

A Guide for *Rite of Admission* Request Letter

_____ (date)

Dear _____,

The Lord give you peace!

As Formation Director of _____ Fraternity, _____, Illinois, I am asking you to prayerfully consider if you believe that you are being called to live the Secular Franciscan Way of Life. This is a life long commitment which needs to be lived out in Fraternity. That is why the monthly Gatherings and your Formation Sessions with some of the Formation team are so vital.

If you feel called at this time to enter into the next step of the process, you would write a letter to the Minister of the Fraternity, _____, O.F.S. and ask to be admitted to Candidacy. This takes place during the *Rite of Admission* which can be found in the *Ritual of the Secular Franciscan Order* (brown book) pages 11 to 17. If you feel called, you write the letter and the Council reviews your petition. If your petition is accepted, we are probably talking about the *Rite of Admission* happening on _____.

Your letter should include the following elements: a) the request and the will to experience the Gospel life, like Francis of Assisi; and b) having in mind that the request is related to a possible future commitment to live this way of life, with the help of a fraternity, in communion and harmony with the whole Franciscan Family. Formation is vital in this process which includes Initial Formation, formation during the monthly Gatherings and a period of special formation for the newly professed.

The letter does not need to be long, but should include your thoughts about the Secular Franciscan Way of Life and the possibility of you making a commitment to this way of life.

I will be happy to review your letter and give you any feedback that I think would be helpful. Then, you can send your letter to the Minister.

If you decide that this is the time to ask to be admitted as a Candidate, then in addition to your letter I will have a ***Rite of Admission* Form** for you to sign which verifies your willingness to enter into a deeper study of our way of life.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me.

Peace and blessings,

_____, O.F.S. (Formation Director)