Peace in the FUN Manual

A search was done of the FUN Manual for the word PEACE. The headings from the Lessons are in bold, the places in the Lessons to find the information are in [ ] and italicized and the word peace is bolded to make it easier to find.

2.2 PERIOD OF FORMATION (ALSO CALLED CANDIDACY): 2.2.b. Material Content

During the Period of Formation: Look for participation in the apostolic life—peace and justice issues, the protection of the environment, the strengthening the family unit, respect for the worker, etc. [What is Formation 3-23-2011 Page 10 of 22]

POSITIVE SIGNS: The prospective member: Shows attributes of peace and serenity despite possible problems or turmoil in his life [What is Formation 3-23-2011 Page 17 of 22]

LITURGY AND SACRAMENTS: TRANSFORMING ACTIONS OF THE CHURCH:

Reconciliation aids us in coming to terms with our own shortfalls and restores inner peace to the individual and harmony (relationship) with our Loving God and with each other. [Basic Catholic Doctrine 3-23-2011 Page 16 of 24]

OPENING PRAYER (two suggested Franciscan Prayers): You are rest, You are peace. [Introduction to the Franciscan Family 3-23-2011 Page 5 of 12]

TAU: In the famous blessing of Brother Leo, Francis wrote on parchment, “May the Lord bless you and keep you! May the Lord show His face to you and be merciful to you! May the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace! God bless you Brother Leo!” Francis sketched a head (of Brother Leo) and then drew the TAU over this portrait. [Introduction to the Franciscan Family 3-23-2011 Page 10 of 12]

CALLED TO A FRANCISCAN LIFE STYLE: Discernment: Peacemaking (We are messengers of peace as Francis was.) [Vocation 3-23-2011 Page 12 of 18]

INTERCESSIONS: All: Let your face shine on us and bring us peace. Amen. [Vocation 3-23-2011 Page 17 of 18]

SECULARITY IS NECESSARY: And as people of peace, we bring the essential ingredients of prayer and peace to penetrate society. [Identity of a Secular Franciscan 3-23-2011 Page 7 of 24]

FRANCISCAN IDENTITY EXPANDED: To be instruments of peace [Identity of a Secular Franciscan 3-23-2011 Page 13 of 24]

CONCLUSION: Continuing his exhortation, St. Francis tells us that we are intimately wrapped in the Trinity. Francis says, “Oh, how glorious it is to have a great and holy Father in heaven! Oh how glorious is it to have such a beautiful and admirable Spouse, the Holy Paraclete! Oh, how glorious it is to have such a Brother and such a Son, loved, beloved, humble, peacefull, sweet, lovable, and desirable above all: Our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave up his life for his sheep (cf. Jn 10:15).” . . . May the Lord grant us peace. [Identity of a Secular Franciscan 3-23-2011 Page 20 of 24]

LITANY: I have peace. (Ephesians 2:14) [Identity of a Secular Franciscan 3-23-2011 Page 22 of 24]

WE ARE A PUBLIC ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN FAITHFUL: So like Jesus and Francis, we are invited to consecrate ourselves to live the Gospel and respond with love for all so we can be instruments of peace. [Nature of the Secular Franciscan Order 3-23-2011 Page 11 of 18]
PROLOGUE: CHAPTER 1 - CONCERNING THOSE WHO DO Penance: Oh, how glorious it is to have such a Brother and such a Son, loved, beloved, humble, peaceful, sweet, lovable, and desirable above all. [The Rule of the SFO 3-23-2011 Page 2 of 46]

INVOCATION: Anoint with peace and goodness, the fragile fragments of peace and justice [The Rule of the SFO 3-23-2011 Pages 6 of 46 and 46 of 46]

INTRODUCTION: Decades later, in 1257, St. Bonaventure also went to this mountaintop. After being elected the seventh Minister General of the Order, he went to LaVerna, seeking a place of peace. [The Rule of the SFO 3-23-2011 Page 8 of 46]

INTRODUCTION: It was this gasping for God that sent St. Bonaventure to La Verna. He tells us in the Itinerarium: Following the example of our most holy father Francis, I was seeking this peace with panting spirit . . . I withdrew to Mount La Verna, seeking a place of quiet and desiring to find there peace of spirit. [The Rule of the SFO 3-23-2011 Pages 18 & 19 of 46]

ENVISIONING HOW WE TURN TO OTHERS IN THE SFO RULE: Article 17, “In their family they should cultivate the Franciscan spirit of peace, fidelity, and respect for life, striving to make of it a sign of a world already renewed in Christ” . . . Article 19, “Mindful that they are bearers of peace which must be built up unceasingly.” [The Rule of the SFO 3-23-2011 Pages 34 of 46; 39 of 46 and 41 of 46]

HUMILITY: In Francis’ time, there was a law for pilgrims and Francis wanted it to be in place for his sons: “to be sheltered under someone else’s roof, to travel in peace, and to thirst for their homeland.” (2C 59) [The Rule of the SFO 3-23-2011 Page 36 of 46]

REFLECTION: Pay heed to the virtues that are laid out before us in this one article [Article 19] of the Rule: Peace Unity Harmony Dialogue Trust Love Pardon Joy Hope . . . Blessed are those who endure in peace for by You, Most High, they shall be crowned. [The Rule of the SFO 3-23-2011 Page 41 of 46]

RECAP: Our penitential life encompasses our ability . . . to promote . . . peace, justice and ecology as the basis of an egalitarian world. [The Rule of the SFO 3-23-2011 Page 44 of 46]

JPIC: PROLOGUE: This chapter in intended to be an introduction to Catholic Social Teaching on Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation as reflected in the Secular Franciscan Order. (Since the words for the acronym JPIC are repeated many times in this lesson, this is the only reference cited.) [JPIC 3-23-2011 Page 3 of 28]

LIFE AND DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON: The human person is the clearest reflection of God’s presence in the world; all of the Church’s work in pursuit of both justice and peace is designed to protect and promote the dignity of every person. [JPIC 3-23-2011 Page 7 of 28]


6. SOLIDARITY: “The nations of the world are becoming more and more dependent on one another and it will not be possible to preserve a lasting peace so long as glaring economic and social imbalances persist.” (Mater et Magistra Mother and Teacher Pope John XXIII, 1961); . . . Pursuing justice and peace is the heart of solidarity. [JPIC 3-23-2011 Page 9 of 28]

IN TERMS OF THE RULE: “In its broadly based goals, it looks at the whole Rule in terms of peace making” (Guidelines for JPIC Committee) . . . The lived experience of Secular Franciscans
will necessarily be expressed in what is just, peaceful, and respectful of all created things and people. [JPIC 3-23-2011 Pages 12 & 13 of 28]

MISSION STATEMENT FOR JPIC: This with special regard to the daily choices made in the areas of justice, peace making and respect for all created things and people; [JPIC 3-23-2011 Page 15 of 28]

WHAT CHURCH DOCUMENTS TELL US: Article 17, “In their families they should cultivate the Franciscan spirit of peace, fidelity, and respect for life, striving to make of it a sign of a world already renewed in Christ” . . . This requires courageous initiatives and being mindful that Secular Franciscans are people of peace. . . . Article 19, “Mindful that they are bearers of peace which must be built up unceasingly” . . . This is the summation of living the Rule: transformation in Christ, messengers of peace . . . Peace cannot be limited to a mere absence of war . . . peace is something that is built up day after day. [JPIC 3-23-2011 Pages 20, 21, 22 & 23 of 28]

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION: Living justice, peace and protecting the integrity of creation is courageous Gospel living. [JPIC 3-23-2011 Page 24 of 28]

PART 1: A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD: If we are willing to constantly make the effort, the Holy Spirit will lead us to the relationship we seek, and for the Franciscan effect the peace and joy we need to love and serve all God’s creation, simply because it is God’s and it is good. [Francis and his approach to Divinity 3-23-2011 Page 4 of 16]

PART 2: THE GOD WHO REVEALS HIMSELF: Spirit of love through whom sins will be forgiven and forgiveness and peace will be granted . . . [Francis and his approach to Divinity 3-23-2011 Page 13 of 16]

THISNESS: Here in our absolute littleness and “creature-li-ness” is where we can experience the embrace, peace and joy of a love beyond any loves . . . [Franciscan Theology, Tradition and Spirituality 4-12-2011 Page 15 of 30]

12) AFTER THE MANNER OF ST. FRANCIS: He experienced violence and prayed for peace and actually became a peacemaker. [Profession 3-23-2011 Page 13 of 18]

15) THE ORIGINAL PENITENTIAL IDENTITY: In the “turning toward the Lord” we find our joy and peace. [Profession 3-23-2011 Page 15 of 18]

CONCERNING THOSE WHO DO PENANCE: Oh, how glorious it is to have such a Brother and such a Son, loved, beloved, humble, peaceful, sweet, lovable, and desirable above all (cf. Jn 10:15). [Conversion 3-23-2011 Page 16 of 18]

C. FRATERNITY AS SACRAMENT OF GOSPEL LIVING: Life in Fraternity is . . . a real sign of the Justice, Peace, and Reconciliation of the Reign of God. [Fraternity as Fundamental Element 3-23-2011 Page 17 of 22]

6. THE CHALLENGE OF FRATERNAL LIFE: Mary Ann Julian, SFO, writes: . . . If we learn to die to self and submit to the loving care of the Gardener (and our lawful superiors), His beauty, His love, and His peace will increase in us and overflow to all the world. (The Cord: volume 48, no.3, 138) [Fraternity as Fundamental Element 3-23-2011 Pages 19 & 20 of 22]

FRANCISCAN REVERENCE AND DEVOTIONS: In addition to the titles for Mary . . . Some include, . . . Queen of Peace . . . Franciscans strive to live peacefully in all they do . . . Mary, Queen of Peace is given this title because her life exuded peace. . . As Jesus addressed his
disciples “Peace be with you” (John 20:21) our Queen of Peace, the first disciple of Jesus, seeks to intercede on our behalf to obtain the peace of Jesus. [Francis and the Blessed Virgin Mary 3-23-2011 Pages 9 & 10 of 16]

MEDIEVAL SOCIETY AND A WOMAN’S PLACE: Marriages were arranged among powerful families to extend wealth, power and preserve peace. [St Clare of Assisi 3-23-2011 Page 5 of 24]

CLARE OF ASSISI: Later they (Clare’s family) moved back to their palace in Assisi when peace was negotiated between the merchants (Assisi) and the nobles (Perugia) . . . on August 11, 1253, Clare died peacefully in the company of Brothers Leo, Angelo and Juniper, three of the earliest companions of Francis. [St Clare of Assisi 3-23-2011 Pages 6 & 9 of 24]

BLESSING ATTRIBUTED TO ST. CLARE: . . . May He turn his countenance to you and give you peace. [St Clare of Assisi 3-23-2011 Page 20 of 24]

FRANCIS PREACHED THE KINGDOM OF GOD: Francis went about to towns and villages announcing the Kingdom of God, preaching peace [History of the SFO and its Rules 3-23-2011 Page 13 of 34]

DECLARATIONS OF POPES SUCCEEDING LEO XIII: A similar statement is found in Rite expiates, the encyclical issued by Pius XI on April 30, 1926: The general restoration of peace and morals was advanced very much by the Third Order, which was a religious order indeed. [History of the SFO and its Rules 3-23-2011 Page 22 of 34]

THE PAULINE RULE OF 1978: A special commission that included both friars and lay men and women was assigned the task of producing essential elements for a new rule. They came up with 17. (Number) 8. To be instruments of peace . . . Paragraphs on Peace and Justice, Ecology, Work and Family were included as essential paragraphs in this Rule . . . The transition from a “less devotional” Order to a “more apostolic” Order was helped by the National Fraternity Council of the United States with the creation of four Apostolic Commissions: Peace and Justice, Ecology, Work and Family. [History of the SFO and its Rules 3-23-2011 Pages 24, 25 & 26 of 34]

REGIONALIZATION: Peace Award and Achievement Award (1950 – Present) [History of the SFO and its Rules 3-23-2011 Pages 30 & 32 of 34]

POSSIBLE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:
How is peace linked to the TAU CROSS?
Discuss from the Bible, Numbers: 6:22-27: The Lord said to Moses: “Speak to Aaron and his sons and tell them: This is how you shall bless the Israelites. Say to them: The Lord bless you and keep you! The Lord let his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you! The Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace! So shall they invoke my name upon the Israelites, and I will bless them.” [First Reading for the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God]

How do you maintain peace in your heart through difficult situations? [The Rule of the SFO 3-23-2011 Page 42 of 46 in the FUN Manual]

How are you a messenger of peace?
How are you an instrument of peace?
Discuss articles 17, “In their family they should cultivate the Franciscan spirit of peace . . .” and article 19, “Mindful that they are bearers of peace . . .” [The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order]

Describe your place of peace.

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