishings and sacred vessels are stored: c. Sacristy*

1. *This is true about the Sacrament of Matrimony: a. It is a sign of the covenant between Christ and His Church b. It is only valid between one man and one woman c. It creates a life-long communion of love open to the possibility of new life d. All of the above*
2. *Abraham’s son was: b. Isaac*

1. *The four Gospel writers were: c. Matthew, Mark, Luke, John*

1. *The final writing contained in the New Testament: b. Book of Revelation*

1. *The Sacrament of Holy Orders gives the Church: a. Bishops and Priests b. Deacons c. Both a and b*
2. *Jesus’ foster father was: c. Joseph*

1. *Jesus’ Resurrection from the dead is celebrated on: a. Easter Sunday*
2. *The Liturgical Season immediately prior to Christmas: a. Advent*
3. *The feast that commemorates the initial descent of the Holy Spirit upon the early Church: c. Pentecost*

1. *The mother of John the Baptist was: b. Elizabeth*
2. *Catholics believe that the Pope is the: a. Vicar of Christ on earth b. Successor of St. Peter c. Bishop of Rome d. All of the above*
3. *The shortest season of the Church’s liturgical year is: b. Triduum*

1. *On Mount Sinai, God gave Moses the: a. Ten Commandments*
2. *How many Gods are there? a. One*
3. *Catholic tradition considers bishops to be the successors of the: a. Apostles*
4. *Founder and head of the Catholic Church: b. Jesus Christ*

1. *The liturgical season leading into the Triduum: c. Lent*

1. *This person asked Pilate for Jesus’ body and put it in the tomb: b. Joseph of Arimathea*

1. *God created this on the first day: c. Light*

1. *Cain and Abel’s parents were: a. Adam and Eve*
2. *The number of wise men who brought gifts to Jesus: b. Bible never says*
3. *After the flood, God gave this sign that He would not destroy the earth with a flood again: a. Rainbow*
4. *King Solomon asked God to give him: c. Wisdom*

1. *Placed in front of the opening of Jesus’ tomb to close it: c. Stone*

1. *God created this on the seventh day: b. Nothing*

1. *Most of the Old Testament was written in: a. Hebrew*
2. *Jesus’ name “Emmanuel” means: b. God with us*

1. *The river where Jesus was baptized: a. Jordan River*
2. *This first miracle of Jesus recorded in the Bible was: c. Turning water into wine*

1. *Which is NOT a Sacrament of Initiation? b. Confession*

1. *The pope who issued the encyclical letter Pacem in Terris: b. Pope St. John XXIII*

1. *The name given to the first five books of the Bible: b. Pentateuch*

1. *The book of prayers used at Mass: a. Roman Missal*
2. *One of the Twelve Apostles who initially doubted that Jesus was risen: b. Thomas*

1. *God created the woman out of: c. A piece of the man’s body*

1. *These writings are NOT found in the Old Testament: b. Revelation*

1. *Jesus was born in this city: a. Bethlehem*
2. *All were Apostles except: c. Luke*

1. *The saint who translated the Bible from the ancient languages into Latin: c. Jerome*
2. *This is the “source and summit” of Christian life: a. Eucharist*
3. *Chrism refers to: b. Perfumed oil used during Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders*

1. *The “Decalogue” refers to the: d. Ten Commandments*

1. *The essential elements of Baptism are: b. Immersion or pouring of water and invocation of the Trinity*

1. *An individual soul’s final purification takes place here: c. In purgatory*

1. *The first Christian martyr was: a. Saint Stephen*
2. *Church teaching on a “heavenly liturgy” comes from: d. Book of Revelation*

1. *The “Feast of Feasts” refers to: b. Easter*

1. *The words “Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit” are spoken in the Sacrament of: c. Confirmation*

1. *Ecclesiastical Law refers to laws found in the: a. Code of Canon Law*
2. *Believing in superstitions like horoscopes, tarot cards and clairvoyants goes against this Commandment: a. First*
3. *The Catechism includes a section on the following type of prayer: a. Meditative b. Contemplative c. Vocal d. All of the above*
4. *“Maranatha” means: a. “Come, O Lord”*
5. *Priests are ordained by: c. Bishops*

*100.The tabernacle is the place in which: a. The Blessed Sacrament is reserved*

***True or False Answers (In bold)***

*1. T or* ***F*** *You can leave Mass right after you receive Holy Communion because Mass is ended*

*2. T or* ***F*** *During the Anointing of the Sick, the priest anoints the sick person with Holy Water*

*3.* ***T*** *or F Baptism takes away all sins*

*4****. T*** *or F Jesus instituted the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper*

*5. T or* ***F*** *Deacons are permitted to say Mass*

*6. T or* ***F*** *An examination of conscience is not needed before Confession*

*7****. T*** *or F Meditation is a Catholic form of prayer*

*8****. T*** *or F Chastity is expected of all people, even married couples*

*9. T or* ***F*** *The Church does not allow cremation*

*10. T or* ***F*** *The “domestic church” refers to the Church in the United States*

*11.* ***T*** *or F During the Consecration, the transubstantiation of the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ is brought about*

*12.* ***T*** *or F In the Mass, it is Christ who both offers the sacrifice and is offered as the sacrifice*

*13. T or* ***F*** *The sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is to be given only at the point of death*

*14. T or* ***F*** *Official Catholic Church teaching has nothing to say on the subject of abortion*

*15.* ***T*** *or F Eucharistic adoration is still recommended as a proper way to adore Christ*

*16.* ***T*** *or F The book that contains the readings for Mass is called the Lectionary*

*17. T or* ***F*** *The Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion is allowed only to minister the chalice containing the Precious Blood*

*18. T or* ***F*** *Only a priest can administer the Sacrament of Baptism*

*19.* ***T*** *or F Catholics believe in the “real presence” of Jesus in the Eucharist*

*20.* ***T*** *or F The term “paschal mystery” refers to the mystery of the death and resurrection of Jesus*

*[****Created by Deacon Dave and Thérèse Ream, O.F.S., July 2017, revised 10/21/17****]*

**Appendix**

What “In the world” is a Secular Franciscan (Word Doc) 38

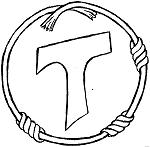
Pathway to Profession (PDF DOC) 39

Life Event Base Line (EXCEL Sheet) 40

Visitor Information Sheet (Word Doc) 41

Initial Formation Attendance Form (EXCEL Sheet) 44

To make copies for use it is best to copy these to your personal computer to format as best fits your software and Fraternity style. The Excel sheets on your software permits it to better fit an 8.5 X 11 page for printing.

****

# WHAT “IN THE WORLD” IS A SECULAR FRANCISCAN

Over 750 years ago, in the little town of Assisi Italy, a young man named Francis fell totally in love with God. He decided to take God at his Word and began to live completely and simply the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Francis did not intend to draw attention to himself. He did not want followers. He never dreamed of starting a movement. All Francis wanted was to give himself completely to God, to love people, and to help them love God.

God had other plans. People began to take notice of Francis and his way of life. They too began to want to live the Gospel life completely. So they asked Francis to help them. Some men wanted to live just as Francis did and they joined him as Brothers or Friars. Francis gave them a Way of Life and a name, the Friars Minor, by whom they are still known today. They are the First Order of St. Francis. Women also wanted to follow Francis’ footsteps. With St. Clare as the first, later to be joined by her sister and mother. Francis established a Second Order for women religious, also known as the Poor Clare’s, who live a cloistered life.

Lay people, men and women, single and married, young and old, from all walks of life also came to Francis to learn how they could live the Gospel and yet remain in the world. So Francis gave them a Rule of Life, too, and called them the Brothers and Sisters of Penance. They became the Third Order of St. Francis, today known as the Secular Franciscan Order.

The Third Order of St. Francis, the Secular Franciscan Order, is really and truly an Order, even though its members do not live in convents and friaries, or takes any special vows. By definition, an Order is a group of people who live publicly, commit themselves to follow a Way of Life, or Rule, which the Church has officially approved and recognized as being in conformity with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, as covering every aspect of human living in a healthy way, as producing great holiness in its members, and as providing special apostolic assistance to the Church and to the world. The Way of Life, which Secular Franciscans follow, has all of these qualities.

Each of the three Franciscan Orders has its own particular manner for carrying out Francis’ vision of Gospel living. Secular Franciscans remain in their secular state, pursuing their own careers, living in the world as witness to the holy Gospel. That is why the Secular Franciscan Order is not just another pious society, not just another apostolic group, and not just another fraternal organization. It is a Gospel group with our Lord Jesus Christ at its heart.

The Secular Franciscan Order is not for everyone. It is a vocation; a true calling from God and only those who have the signs of a genuine call by God are allowed to make a permanent commitment, or profession, in the Secular Franciscan Order. If you would like more information about the Secular Franciscans contact: (Insert your Fraternity name and phone number.)

A close up of a map

Description generated with very high confidence



**Visitor Information Sheet 1 of 3**

This information is to be obtained through ***dialogue*** and is ***NOT*** to be “filled out” by the interested person!

Name: **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

## Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name your Parish: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address of Parish: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How long active in this parish? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Family Information**

Are you married? \_\_\_\_\_\_ Date, city, church where you were married \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Spouse’s Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Names and ages of children \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If married; are you married in the eyes of the Catholic Church? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If divorced and remarried, do you have a copy of your Decree of Nullity? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Religious Formation**

Are you a practicing Catholic? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do you fully support the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Visitor Information Sheet 2 of 3**

How have you obtained a foundation in the Catholic religion? (Check all that apply)

Catholic schools \_\_\_\_\_

CCD Classes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

RCIA \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parish study classes \_\_\_\_\_

Religious studies and seminars \_\_\_\_\_

**Sacramental Information**

Name of the Catholic Church, and city, where you received the Sacrament of Baptism.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Where did you make your First Communion? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How frequently do you receive Holy Communion? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Where did you receive the Sacrament of First Penance? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How frequently do you receive the Sacrament of Penance? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Have you received the Sacrament of Confirmation? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name of the Church, city and date where you received the Sacrament of Confirmation?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How frequently do you attend Mass? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Secular Franciscan Order**

How did you learn about the Secular Franciscan Order?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Visitor Information Sheet 3 of 3**

What draws your interest to St Francis?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Are you willing and able are you to participate in the monthly formation and fraternity gatherings?

Is your family supportive of your decision to explore the possibility that you have a calling to the Secular Franciscan Order? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have spiritual or secular goals you feel you could be achieved through affiliation with the SFO?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been a member of another Religious Order or any other religious organization which required training and promises of personal commitment to that particular organization? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Are you active in your parish community? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Are you active in your local community? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What do you with your leisure time? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Future Information**

If you decide to continue this journey you will need, in the near future, to provide the following information.

* A copy of Baptism certificate, annotated with the sacrament dates of Eucharist, Confirmation, Matrimony, Holy Orders (If diocesan priest or deacon).
* Letters of references from your pastor or spiritual director and one other person (an active practicing Catholic) who can attest to your spiritual involvement.

**Comments** (Use back of form if necessary)

