

# How to build our Fraternity

[The work of the whole  
Fraternity.]

# SFO Rule Article 4

The rule and life of the  
Secular Franciscan is this:

To observe the gospel of our Lord Jesus  
Christ  
by following the example of St. Francis of  
Assisi,  
who made Christ the inspiration  
and the center of his life  
with God and people.

Franciscans are called to live  
a gospel life.

HOW?

As SFO, we help one another and find the best way to live as one united family.



We follow the example of St. Francis by  
praying for one another.



As Franciscans we are called to  
help one another.



Community life in fraternity strengthens  
Franciscans to be faithful,  
to be one united family.



The SFO is NOT a devotional society.

When we gather together, part of our gift to one another is dialogue about how to better influence the world - at work, in politics, working for justice, bringing about equality for all people, etc.



As gospel people we walk with sinners and outcasts because we too are sinners and outcasts.



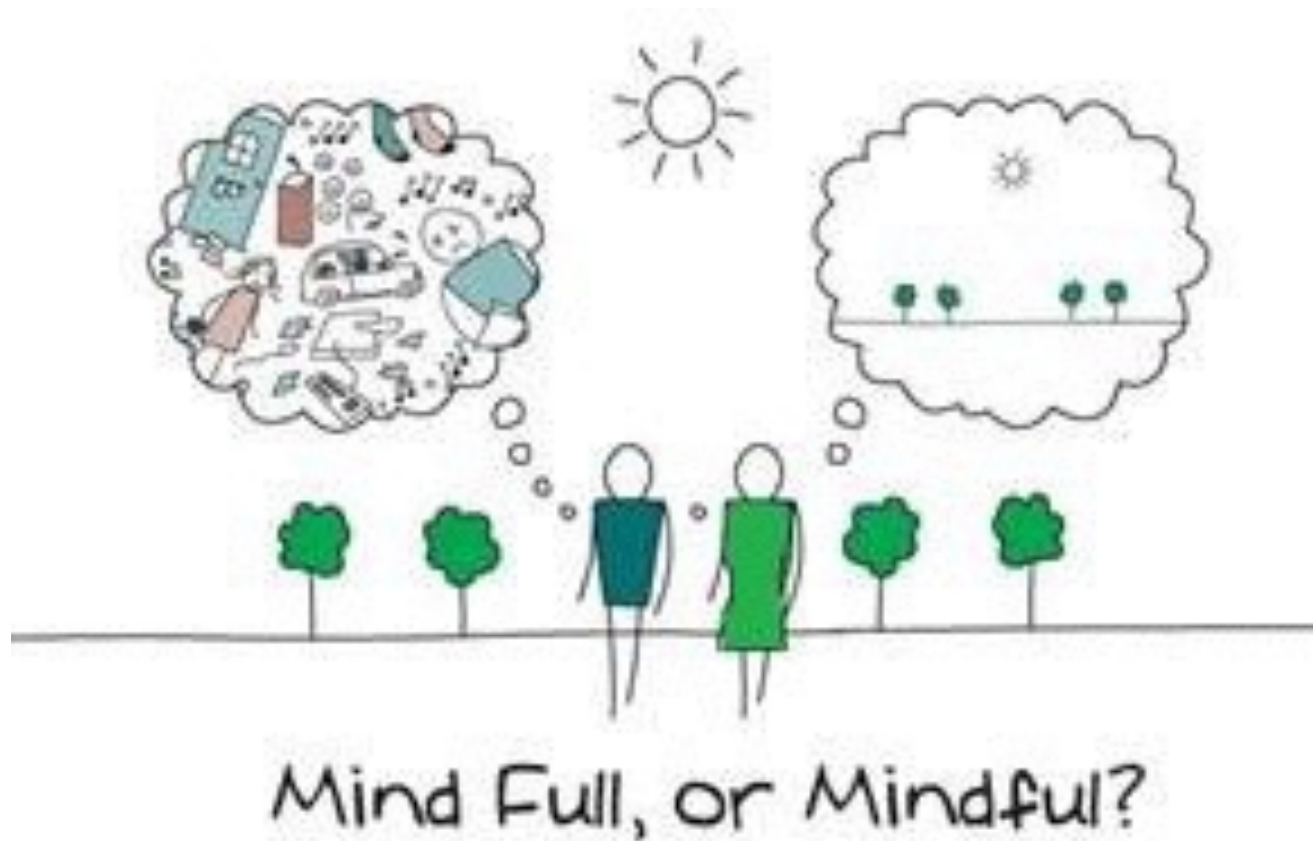
St. Francis loved nature, birds, animals and all people. This teaches all of us how to love all creatures and creations of God.



As SFOs we live in harmony with all of creation, human and nature alike. In doing so we face the need to grow in relationships with one another.



Listening requires the awareness that we may disagree with what we hear and still have the courtesy of understanding a point before commenting on it.



St. Francis invites all of us to have a  
relationship with the Lord.  
Without the help of Holy Spirit, we cannot  
rebuild our community.  
It is by building our fraternity, then we can  
rebuild the church.



Most High,  
glorious God,  
enlighten the darkness of my heart  
and give me  
true faith,  
certain hope,  
and perfect charity,  
sense and knowledge,  
Lord,  
that I may carry out  
Your holy and true command.

Amen

## Constitution --- Article 14

1. Aware that God wanted to make of us all a single people and that he made his Church the universal sacrament of salvation, the brothers and sisters should commit themselves to a faith-inspired reflection on the Church, its mission in today's world and the role of the Franciscan laity within it. They should take up the challenges and accept the responsibilities that this reflection will lead them to discover.
2. *Rule 8* The Eucharist is the center of the life of the Church. Christ unites us to himself and to one another as a single body in it. Therefore, the Eucharist should be the center of the life of the fraternity. **The brothers and sisters should participate in the Eucharist as frequently as possible, being mindful of the respect and love shown by Francis, who, in the Eucharist, lived all the mysteries of the life of Christ.**
3. They should participate in the sacraments of the Church, attentive not only to personal sanctification, but also to fostering the growth of the Church and the spreading of the Kingdom. They should collaborate in achieving living and conscious celebrations in their own parishes, particularly in the celebrations of baptism, confirmation, marriage, and the anointing of the sick.

**Presentation**

**Of the**

**Gift of the**

**Holy Spirit**

Every day, thank the Holy Spirit for this gift.

**Then, share your gift with others.**