

Is God calling you to walk in the footsteps of Francis?

The monthly fraternity meetings of the Secular Franciscan Order will provide you with the opportunities for common prayer, formation, and fellowship that will nourish you spiritually to live as a Christian in today's world.

If you are interested, you must be a practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church, be willing to accept that belonging to the OFS means a life-long commitment to the Franciscan way of life, and be at least 18 years of age.

There is a minimal period of six months exploring the OFS through discernment. If you are searching for a way to deepen your relationship with the Lord, and to give witness to the Kingdom of God, the Lord may be inviting you to consider a vocation as a Secular Franciscan.

Contact For Further Info

What's In It For You?

"We don't give you a statue of Saint Francis to Put In Your Garden!" But, we can offer you ...

A more personal relationship with Christ

Prayers and support of other members to help you cope with daily problems

A sense of community that has true meaning

A peaceful heart and a time to slow down daily pressures

A closer relationship with family and neighbours and a heart open to new graces.

An opportunity to work towards peace and reconciliation.

Blessing of St. Francis

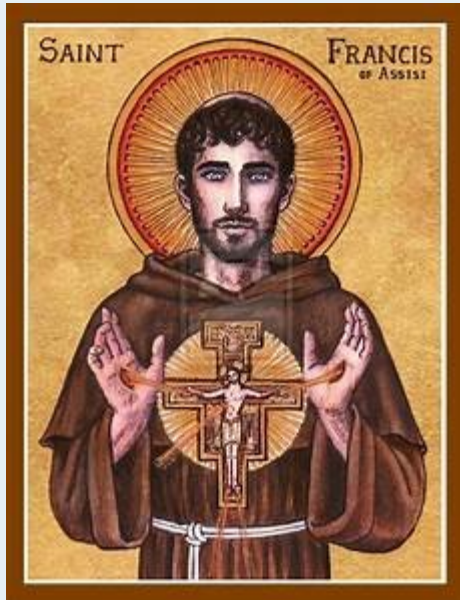
"May whoever observes all this be filled in Heaven with the blessing of the Most High Father, and on earth with that of His beloved Son, together with the Holy Spirit, the Comforter."

- 1226 AD



"It is in giving that we receive. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life."

Secular Franciscan Order



"The deeds you do may be the only sermon some people will hear today."

- St. Francis of Assisi



Who Was St. Francis?

St. Francis is one saint whom both Catholics and non-Catholics have united in honoring.

Francis heard the voice of Christ, who told him to repair the Christian Church and live a life of poverty. Consequently, he abandoned his life of luxury and became a devotee of the faith, his reputation spreading all over the Christian world.

Later in life, Francis reportedly received a vision that left him with the stigmata of Christ — marks resembling the wounds Jesus Christ suffered when he was crucified — making Francis the first person to receive such holy wounds. He was canonized as a saint on July 16, 1228.

What Does It Mean To Be Franciscan?

OFS members strive to live the Gospel in the manner of St. Francis by spreading the Gospel by word and example in their homes, at work, and in their parishes.

The Franciscan family is a community of men and women who wish to follow Christ, the Franciscan way. Within this large family, the Secular Franciscan Order brings together the laity, clerics, and men and women of all walks of life. They meet to pray, study the Word of God and Franciscan texts in order to transmit "the Gospel to life and life to the Gospel". Our Franciscan fraternities meet on a regular basis.

- National Fraternity



The Secular Franciscan Order
In 1209 Francis established the First Order of the Franciscan family (Order of Friars Minor) for men. Later, with Sister Clare of Assisi, he founded the Second Order (Poor Clares). And finally in 1221 he instituted the Third Order (Secular Franciscans) for men and women who were not able to leave their homes, families, or work. The Secular Franciscan Order is a community of men and women in the world, from all walks of life, who seek to pattern their lives after St. Francis, and through him, after Christ Jesus. It has been in existence for over 800 years. Today, it includes over 700,000 members worldwide,



Tau Cross—Symbol of the Franciscan Movement