



Formation Resources

AN OVERVIEW

Objectives:

- Present important formation resources for selecting, preparing, and presenting formation
- Explain the purpose of the document, why it is valuable, and how it may be obtained.
- Reinforce the use of Formation Director's manual as the primary source for the formator's job

St. Francis

“Therefore, all my brother, let us be very much on our guard so that we do not lose or turn away our mind and heart from the Lord under the guise of achieving some reward or doing some work or providing some help...


St. Francis

...But in the holy love which is God, I beg all my brothers, both the ministers and the others, as they overcome every obstacle and put aside every care and anxiety, to strive as best they can to serve, love, honor, and adore the Lord God with a clean heart and a pure mind, for this is what He desires above all things.”

(Unconfirmed Rule of 1221, 22:25-26)




Introduction

- What is formation
 - Why do formation (motivation)
 - When to do formation (orientation, inquiry, candidacy, on-going)
 - How to do formation (method)
 - Tools, aids, forms, etc.
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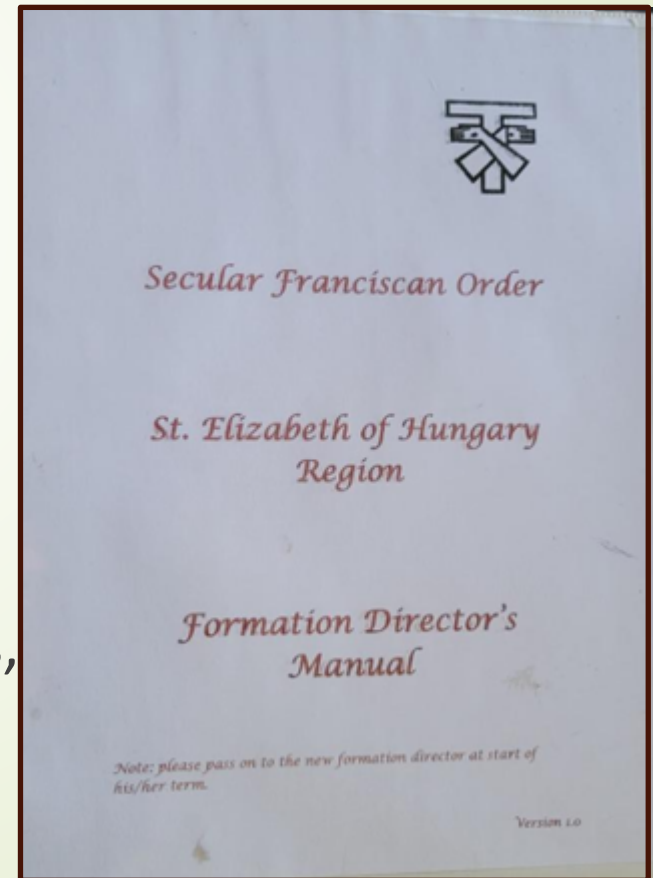


Primary Documents

- Formation Director's Manual
 - Supporting Documents
 - Guidelines for Initial Formation
 - Elements of Formation
 - Essential Documents of the Secular Franciscan Order
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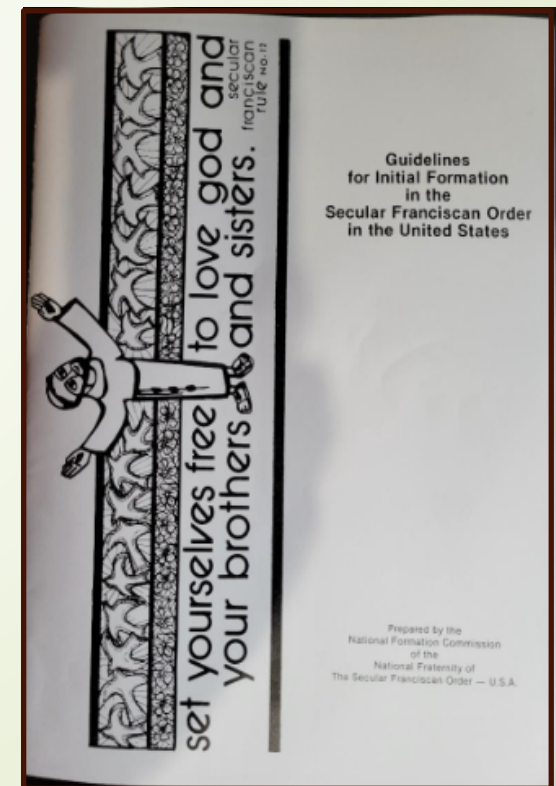
Formation Director's Manual

- Meaning of formation
- Initial formation process
 - timeline and milestones
 - forms and aids for gathering necessary information
 - discernment process
- On-going and newly professed formation
- Well organized, clear procedures, single source



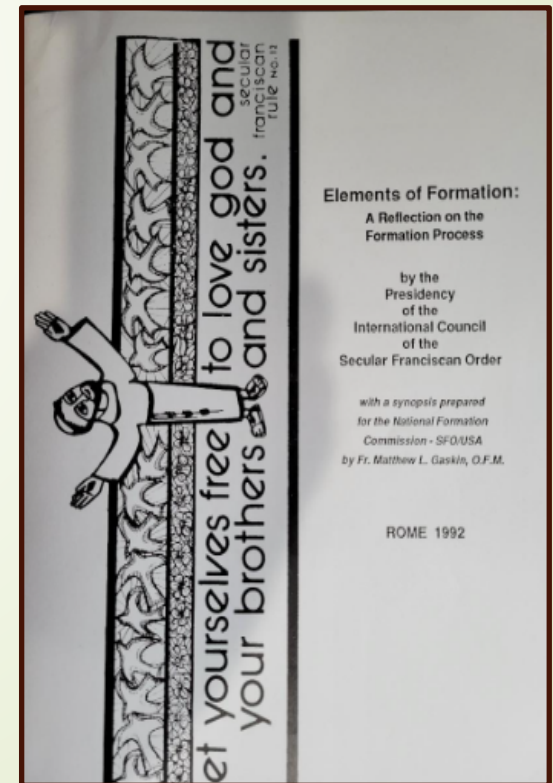
Guidelines for Initial Formation

- Result of the work by the International Council in response to requests for formation material based on the Pauline Rule
 - Importance of formation
 - Who's involved in formation
 - Phases of formation
 - Methods



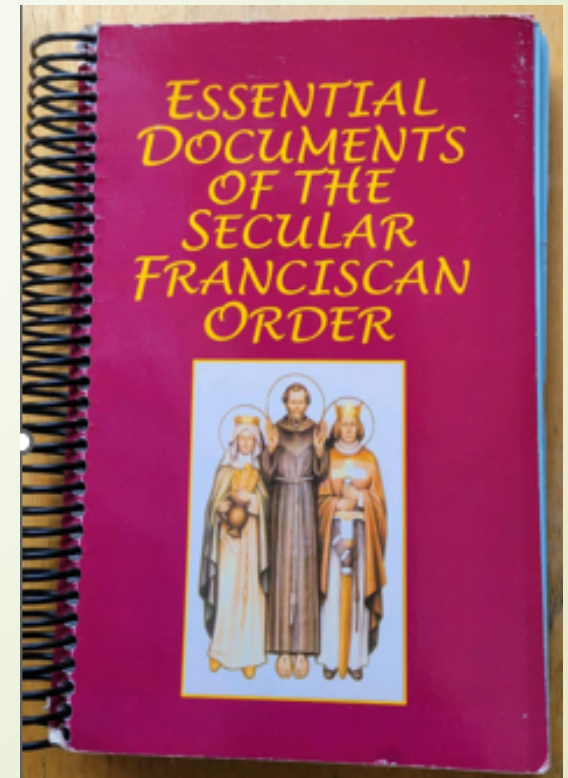
Elements of Formation

- Follow up and supplement to the Guidelines for Initial Formation
- This document stresses the **importance** and the **methods** of formation from the Human, Christian, and Franciscan dimension for
 - formators
 - inquirer/candidate's
 - professed



Essential Documents

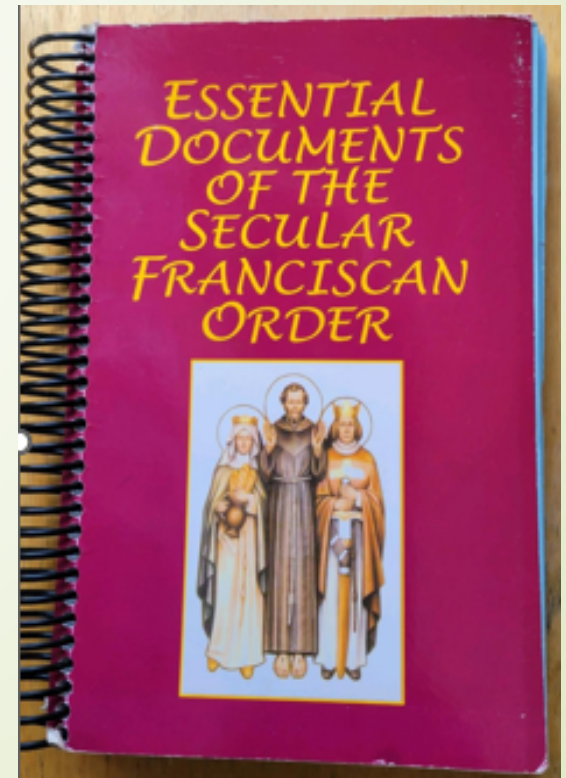
- Collection of documents necessary for the life of the Fraternity
 - Rule
 - Constitution
 - National and International Statutes
 - Ritual
 - Statutes for SA
- Rule, Constitution, and Statutes:
 - requirements for formation



Essential Documents

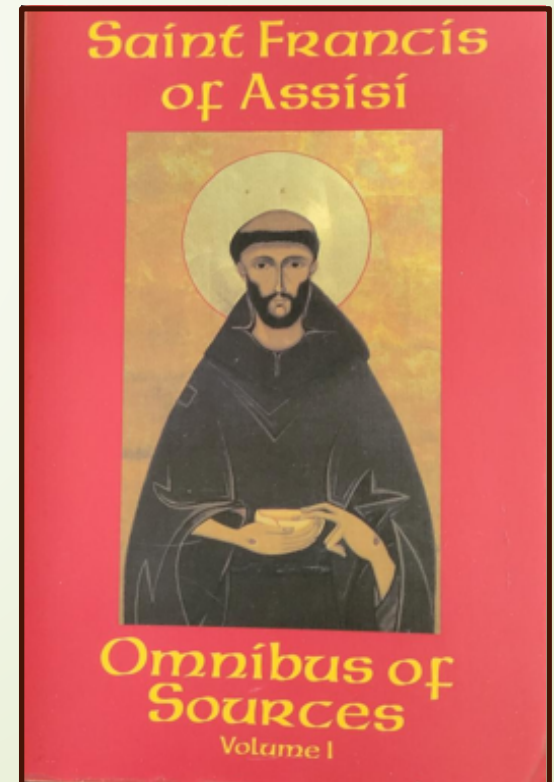
- Useful for formation topics:
 - Prayers and writings of St. Francis, etc.
 - On the Rule or on the Constitutions

- Of particular note:
 - Letter to SFO from Pope St. John Paul II
 - Fantastic Index



Omnibus of Sources

- Collection of writings
 - by St. Francis
 - by early authors who wrote about St. Francis
 - from early collections and manuscripts
- Useful for
 - highlighting a lesson
 - readings for prayer service or meditation
 - knowing the mind and heart of Francis

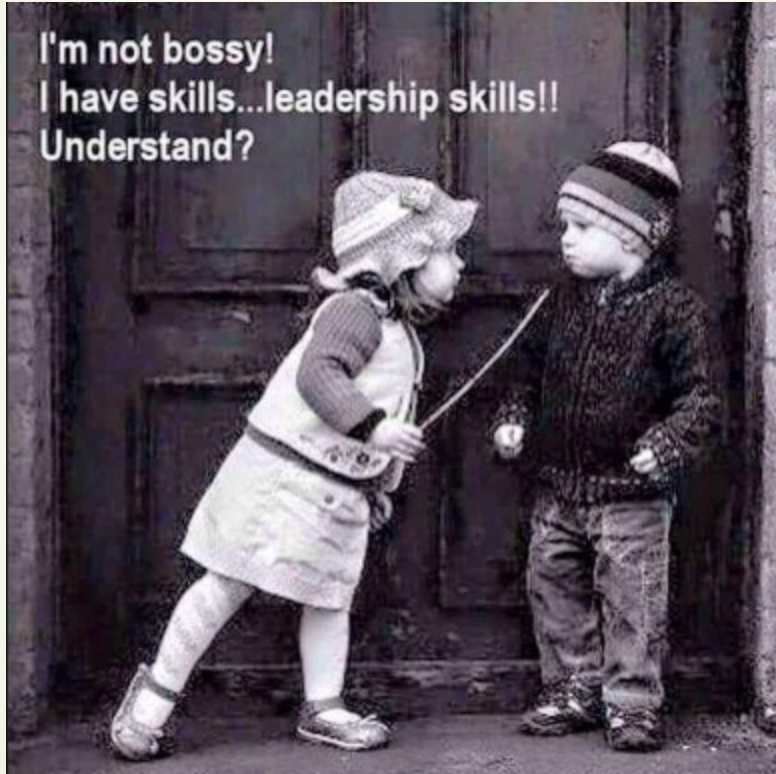


Profession in the SFO: Gift and Commitment

- Fr. Felice Cangelosi OFM Cap
- To know and understand what profession means so the candidate and professed may fully embrace and live their profession
 - what is the candidate professing
 - what is the candidate promising
 - what are the blessings
- Appropriate for the inquirers to understand the goal of formation
- Required for the candidate
- Appropriate for the professed to remind us of the lofty nature of our profession and to reignite zeal in living our Rule

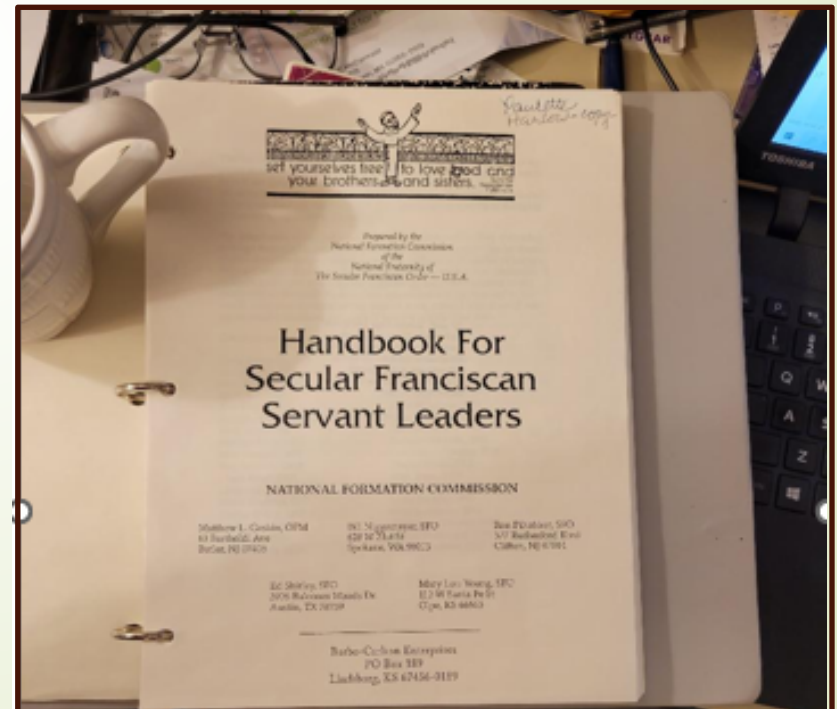



**I'm not bossy!
I have skills...leadership skills!!
Understand?**



Handbook for Servant Leaders

- For those who wish to improve their leadership skills
- Large group of contributors; friars and seculars
- Contents
 - Vision of Leadership
 - Series of Leader Guides
 - Practical Aids, (especially for formators)
 - Communicating
 - Listening
 - Responding
 - Engaging in Dialogue
 - Preparing Presentations





Animate and Guide with Servant Leadership (Working Document)

- Co-responsibility for the life of the fraternity
- Active collaboration for the animation of the fraternity
- About servant leadership, although, formation as number one priority, looms large in this document
 - what it means to be a servant leader in the Biblical and Franciscan sense
 - how to lead, i.e. best practices
 - characteristics and responsibilities of a servant leader
- For the Council but formation plays a critical role in preparing successful servant leaders



How to Acquire these Resources

- Formation Director's Manual: Smoky Valley Printing and Regional website
- Guidelines for Initial Formation : Smoky Valley Printing
- Elements of Formation : Smoky Valley Printing
- Essential Documents of the Secular Franciscan Order : Smoky Valley Printing
- Handbook for Servant Leaders: Smoky Valley Printing
- Profession in the SFO: Gift and Commitment, Fr. Felice Cangelosi OFM Cap: National website
- Animate and Guide with Servant Leadership: International website

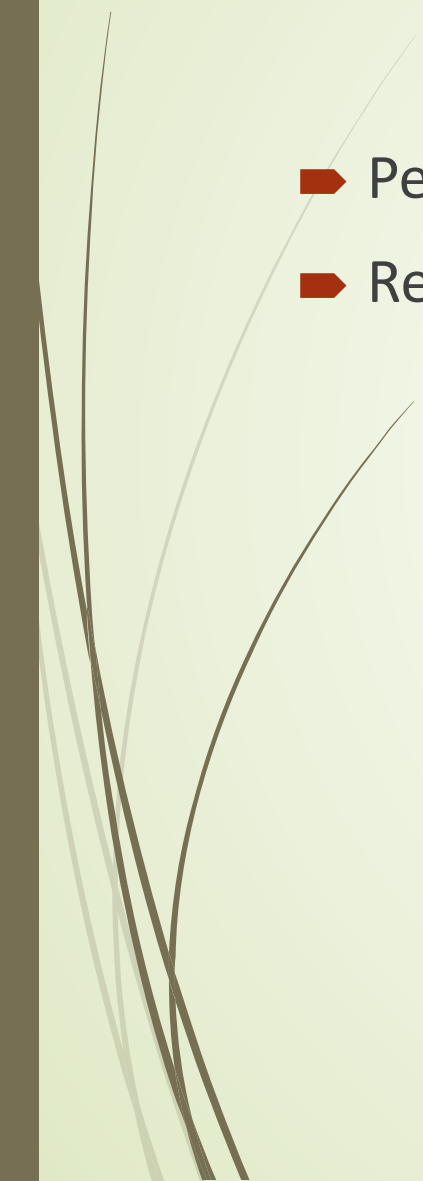


Other Resources

- For Up to Now (FUN): Regional website
- TAU and Herald (specific topics, long-term focus, etc.): National or Regional websites
- Regional Website (<https://stelizabethofs.org>)
- National Website (<https://secularfranciscansusa.org>)
- International Website (<https://ciofs.info>)



People resources

- ▶ Per-District Regional Formation Team Member
 - ▶ Region-wide resource: Regional Formation Director
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Methodology

- Adult Education Practices

- “Principle of Adult Learning” by Stephen Lieb

Summary

- ▶ Resource Materials
 - ▶ Comprehensive set of tools and resources for your job as a formation team member
 - ▶ Thorough background in Scripture, Franciscan writings, adult learning methodologies
 - ▶ Tools that help us help brothers and sisters on their journey to discover their vocation and embrace it