

Annotated Bibliography of Secular Franciscan Formation Texts

Some Suggested Formation Materials based on the: *Annotated Bibliography of SFO Formation Texts.* This is by no means a complete list of Franciscan Sources available, but does reflect some of the newer resources being made available either in new materials or in English translations of older sources. -NAFRA

Initial Formation Texts:

Orientation

- ✚ *"For Up to Now"* National Formation Commission, NAFRA May 2011
- ✚ *"The Franciscan Journey"* by Fr. Lester Bach, OFM Cap, 2010
- ✚ *"Come and See"*, by Fr. Lester Bach, OFM Cap. & Teresa V. Baker, SFO

Inquiry and Candidacy

- ✚ *"For Up to Now"* National Formation Commission, NAFRA May 2011
- ✚ *"The Franciscan Journey"* by Fr. Lester Bach, OFM Cap, 2010

- ✚ *"Come and See"*, by Fr. Lester Bach, OFM Cap. & Teresa V. Baker, SFO

- *"Catch Me A Rainbow Too"*, by Fr. Lester Bach, OFM Cap (out of print)
- *"Fully Mature With The Fullness of Christ"*, by Fr. Benet Fonck, OFM

Ongoing Formation Texts:

- *"Gospel Living Every Day of our Lives: A Formation Guide to the Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order"*, by Teresa Baker, SFO

- *"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

- *"To Live As Francis Lived: A Guide for Secular Franciscans"*, by Leonard Foley, OFM, Jovian Wiegel, OFM, Pattie Normile, SFO

- *"To Set Themselves Free, A Continuous Guide to the Life and Rule of The Secular Franciscans"* by Teresa Baker SFO (2005)

- *"Pick More Daisies, On going Formation for Secular Franciscans"*, by Lester Bach OFM Cap (2004) This text looks at our Rule while coordinating it with the General Constitutions and Statutes of the Secular Franciscan Order.

- *"Formation Digests"*, by NAFRA / USA

Secular Franciscan Resource Library -- 6 volumes

1. *"Called to Follow Christ: A Commentary on the Secular Franciscan Rule by the National Assistants Commentary Commission"*, by Benet Fonck, OFM
2. *"Called to Rebuild the Church: A Spiritual Commentary on the General Constitutions of the Secular Franciscan Order"*, by Fr. Lester Bach, OFM Cap
3. *"Called to Live the Dynamic Power of the Gospel: Commentary on the Rule of the SFO"*, By Philip Marquard, OFM
4. *"Called to Proclaim Christ: Short Reflections on the SFO Rule"*, by Benet Fonck, OFM
5. *"Called to Make Present the Charism"* by Benet Fonck OFM, editor
6. *"Called to Build a More Fraternal and Evangelical World, A Concordance to the SFO Rule"* by Benet Fonck OFM

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
- Formation Reference Manual, NAFRA-NFC, requires Adobe Reader -- available as free download at: <http://www.nafraformation.org>
- Handbook for Regional Formation Directors, NAFRA-NFC
Download at: www.nafraformation.org

Other Basic Texts Devoted to St Francis, the Secular Franciscan Rule and Franciscan Life:

- *"Francis of Assisi, Early Documents"* This is pretty much an updated and expanded Omnibus in 4 volumes: ed Regis Armstrong OFM Cap, J.A. Wayne Hellman OFM Conv, William Short OFM
 - *The Saint* (1999)
 - *The Founder* (2000)
 - *The Prophet* (2001)
 - *Index*

- *“The Way of St. Francis, The Challenge of Franciscan Spirituality for Everyone”* by Murray Bodo OFM (1995)
- *“Clare, A Light in the Garden”* by Murray Bodo (1992)
- *“Tales of St. Francis, Ancient Stories for Contemporary Living”* Murray Bodo OFM (1998)
- *“Praying with Francis of Assisi”* Joseph Stoutzenberger and John Bohrer. From the Companions for the Journey series, this edition explores many of our Franciscan Charisms. (1989)
- *“Praying with Clare of Assisi”* Ramona Miller OSF and Ingrid Peterson OSF. From the Companions for the Journey series, this edition explores the wisdom and spirituality of St. Clare (1994)
- *“Francis and Clare, the Complete Works”* by Regis Armstrong OFM and Ignatius Brady OFM (1982)
- *“Clare of Assisi, Early Documents”* Regis Armstrong OFM (1988)
- *“From Gospel to Life: The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order with Commentary”* by Benet Fonck, OFM
- *“To Set Themselves Free, A Continuous Guide to the Life and Rule of The Secular Franciscans”* by Teresa Baker SFO (2005)
- *“Pick More Daisies, On going Formation for Secular Franciscans”*, by Lester Bach OFM Cap (2004) This text looks at our Rule while coordinating it with the General Constitutions and Statutes of the Secular Franciscan Order.

Several newer books on the Life of Francis

- *“Francis, A Saint’s Way”* James Cowen, Ligouri (2001)
- *“The Passionate Troubadour, a Medieval Novel about Francis of Assisi”* Edward Hays, Forest of Peace, 2004. A totally captivating read, in true Ed Hays mode, this novel will immerse you into the world of Francis as you journey along the road.

Franciscan Tradition:

- *“Greening the Franciscan Tradition”* article The Way of St. Francis, Sept-Oct 2005, Vol 11 Number 5, pages 18-31 If you have high speed internet somewhere in your fraternity, I can email you this article or you can contact The Way for a download link.

- *“The Humility of God, A Franciscan Perspective”* Iliia Delio OSF, St Anthony Messenger Press, 2005
- *“Franciscan Prayer”* Iliia Delio OSF, St Anthony Messenger Press
- *“Simply Bonaventure, An Introduction to his Life, Thought and Writings”* Iliia Delio OSF, New City Press, 2nd printing 2003
- *“Scotus for Dunces, An Introduction to the Subtle Doctor”* Mary Beth Ingham CSJ, Franciscan Institute, 2003
- *“Care for Creation: A Franciscan Spirituality of the Earth” (Paperback)* by [Iliia Delio](#) (Author), [Keith Douglass Warner](#) (Author), [Pamela Wood](#) (Author)

Franciscan Institute Heritage Series

[Heritage Series Volume 1](#) -- Vol. 1: *The Franciscan Intellectual Tradition: Tracing its Origins and Identifying its Central Components*; by Kenan B. Osborne, O.F.M.; Franciscan Institute, St. Bonaventure University, 2003 - \$5.00.

- Historical Overview—30 C.E. to 1300 C.E.
- The Philosophical World of Aristotle
- The Gradual Development of the Franciscan Intellectual Tradition
- Distinctive Features of the Franciscan Intellectual Tradition

[Heritage Series Volume 2](#) -- Vol. 2: *A Franciscan View of Creation: Learning to Live in a Sacramental World*; by Iliia Delio, O.S.F.; Franciscan Institute, St. Bonaventure University, 2003 - \$5.00

- Francis of Assisi: Creation as Brother/Sister
- Bonaventure’s Theology of Creation
- John Duns Scotus’ Theology of Creation
- Conclusion: What is Ours to Do?

[Heritage Series Volume 3](#) -- Vol. 3: *The Franciscan View of the Human Person: Some Central Elements*; by Dawn M. Nothwehr, O.S.F.; Franciscan Institute, St. Bonaventure University, 2005 - \$5.00

- Humans—Creatures Beloved of God in Christ: Some Central Elements in Francis and Clare
- Humans—Mediators of God: Some Central Elements in Bonaventure
- Humans—Uniquely God’s in Mutual Relationships: John Duns Scotus

[Heritage Series Volume 4](#) -- **Vol. 4: *The Franciscan Vision and the Gospel of John: The San Damiano Cross, Francis and John, Creation and John*** by Michael Guinan, OFM, Franciscan Institute, St. Bonaventure University, 2006 - \$7.50. CDRom PowerPoint presentation of the San Damiano Cross is included.

[Heritage Series Volume 5](#) – ***Trinitarian Perspectives in the Franciscan Theological Tradition*** by Maria Calisi. 2008 -- Explores Our Franciscan understanding of the Trinity through both St Francis Writings and in the writings of St Bonaventure.

[Heritage Series Volume 6](#) – ***Rejoicing in the Works of the Lord: Beauty in the Franciscan Tradition*** by Mary Beth Ingham, CSJ, 2009 -- Explores Our Franciscan understanding of the beauty in our approach to creation and life.

[Heritage Series Volume 7](#) – ***Women of the Streets: Early Franciscan Women and their Mendicant Vocation*** by Darleen Pryds, 2010 -- Explores the stories about the early women of the Franciscan Family .

To *order* volumes in this series or other materials, contact the distributor: [Franciscan Institute Publications at St. Bonaventure University](#) or e-mail franinst@sbu.edu

Additional resources in Franciscan Spiritual Tradition and Critical Texts

- ***“Franciscan Prayer”*** Ila Delio OSF, St Anthony Messenger Press
- ***“Crucified Love: Bonaventure’s Mysticism of the Crucified Christ”*** Ila Delio OSF, Studies in Franciscanism, 1998 Franciscan Press
- ***“Clare of Assisi, A Heart Full of Love”*** Ila Delio OSF, St. Anthony Messenger Press 2007
- ***“Finding Francis, Following Christ”*** Michael H. Crosby OFM Cap. Orbis Books, 2007

- **Critical Texts**

- ***“The Misadventure of Francis of Assisi”*** Jacques Dalarun, Franciscan Institute Publications, 2002
- ***“Francis of Assisi in the Sources and Writings”*** Roberto Rusconi, Franciscan Institute Publications, 2008

- ***“St. Francis of Assisi”*** Raoul Manselli, Franciscan Herald Press, 1988
- ***“Francis of Assisi, writer and Spiritual Master”*** Thaddee Matura OFM, St. Anthony Messenger Press, 2005
- ***“Francis of Assisi, the Message in His Writings”*** Thaddee Matura OFM, Franciscan Institute Publications, 2004
- ***“15 Days of Prayer with Saint Francis of Assisi”*** Thaddee Matura OFM, New City Press, 2009
- ***“St. Francis and the Third Order”*** Raffaele Pazelli TOR, Franciscan Herald Press, 1982
- ***“Living the Gospel, The Spirituality of St Francis and St Clare”*** Helen Julian CSF, The Bible Reading Fellowship, 2001
- ***“Clare’s Letters to Agnes – text and sources”*** Joan Mueller, OSF, The Franciscan Institute, St. Bonaventure University, 2001
- ***“St. Clare – beyond the Legend”*** Marco Bartoli, St. Anthony Messenger Press, English @ 2010
- ***“Franciscan Christology”*** edited by Damian McElrath, The Franciscan Institute, St. Bonaventure University, reprinted 1994
- ***“The History of Franciscan Theology”*** edited by Kenan B. Osborne, OFM, The Franciscan Institute, St. Bonaventure University, 2007
- ***“The Franciscan Tradition, Spirituality in History”*** Regis Armstrong, OFM Cap and Ingrid Peterson, OSF Liturgical Press, 2010
- ***“In the Footsteps of Francis and Clare”*** Roch Niemier, OFM St Anthony Messenger Press, 2006