

REGIONAL HANDBOOK: PROCEDURES

Annotated Bibliography of SFO Formation Texts

Peace and all good to you, our brothers and sisters of Brothers and Sisters of St. Francis Region!

Today God has blessed us with many Formation Texts that are available to us as Secular Franciscans. We, on the Formation Commission of the Brothers and Sisters of St. Francis Region, have attempted to develop an annotated bibliography of these texts in the hope that it will assist our local Formation Directors in the task of discerning which text(s) to use in their formation programs.

This packet contains the following materials:

1. "Checklist for Secular Franciscan Resource Materials", by Anne Mulqueen, SFO, National Formation Commission member
2. "General Comments Regarding Choosing Formation Texts and Ordering Materials", by Christine Washington, SFO, Formation Director, Brothers and Sisters of St. Francis Region
3. Bibliography of the following:

Initial Formation Texts:

- "Come and See", by Fr. Lester Bach, OFM Cap. & Teresa V. Baker, SFO
- "Imitating the Life of Francis", by Dorothy Henkes, SFO & Fr. Silas Baumann, OFM Cap
- "Catch Me A Rainbow Too", by Fr. Lester Bach, OFM Cap
- "Fully Mature With The Fullness of Christ", by Fr. Benet Fonck, OFM

Texts Devoted to the Secular Franciscan Rule:

- "Gospel Living Every Day of our Lives: A Formation Guide to the Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order", by Teresa Baker, SFO
- "Called to Follow Christ: A Commentary on the Secular Franciscan Rule by the National Assistants Commentary Commission", by Benet Fonck, OFM
- "Called to Proclaim Christ: Short Reflections on the SFO Rule", by Benet Fonck, OFM
- "Called to Live the Dynamic Power of the Gospel: Commentary on the Rule of the SFO", by Philip Marquard, OFM
- "From Gospel to Life: The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order with Commentary" by Benet Fonck, OFM

Ongoing Formation Texts:

- "St. Francis and the Foolishness of God", by Marie Dennis, Joseph Nangle, OFM, Cynthia Moe-Lobedo, Stuart Taylor
- "Through the Veil of Morning: An Inner Journey in the Pathways of Francis & Clare of Assisi", by Liam Francis Costello, OFM
- "Formation Digests", by NAFRA / USA
- "Called to Rebuild the Church: A Spiritual Commentary on the General Constitutions of the Secular Franciscan Order", by Fr. Lester Bach, OFM Cap
- "To Live As Francis Lived: A Guide for Secular Franciscans", by Leonard Foley, OFM, Jovian Wiegel, OFM, Pattie Normile, SFO

Formation Reference Texts:

- "Guidelines for Initial Formation in the Secular Franciscan Order of the United States", by the National Formation Commission of the National Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order
- "Elements of Formation: A Reflection On The Formation Process", by the Presidency of the International Council of the Secular Franciscan Order

The texts that we have reviewed are by no means exhaustive, especially regarding ongoing formation texts, but we hope that this is a start in the examination of some of the formation materials available.

We have presented in table format the material that is in each of these texts. Hopefully, by knowing what's in the texts, our local formation directors can choose formation texts that are the best "fit" for each of their particular fraternities.

May our precious Lord bless each and every one of us as we attempt to do His will in seeing to the formation needs of our brothers and sisters in our Secular Franciscan Order.

Pax et bonum!

Christine Washington, Formation Director, Brothers and Sisters of St. Francis Region
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