



1. The Order of Friars Minor (OFM)

The Order of Friars Minor, founded by St. Francis of Assisi, is a fraternity. In a more complete fulfillment of their baptismal consecration and in answer to the divine call, the friars give themselves totally to God, their supreme love; through profession of obedience, poverty and chastity, which they are to live in the spirit of Saint Francis.

The Friars Minor, embodied in the People of God, paying attention to the new signs of the times and responding to the conditions of a developing world, are always to be of one mind with the Church; they are to adopt as their own and foster as much as they can the Church's undertakings and aims.

2. The History of St. Francis of Assisi

Francis of Assisi was born in Assisi (Italy) in 1181/1182. After a carefree youth, he had a conversion experience and founded the Order of Friars Minor, commonly known as the Franciscans. Soon a young woman, Clare of Assisi, wanted to share his way of life and, during her lifetime, her little community of sisters developed into the Order of the Poor Sisters, later called the Poor Clare. The Franciscan Third Order, known today as the Secular Franciscan Order, also sees St. Francis as its founder. In 1219/1220 Francis went to Egypt, where he met the Sultan; this meeting was the inspiration behind the origin of the Custody of the Holy Land, which is the name for the community of friars who maintain the ancient Franciscan presence in Jerusalem, and help keep alive the memory of Jesus' presence in the holy places.

Francis received the stigmata in 1224 on the Mountain of La Verna, and the following year he composed the Canticle of Brother Sun, a prayer-poem of praise to God, the Creator of everything that exists. In 1979, this prayer and his attitude of reverence towards all created things led to his being proclaimed the patron saint "of those who promote ecology". Francis died on October 4th, 1226 in Assisi, and was declared a saint in 1228.



3. The OFM Mission

Our entire fraternity is missionary and shares in the mission of the Church, following the example of St. Francis and the desire he expressed in the Rule. Each friar, therefore, conscious of his own responsibility, is to play his part in missionary work. There are some priorities in OFM as our mission life:

- A. Spirit of Prayer and Devotion
- B. Mission and Evangelization
- C. Formation and Study
- D. Fraternity

Wherever they are and
whatever they do, the
friars are to dedicate
themselves to the task of
evangelization

*(General Constitutions OFM, Chapter 5,
article 84)*

4. OFM Myanmar

The official name of OFM in Myanmar is St. Francis of Assisi Foundation of Myanmar. This foundation is established on 11 August 2005 with the permission of Archbishop of Yangon, Cardinal Charles Bo, SDB. The OFM in Myanmar only foundation and it's not yet as province and the superior for OFM in Myanmar is called president of foundation. Since February 2018, OFM Myanmar is under the jurisdiction of Holy Korean Martyrs Province of South Korea.



5. The OFM Mission in Myanmar

There are two missions of OFM in Myanmar:

- a. The OFM Foundation aims to respond to the needs of the Church in Myanmar, such as counseling, spiritual direction, spiritual retreat to the clergy, the religious and lay people; and human development
- b. Following St. Francis of Assisi and his charisma, the Foundation aims to establish the Order in Myanmar with careful selection and formation local candidates

6. The Formation Stages

- a. Come and see program for one month for those young men who wants to experience the real life as Franciscan in our formation house in Yangon. The young men will stay with our friars and join our daily program for one month. Then they will decide and apply for candidacy program. The 'come and see' program always held three times a year during the month of February, June and the end of September.
- b. The candidacy program is one year program which is held in Yangon.
- c. The aspirants program will takes one year program in Yangon

Some activities of candidates and aspirants in Yangon as part of formation program

1. The farming program

- Preparing the boxes of soil for planting vegetables:



- Watering the plants



- The harvest time



2. Outing day : visiting church, pagodas, park, seminary and other places



- d. The postulants program in the Philippines for one year
Some photos from Postulants Program in the Philippines:



- e. The novitiate stage is in the Philippines for one year.
The photo from first profession of our friar in the Philippines



- f. Study philosophy in the Philippines for three year
g. Study theology at Major Seminary of Yangon



How to contact us?

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