Promoting Vocations to the Secular Franciscan Order (OFS) “Tool Kit”

All Secular Franciscans are all responsible for promoting vocations. You may be wondering – how do I do it or where do I begin? Here are some tools that may help:

1. Pray for vocations.
   a. Pray the National Prayer for Vocations each day! Cards with the prayer in English, Korean, Spanish, or Vietnamese are available.
   b. Add petitions for vocations to your morning and evening prayer routine. Distribute to your fraternity members. Petitions are available in English, Korean and Spanish.

2. Promotional brochures – Click here for a template for a promotional brochure in English, Korean or Spanish. Fill it out with your fraternity specifics (gathering location/date/time). With permission from the pastor, leave in the back of the church. Share it with other Catholics (including family and coworkers). Post a copy on your fraternity website.

3. Business Cards – develop professional looking cards with your fraternity name and contact information.

4. Spread the word using social media. Like us on Facebook (Secular Franciscans – NAFRA, USA], follow us on Twitter (@SecFranNAFRA) and watch and share Testimonials on YouTube Channel (https://www.youtube.com/user/SecularFranciscans)

5. Hold a Come & See event. Plan an event for people in your area to learn about the Order. This takes planning, preparation, advertising, but can be a wonderful way to spread the word. Click here for a suggested outline in English, Korean, and Spanish, with talking points for the event and an example PowerPoint Presentation with handouts. If you had some success, consider holding it annually. If you didn’t have success, consider revamping the structure and trying it again. Share some of the testimonials from the YouTube Channel. Please share the outcome with us at 1.800.Francis@mail.com.

6. Practice your “elevator speech” about your vocation. (what does it mean to you? Why are you a Secular Franciscan? What does that “T” around your neck mean?) Example: “I am a follower of the teachings of Jesus Christ. Another man followed him in the 13th Century – Francis Of Assisi. Have you heard of him? Francis fell in love with Jesus’ teaching of peace, love and forgiveness – the Gospel. This is a way of life for all. I found it, rather it found me a few years ago. It is so rewarding to live by example, to help others according to the Scriptures… As we say…Gospel to Life and Life to Gospel. There is more to learn – would you like to get together to talk about it further?” Click here for example questions to inspire your testimonial.

7. Record your own testimony and send it to 1.800.Francis@mail.com for posting to the Secular Franciscans YouTube Channel.

Let us know what has worked well for you. Remember the best way to spread the word about vocations is personal witness and invitation. So, while you are living the Rule by spreading Christ’s peace and joy to others, it may be a good time to share about the vocation too!

Thanks to God for the gift of our vocations. It is a gift, so share it!