**FUN Manual Outline**

**Suggestions:**
- You may want to tab the different sections.
- Add a Table of Contents, 10 pages, nafrafoundation.org.
- Follow the advice of our late National Minster, Deacon Tom Bello, O.F.S., “…Receive this document whose facilitator you are. Believe what you read. Teach what you believe. Live what you teach!” Tom also suggests to “never open this manual without bringing it to prayer.” [For Up to Now intro p. 14]

**Development:**
- General Chapter, 2002, Formation was 1st & highest of 5 priorities.
- 2002 – 2008 work on strong and complete formation for the Order.
- 2006 & 2007, 2 International Workshops for National Formators were held.
- 2008, CIOFS *Forming the Formators Manual* given to National Formation Directors with the instructions to adapt it for their own country.
- 2009 – 2011, National Formation Commission works to adapt the *Forming the Formators Manual* into a topical text for the National Fraternity.
- General Chapter, 2011, mandates the use of O.F.S.
- “The Conclusions of all Chapters are binding for the Presidency but also, and perhaps even more, for all the Fraternities of the whole world at all levels and for each and every Secular Franciscan.” [For Up to Now intro p. 13]

**Foundational Formation Topics** [For Up to Now intro pp. 5 & 6]

**Guidelines for Initial Formation/FUN** [For the Formator pp. 6 & 7]

Biographies of St. Francis of Assisi like:
- *St. Francis of Assisi: A Biography* by Omer Englebert
- *The Poverello St. Francis of Assisi* by Mark Hegener
- *Saint Francis of Assisi* by John H. Moorman
- *Francis of Assisi: A new Biography* by Augustine Thompson, O.P.

**Agents of Formation:** [For the Formator p. 8]
- The Holy Spirit
- The person to be formed
- The Fraternity
- The Council & Minister
- The Formator (Director) & Team
- The Spiritual Assistant

**Needed resources:** [For the Formator p. 9]

Item #6 of the list of resources: should be “Elements of Formation” instead of “Initial.”
Pathway to Profession, colorized on CD, [For the Formator pp. 11 – 25]

Initial Interview (dialogue NOT take home)

Required documentation (finished by early Inquiry)

Faith Inventory

Interviews during formation: Guidelines, 7 pages, not comfortable with inquirer filling out an “application”; Interview 2 pages, on CD For the Formator p. 20

Focused Discernment “The Inquirer is highly encouraged to:
- attend a Day of Recollection or Retreat
- spend time in prayer
- speak with the Spiritual Assistant and other members of the fraternity for spiritual direction to aid in their discernment.” [For the Formator p. 19]

Approval by Council: [4 choices]: [For the Formator p. 24]
1) Recommend Profession
2) Recommend delay of Profession
3) Temporary Profession
4) Denial of Profession

What Is Formation? [What is Formation p. 3]
A few suggestions to guide formation:
- Gather materials prior to session
- Determine goals & objectives
- Observe participants carefully
- Consider differences
- Arrange & outline your points
- Be thoroughly prepared and know your subject

Involving those being formed in the process [What is Formation p. 19]
Adult Learners
Varied Resources: guest speakers, audio, DVD, handouts, articles, activities, etc. [What is Formation p. 21]
Topics:

Basic Catholic Doctrine
   Digest #141 – Christ the Center: The Franciscan Image Of Christ

Elements of Ecclesiology and Theology of the Laity

The Franciscan Family, A Brief Introduction
   Tau p. 9
   San Damiano Cross p. 10

Vocation – God’s Call
   Called to the Secular Franciscan Order? The 10 signs are taken from Come and See NOT The Franciscan Journey p. 12

Our Identity as a Secular Franciscan
   Our present Rule was approved by Pope Paul VI on June 24, 1978, not August p. 15

The Nature of the Secular Franciscan Order
   Good comparison of A Third Order and the O.F.S. p. 12
   Appendix 1 – Public Associations p. 15
   Appendix 2 – Structure of the O.F.S. p. 18

The Vocation, Charism & Mission of Secular Franciscans
   “Entering into a ‘form of life’ such as the Franciscan form of life is not just one of the many ‘optional’ decisions we make in our lives. It is the result of a very precise call of God to become Franciscan with a very precise purpose.” (Benedetto Lino, O.F.S. p. 3)

Franciscan Movement colorized on CD, 3 pp. of drawings, 3 pp. of explanation
   Lifeline of Francis and personal lifeline p. 3 – 9
   Closing prayer adapted from this section p. 10
   Digest #101 – Francis of Assisi: Spiritual Father And Guide

The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order
   Lectio Divina, p. 13, on CD
   “Silent” & “Listen” contain the same letters p. 18
   Some direct quotes are really cf.
   The 3 Volumes of Francis are referenced
   CCC = Catechism of the Catholic Church p. 36
   Need a copy of the Beatitudes p. 36
   Digest #131 – Prayer: The Soul Of All We Secular Franciscan Are And Do

Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation
   JPIC, not JIPC p. 3
   CST – Catholic Social Teaching, not SCT p. 3
   Good websites p. 14
   List of Suggested Readings p. 17
   Clare, not Claire; Meditate, not Mediate p. 25
   Theological Reflection p. 26 – 27
   Digests #161 – Make Me An Instrument Of Your Peace; #171 – In Praise Of All Creation;
   #181 – Franciscan Spirituality And Work
St. Francis and His Approach to Divinity

Understanding Franciscan Theology, Tradition & Spirituality

Need a hand mirror p. 20
Need a crucifix p. 21
Lectio Divina vs. Mirror of Perfection p. 23
Visual Meditation pp. 26 – 29, colorized on CD

Profession

. . . “the Holy Spirit is called down upon those to be professed during the ceremony. Yes, it is the local Minister who calls down the powerful presence of the Spirit upon the assembly. It’s not just a nice, passive hope that the Spirit will grace us with its presence, but a command that the Spirit be present at this moment to sanctify and consecrate the person about to be professed in the Order.” p. 4
Excellent points on which to reflect p. 16 – 18

Penitence and Conversion

Fraternity and Francis

Francis and the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Franciscan Crown p. 10
Little Office of the Blessed Virgin, around 700’s p. 10
Office of the Passion p. 11
Portiuncula; need a copy of the Magnificat p. 13
Bibliography, 3 Volumes of Francis, New City Press p. 16
Digest #151 – Mary: Mother And Model

St. Clare of Assisi

Replace pp. 7 – 8; p. 7 had Francis’ death as 1230 instead of 1226
For a list of PC monasteries by states go to: poorclare.org p. 18
Replace pp. 21 – 22; p. 21 dropped the header
Digest #121 – Clare of Assisi: A Mother And Model For All Franciscans

A Brief History of the O.F.S. and Its Rules

Replace entire section nafraformation.org
“Formation Commission is active at all levels of fraternity.” p. 27
Conference was held at Teutopolis, IL p. 28
Digest #191 – A Franciscan Vision of Youth and Young Adults in the U.S.

Index FUN Manual, 16 pages, nafraformation.org
Index of each Topic, varying pages, nafraformation.org

[Designed by Deacon Dave & Thérèse Ream, O.F.S., Revised July 2017]