

Journeying with Secular Franciscans

Learning to live the gospel in the spirit of St. Francis, can also be experienced through journeying with a fraternity of Secular Franciscans. The Order of Franciscan Seculars, previously known as the Third Order Franciscans, is a community of lay people from all walks of life who strive to live the gospel in the spirit of Francis in everyday life. The Franciscan Order for the laity was founded by St. Francis in the 13th Century, and has continued down through time. Secular Franciscans gather for meetings on a monthly basis to pray the Divine Office, partake in ongoing spiritual formation and share the journey in Franciscan way of life.

Fraternities are located in these areas:

- Vancouver
- Richmond
- Coquitlam
- North Delta
- Maple Ridge
- Chilliwack
- Victoria (Vancouver Island)

For further information please contact:

The Peace Prayer of Saint Francis

"O Lord, make me an instrument of
Thy Peace!

Where there is hatred, let me sow
love.

Where there is injury, pardon.
Where there is discord, harmony.

Where there is doubt, faith.
Where there is despair, hope.
Where there is darkness, light.
Where there is sorrow, joy.

Oh Divine Master, grant that I may
not
so much seek to be consoled as to
console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love;
for it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are
pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to
Eternal Life."



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FRIENDS OF ST. FRANCIS



**Living the Gospel in
everyday life**

DISCERNING YOUR CALL

St. Francis of Assisi, recognized for his great peacemaking and patron saint for the environment, has touched the lives of many down through the ages. Popes, priests, paupers and ordinary people, young and old, have been inspired by his life and message.

From his first encounter with the living Christ, in a small run down chapel of San Damiano, Italy, he made Christ his inspiration, source and summit of his life. Abandoning his worldly ambition for fame and fortune, he would instead direct his focus on following the footsteps on Jesus in like manner of how he lived his earthly life. A spirit of humility and simple lifestyle, dedicated to sharing the good news of the gospel, bearing Christ's love and peace to all.

Christ's invitation to St. Francis, 'go and rebuild my Church which you see is falling into ruins', continues to resonate through time. A need to repair and restore humanity to its best. As St. Francis re-visioned life's purpose through moments of quiet solitude and prayer; kinship to all humanity and creation

St. Francis way of life attracted others who wanted to experience living the gospel as he did. For this purpose, he founded the Franciscan Order for both religious and ordinary people who wanted to follow his way of life and mission in everyday life. Today, we too, can experience living fully, life in God's plan through following the footsteps of St. Francis.

Christian stewardship is the grateful response of a Christian disciple who recognizes and receives God's gifts and shares those gifts in love of God and neighbor.

Key aspects of a Franciscan Way of Life

- A desire to learn and grow as a disciple of Christ.
- To live the Gospel in everyday life.
- To be an instrument of peace and to bear God's love to the world.
- To live in full communion with the Catholic Church
- Life in communion with God, through prayer and communion with others, through concern and service to those in need.
- Stewardship of all God's creation; respecting that all is gift from God and made for the benefit of all.
- Upholding the dignity of all human life and justice for the poor and marginalized.

FRIENDS OF ST. FRANCIS

An informal group of youths, men and women who meet once a month to focus on different aspects of the Franciscan way of life, and determine ways of cultivating gospel living under the guidance of a Franciscan animator.

For further information please contact:

Meeting Time: _____

Meeting Place: _____



TAKING TIME FOR SUNSETS

Taking time for sunrise and sunsets; to enjoy God's created world, in all its natural beauty that surrounds us.