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Franciscan vocation Brochure

Third Order of St. Francis

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The Franciscan Movement . . .

**what's
in it
for me?**

a lot...

because it can become a new way of real growth in the Christian life by really **knowing** and really **living** the Gospels.

The Franciscan movement for lay people was founded by St. Francis of Assisi. It came to be known as the Third Order of St. Francis. It has survived time and it has grown and flourished. It will continue to do so because it is built on the timelessness of Christ in the Gospels, the keystone, the solid foundation. Because of this, it too is timeless yet up-to-date.

It is for everyday Christian Catholic people who have a **spark** of desire to possess **light** where there was darkness.

One may hope that through Franciscan instruction in and the practice of the Gospel way of life, he or she may **burn** with the love of God, self, fellowman and nature . . . and to be reconciled with each as Francis was. To serve more completely in everyday life out of love as Francis did.

One need not be "holy" or close to beatification to enter such a course of instruction.

But one must at least have the **desire** to **know** and to **serve** God more fully.

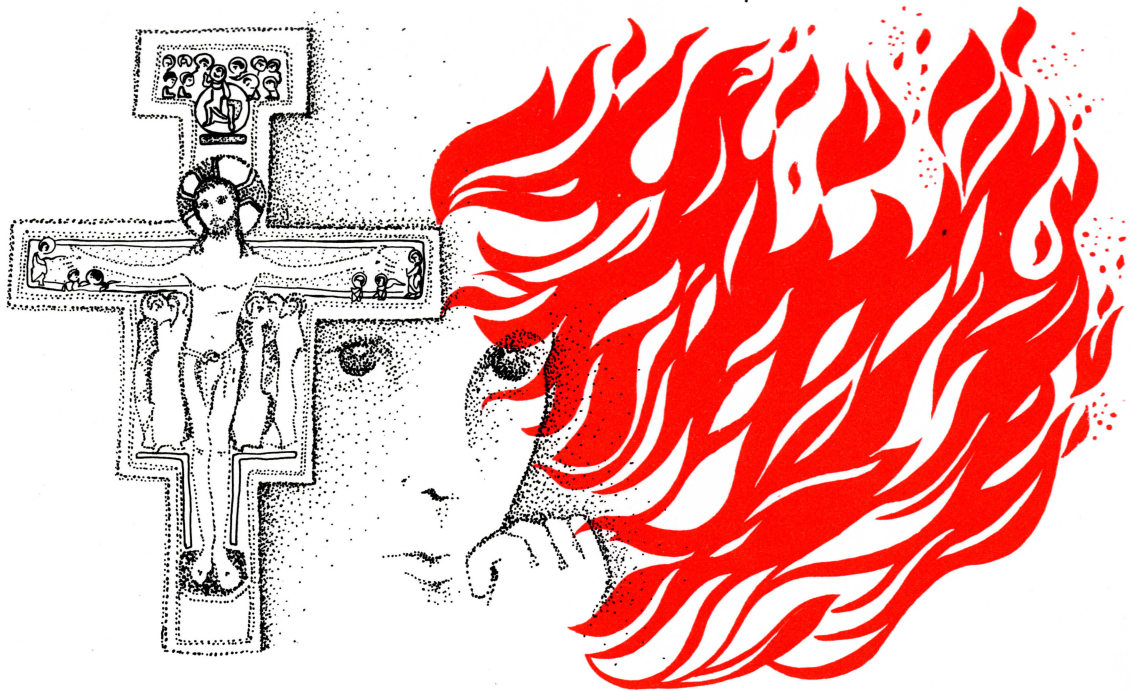
Each must be ready and willing to make some sacrifice of time and effort to attend

classes for instruction. And
to spend some time in study,
prayer and reflection. To be
prepared to **give** of self in serving.

Franciscans learn how to grow **to
be** with Jesus out of love

to grow **in becoming** a servant
with Jesus through the penance of
self-sacrifice

to grow **in being** one with Jesus
through the peace of
reconciliation and renewal.



The Peace Prayer of St. Francis states in part “. . . 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.”

Membership requirements are realistic and practical. With an honest effort average people should have little difficulty in meeting them.

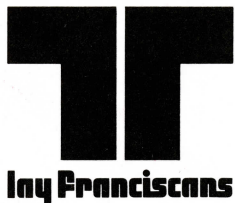
If you have this **spark** of desire, give it a chance to burst into a Christian **flame** of light — in the warmth of love. As Francis did.

“I am the light of the world,” says the Lord, “the man who follows me will have the light of life.” (John 8/12)

Francis reflected this light brilliantly. Other Franciscans try as they draw **closer to the fire**.

Your local community of Franciscans (Third Order of St. Francis) will be happy to provide you with further enlightenment.

So will the message of St. Francis.



*Know Christ—Bread of Life
Live Christ—Gift of Life
Join the Third Order*