**Journey to Profession**

[GC = *General Constitutions; NS = National Statutes*]

### First Contacts

**Introduction to the O.F.S.**

Initial Interview [Conversation] and (Faith Inventory)

### Orientation

**Not less than 3 months** [NS, #19.1.a]

Formation Methodology [Process]

Initial Discernment [eligibility, NS #19.2.d]

### Ceremony of Welcoming

Initial Formation Begins

Sponsor Assigned [Duties of an Inquirer/Candidate Sponsor]

### Inquiry

**Not less than 6 months** [NS, #19.2.a]

Admission Inventory

[Documentation from the Initial Interview]

Focused Discernment

Interviews

[2: 1 by Spiritual Assistant & 1 by a Council Member]

Request for Admission

[to the Minister & written, GC, #39.1; and sign an official request]

Approval by Council

[formal answer to the Inquirer and communicate this to the Fraternity, GC #39.3]

A biography of St. Francis
Rite of Admission
[presentation of The Rule and the Tau]
Registered and preserved in the Fraternity’s Records [GC, #39.4]

Candidacy

Not less than 18 months, not more than 36 months [NS, #19.2.b]
Content [GC, #40.2; FUN, For the Formator, p. 7 of 26]
Focused Discernment
Interviews [2: 1 by Spiritual Assistant & 1 by a Council Member]
Request for Profession [written to the Minister, GC, #41.1]
Approval by Council [secret ballot; formal answer to Candidate & communicated to the Fraternity, GC #41.1]

Temporary Profession [GC #42.2; NS #19.3.a & b]

Rite of Profession
[presentation of the Holy Gospels & Crucifix; optional is lighted candle &/or Franciscan ring]
Registered and preserved in the Fraternity’s Records [GC #42.5]

Newly Professed [The Fraternity has the duty to give special attention to the formation of the newly professed and of the temporarily professed, to help them become fully mature in their vocation and develop a true sense of belonging. GC #44.2]

[Designed by Deacon Dave & Thérèse Ream, O.F.S., July 2016, Revised July 2017]