

FORMATION CURRICULUM

NAPCC

Approved - March 2012

**N.B.** *This curriculum was approved by the NAPCC at their March 9-10, 2012 meeting, with the following caveat:*

*“The number of hours attached to the various elements in the curriculum is seen as only a suggestion.”*

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## FRANCISCAN FORMATION

<b>Postulancy</b>	
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
<p><b>An introductory historical-critical study of the life and writings of St. Francis of Assisi.</b> This study should include an introduction to the genre of hagiography and its literary rules and to the major medieval primary sources for the life of St. Francis, including at least the Celanese corpus, <i>The Anonymous of Perugia</i>, <i>The Legend of the Three Companions</i>, <i>The Assisi Compilation</i>, the Major and the Minor <i>Lives</i> by St. Bonaventure, <i>The Mirror of Perfection</i>, and the <i>Actus/Fioretti</i>. Other works may be treated, like Julian of Speyer's <i>Life</i>. Subsequent work should require postulants to study Francis' life by reading parts of these primary sources, comparing versions of the same story in various sources, and making seminar-like presentations to their fellow postulants. Exposure to the writings of St. Francis should also be covered. Postulants should use the New City Press edition of the primary sources, not the old Red "Omnibus" published by Franciscan Press. Bill Hugo's text, <i>Studying the Life of Francis of Assisi: A Beginner's Workbook</i> is a very help text for achieving the goals of this required subject. A good target for achieving this goal is 30-50 classroom hours.</p>	<p>Currently, the novitiate program would like to presume that this type of study of the life and writings of Francis is accomplished during postulancy. It is a foundational piece of input upon which everything else is built. It is proven that this type of study can be successfully executed during postulancy. So it is very desirable to require it in all our postulancies.</p> <p>Since the study of Francis' life is an ongoing study of conversion, it is very profitable to place this subject in the postulancy curriculum. Postulancy is often experienced as a profound conversion by many postulants, and many of our postulancy programs are designed around models of conversion.</p>
<p><b>Franciscan Spirituality.</b> Treatment of any number of possible topics on Franciscan spirituality in part drawn from a list composed by the Provincial Directors of Initial Formation. (8 hours)</p>	<p>The idea here is not to suggest specific topics on Franciscan spirituality, but simply to assure that some discussion and input on this broad topic is going on. This allows postulant directors to use their unique resources and skills. The Provincial Directors of Initial Formation ideally would compose a list of possible topics for this subject area.</p>
<p><b>(Vice) Provincial history.</b> A thorough treatment of one's jurisdictional history.</p>	<p>This is envisioned to be the most substantial history one receives of his jurisdiction at any point during his initial formation.</p>
<p><b>Reflection/Integration experiences.</b> Reflection on a variety of Capuchin-Franciscan <i>values</i> with an eye toward integrating those values across numerous levels of one's life using a discussion format. (once a month)</p>	<p>This should be a project that is easy for all postulant directors to lead. At the same time, it seeks to strengthen Capuchin-Franciscan values in our men in initial formation. The PDIF could compose a series of readings and questions on various topics to assist our postulant directors.</p>

<b>Postulancy (cont.)</b>	
<p><i>(Recommended)</i>  <b>Background to the times of Ss. Francis and Clare of Assisi.</b> Such an offering would describe the spiritual, devotional, ecclesial, civil, feudal, military, social, and/or economic situation of Medieval Italy during and just before the lives of Ss. Francis and Clare. Its purpose is to place their lives in a context so that the meaning of their lives might be raised out in relief. (8 hours)</p>	<p>This course is currently taught during 12 hours over 2 weeks to the novices. We recommend that it be moved to postulancy because it offers the most benefit as a prelude to studying the life of St. Francis. This is a useful topic, but may not be an essential topic for our initial formation programs. Thus, we move it from the <i>required</i> list to the <i>recommended</i> list so jurisdiction can offer it or not based on their postulancy schedules and resources.</p>
<b>The NAPCC Interprovincial Postulancy Program</b>	
<p><b>Franciscan Spirituality.</b> Treatment of any number of possible topics on Franciscan spirituality drawn from a list composed by the Provincial Directors of Initial Formation. The IPP’s current practice of treating Franciscan Sister-brotherhood is very appropriate and successful at this level. (5 hours)</p>	<p>The IPP staff could select additional or different topics from a list provided by the PDIFs.</p>
<b>The NAPCC Novitiate</b>	
<p><b>The History of the Franciscan Movement before the Capuchins.</b> This should include the history of all three branches of the Order. (12 hours)</p>	<p>This topic is best located in novitiate because many jurisdictions will lack the teaching resources to treat it well during postulancy.</p>
<p><b>The History of the Franciscan Movement from the Capuchin Reform to the present.</b> This should include the history of all three branches of the Order with a focus on the Capuchins. (12 hours)</p>	
<p><b>Franciscan Spirituality.</b> Like all other levels, the novitiate staff is free to select any number of topics including from a list provided by the PDIFs. However, its current practice of presenting the Christology of St. Francis is very appropriate to this level. Other treatments are also recommended during novitiate, such as the spirituality of St. Francis of Assisi as seen in his writings. (20 hours)</p>	<p>Novitiate Manual Lists:                      Franciscan Prayer and Meditation                      Christology of St. Francis                      Franciscan Spirituality                      Bonaventure’s “Echo” in Capuchin Life</p>
<p><b>The Life and Writings of Clare of Assisi.</b> This study should be taught in two divided segments. The first should examine the major medieval primary sources for the life of St. Clare, including at least the <i>Acts of the Process of Canonization</i>,</p>	<p>Several formators noted the need to include more or even something on the life and writings of Clare. It was clear that some jurisdictions offered nothing on Clare. The former novitiate at Mt. Calvary, Wisconsin included this class description in its</p>

Proposed NAPCC Postulancy and Novitiate Curriculum

<p><i>The Versified Legend of the Virgin Clare, and The Legend of Saint Clare.</i> Relevant papal documents and various relevant letters should also be treated. The novices should prepare seminar-like presentations on Clare’s life offered during a later second segment, and base on these primary sources, comparing versions of the same story in various sources. Exposure to the writings of St. Clare should also be covered. (10 hours)</p>	<p>mandated curriculum.                  Since many postulant directors may have trouble gathering the resources to implement this subject, it seems best to locate it in the novitiate.</p> <p>Further, Clare’s model of contemplation (gazing, considering, contemplating, imitating) and her overtly contemplative lifestyle seem appropriate topics to explore during novitiate. Clare-styled contemplation would be difficult to avoid in a treatment of her life and writings!</p>
<p><b>This history of NAPCC jurisdictions.</b> Brief presentations on the history of each NAPCC jurisdiction, not with the goal of a comprehensive treatment, but the goal of sharing a general appreciation for the diversity and similarity present within NAPCC. (as needed)</p>	<p>This is not a repetition of the provincial historical study done during postulancy. Instead, this is a more general exposure to the history of all the NAPCC jurisdictions. Thus, the individual presentations are necessarily much shorter.</p>
<p><b>Reflection/Integration experiences.</b> Reflection on a variety of Capuchin-Franciscan <i>values</i> with an eye toward integrating those values across numerous levels of one’s life using a discussion format. (once each month)</p>	<p>This should be a project that is easy for the novitiate directors to lead. It seeks to strengthen Capuchin-Franciscan values in our men in initial formation. The PDIF could compose a series of readings and questions on various topics to assist our postulant directors.</p>
<p><b>An Introduction to the SFO.</b> The history of the formation of the Secular Franciscans during and after the time of Francis. A study of the seculars’ rule and the relationship between the first order and the seculars. (5 hours)</p>	<p>While men can have personal contact with seculars almost anywhere and anytime, it can be difficult to find presenters capable of doing what this class description calls for. Thus, it seems most prudent to place this in the novitiate curriculum, where we share good resources.</p>

## List of possible topics to be covered in classes on Franciscan Spirituality

- The foundations of Franciscan sister-brotherhood
- A Franciscan approach to our environment
- The Christological basis of Franciscan styled prayer
- The Trinitarian basis of Franciscan styled prayer
- The spirituality of Franciscan poverty (esp. PCO VI)
- The spirituality of Franciscan obedience
- The spirituality of Franciscan chaste celibacy
- The spirituality of Franciscan humility
- The spirituality of Franciscan minority (esp. PCO VII)
- The spirituality of the S Damiano Cross
- Clare's contribution to Franciscan contemplative prayer: gazing, considering, contemplating, imitating (2LtCl 20)
- Bonaventure's contribution to Franciscan contemplative prayer
- The early Capuchin way of contemplative prayer
- Clare's spirituality vis-à-vis Francis' spirituality
- Interreligious dialogue in the Franciscan Spirit
- The Writings of St. Francis

## Topics for reflection/integration on Capuchin-Franciscan Values

- Poverty (PCO VI)
- Obedience
- Chaste celibacy
- Humility
- Minority (PCO VII)
- Simple living
- Option for the poor
- Contemplative Prayer
- Fraternity (esp. Corriveau's letters)
- Selflessness (Penance)
- Mission
- Work
- A Franciscan Use of Power (PCO VII)
- Itinerancy

CAPUCHIN and RELIGIOUS LIFE FORMATION

<b>Postulancy</b>	
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
<p><b>Religious Life</b> (6 hours)</p>	<p>A historical approach to this subject will help postulants gain perspective on religious life in history and serve as a basis for an understanding of the vows as professed by Capuchin friars.</p> <p><b>Readings --</b> John M. Lozano, <i>Discipleship: Towards an Understanding of Religious Life</i></p>
<p><b>Rule and Constitutions</b> – A brief explanation of how Constitutions are a contemporary interpretation of the Rule. Postulants should read the Constitutions, followed by class discussion that discovers the main themes to be found there. (6 hours)</p>	
<b>The NAPCC Novitiate</b>	
<p><b>Capuchin Constitutions/PCO Documents (12 hrs)</b> This course ought to introduce the Novices to the Constitutions/PCO documents in a systematic way, i.e. Each chapter should be viewed thematically through the lenses contained in the text: Gospel life, Francis, Franciscan and Capuchin. This will allow Constitutions to be presented in a way that allows the novices to see the internal coherence of the texts.</p>	<p><b>Explanation</b> – It is good to introduce Novices to tools for understanding the Constitutions, i.e., the <i>Actae</i> of the General Chapter and accompanying documents, including those from the Plenary Councils of the Order, as well as by studying the lives of the Capuchin saints, who embraced the values contained in the Constitutions.</p>
<p><b>The Vows (12 hours)</b> This course will introduce Novices to the study of the vowed life by reading and reflecting on the <i>Decree on the Appropriate Renewal of the Religious Life</i> from Vatican II and John Paul II's <i>Vita Consecrata</i>.</p>	<p><b>Readings --</b> <i>Perfectae Caritatis</i>. Decree on the Renewal of the Religious Life. <i>Vita Consecrata</i>. Apostolic Exhortation on the Consecrated Life and its Mission in the Church and in the World. <i>The Service of Authority and Obedience</i></p>
<p><b>The Vows – A Workshop (3 hours)</b> This workshop ought to include the practical wisdom of the presenter. Not only should the workshop revisit vows in general, but the presenter should be prepared both to share his own experience, negative and positive, of living the vowed life, but also elicit from the novices their own experience of living chastely, obediently and poorly.</p>	<p>Worksheets for reflection, journaling and discernment need to be developed for this Workshop</p>

**Bibliography - *Franciscan Spirituality***

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- Armstrong, Regis, Wayne Hellman, and William Short, eds. Francis of Assisi: Early Documents. (4 volumes). New York: New York City Press, 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002.
- Bartoli, Marco. Saint Clare: Beyond the Legend. Cincinnati, OH: Franciscan Herald Press, 2010.
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- Esser, Cajetan and Engelbert Grau. Love's Reply. Trans. Brady, Ignatius. Chicago, Illinois: Franciscan Herald Press, 1963.
- Felder, Hilarin. The Ideals of St. Francis of Assisi. Trans. Bittle, Berchmans. Chicago, Illinois: Franciscan Herald Press, 1982.
- Godet-Calogeras, Jean Francois, Ph.D. and Roberta McKelvie, O.S.F., Ph.D. An Unencumbered Heart: A Tribute to Clare of Assisi. Spirit and Life. vol. 11. The Franciscan Institute, St. Bonaventure University, 2004.
- Hugo, William. Studying the Life of Saint Francis of Assisi: A Beginner's Workbook. Revised Edition. New York: New York City Press, 2011.
- Karris, Robert J., O.F.M. The Admonitions of St. Francis: Sources and Meanings. New York: the Franciscan Institute, St. Bonaventure University, 1999.
- Manselli, R. Saint Francis of Assisi. Trans. Duggan, Paul. Chicago, Illinois: Franciscan Herald Press, 1988.
- Mueller, Joan. Clare's Letters to Agnes: Texts and Sources. New York: The Franciscan Institute, St. Bonaventure University, 2001.
- Paris, Gratien de. I Know Christ. Trans. Oligny, Paul J. New York: The Franciscan Institute, Saint Bonaventure University, 1957.
- Spoto, Donald. Reluctant Saint: The Life of Francis of Assisi. New York: Viking Compass, 2002.

**Bibliography - Vows and Religious Life**

- Cantalamessa, Raniero. Poverty. New York: Alba House, 1997.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Virginity: A Positive Approach to Celibacy for the Sake of the Kingdom of Heaven. New York: Alba House, 1995.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Obedience: The Authority of the Word. Boston: Pauline Books & Media, 1989.
- Clark, Keith. An Experience of Celibacy: A Creative Reflection on Intimacy, Loneliness, Sexuality and Commitment. Notre Dame: Ave Maria Press, 1982.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Being Sexual . . . and Celibate. Notre Dame: Ave Maria Press, 1986.
- Dilanni, Albert, SM. Religious Life as Adventure: Renewal, Refounding, or Reform? New York: Alba House, 1994.
- Fiand, Barbara. Refocusing The Vision: Religious Life into the Future. New York: Crossroad Publishing Company, 2001.
- Fleming, David A. S.M. Pilgrims Notebook: An Experience of Religious Life. New York: Maryknoll, 1992.
- John Paul II. To Men and Women Religious. Boston: Pauline Books & Media, 1984.
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- Knight, David M. Cloud by Day, Fire by Night. vol. 1: "Poverty." Denville, New Jersey: Dimension Books, 1979.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Cloud by Day, Fire by Night. vol. 2: "The Meaning and Choice of Religious Poverty." Denville, New Jersey: Dimension Books, 1979.
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- Kraft, William, PhD., Sexual Dimensions of the Celibate Life. Kansas City: Andrews and McMeel, Inc., 1979.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Whole & Holy Sexuality: How to Find Human and Spiritual Integrity as a Sexual Person. St. Meinrad, Indiana: Abbey Press, 1989.
- Merkle, Judith A., S.N.D.deN. A Different Touch: A Study of Vows in Religious Life. Collegeville, Minnesota: The Liturgical Press, 1998.
- Schneiders, Sandra M., I.H.M. Finding the Treasure: Locating Catholic Religious Life in a New Ecclesial and Cultural Context. *Religious Life in a New Millennium, Volume One*. New York: Paulist Press, 2000.



\_\_\_\_\_. Selling All: Commitment, Consecrated Celibacy, and Community in Catholic Religious Life. *Religious Life in a New Millennium, Volume Two*. New York: Paulist Press, 2001.

The Church & Consecrated Life. Fleming, David L., S.J., Elizabeth McDonough, O.P., eds. St. Louis: Review For Religious, 1996.

Vanier, Jean. Community and Growth: Our Pilgrimage Together. New York: Paulist Press, 1979.

LITURGICAL FORMATION

<b>Postulancy</b>	
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>EXPLANATION</b>
<p><b>Introduction to the Liturgy of the Hours.</b> A practical introduction to the Liturgy of the Hours that includes hands-on experience with breviary planning and leading prayer (presiding). The General Instruction of the Liturgy of the Hours is read and discussed. Format: lecture, practicum. (8 hours).</p>	<p>Candidates enter our programs with a variety of experience ranging from regular use of the breviary to little or no experience at all. The goal is to level the playing field early on so that community prayer can be properly planned and well prayed.</p>
<p><b>Liturgical Planning and Preparation.</b> Introduces the candidate to liturgical principals that encourage proper preparation and planning of the liturgy. Format: lecture, practicum. (2 hours).</p>	<p>This course is a natural progression from the practical overview and implementation provided in the above course.</p>
<p><b>Introduction to the Eucharist.</b> A basic introduction to the theology of the Eucharist. Introduces the postulant to the various elements of Eucharist as sacrifice, meal, memorial, symbol, Real Presence, ritual and sacrament. Format: lecture. (8 hours).</p>	<p>As in the case of the use of the breviary, candidates enter with a broad spectrum of Eucharistic theologies. This course is intended to build upon a candidates limited or developed theology of Eucharist. It also addresses the practice of Eucharistic devotion.</p>
<p><b>The General Instruction of the Roman Missal.</b> A systematic overview of the <i>GIRM</i> with an emphasis on the role and purpose of the <i>Instruction</i>. Format: lecture, practicum. (2 hours).</p>	<p>With the implementation of the new <i>Sacramentary</i>, the postulant would be well served if he possessed a basic understanding of what normative Liturgy is, but more importantly, why there are norms that govern the Church's Liturgy.</p>
<p><b>The Sacraments of Initiation.</b> Explores the theology of initiation into the Christian community. Could serve as a foundational course for explaining Capuchin life as a further deepening of this initial commitment. Format: lecture, discussion, pre-reading. (8 hours).</p>	<p>Again, candidates come to us with a variety of preconceived ideas and theologies regarding consecrated life in general and Capuchin life in particular.</p>
<p><b>Introduction to the History and Theology of the Liturgy of the Hours.</b> An introductory overview to the evolution (history, structure and theology) of the Liturgy of the Hours in the life of the Church. Format: lecture, discussion. (2 hours).</p>	<p>Candidates may or may have a sense of the Church's liturgical year and the principals that govern it. This may be the time to include a practicum on liturgical ministries.</p>

**Suggested Bibliography for Postulancy Programs**

*The Liturgy Documents: A Parish Resource*. Volume I, Fourth edition, Elizabeth Hoffman, ed. Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, 2004.

*The General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, (2002).

*The General Instruction of the Liturgy of the Hours*, Volume 4, The Liturgy of the Hours.

*Built of Living Stones: Guidelines on Art & Architecture*

*Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship*

“General Instruction of the Liturgy of the Hours,” Liturgy Documentary Series 5. (Washington, DC: USCC, 1983).

Baldovin, John. *Bread of Life, Cup of Salvation: Understanding the Mass*, Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield, 2003.

Foley, Edward. *From Age to Age*, (Revised and Expanded edition), Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2009.

James Dallen. “Liturgy and Social Justice”: *Worship* 65:4 (July 1991): 290-306.

Kevin W. Irwin “Lex Orandi, Lex Credendi – Origins and Meaning: State of the Question,” *Liturgical Ministry* 11(Spring 2002), 57-69.

Mahoney, Cardinal Roger. *Gather Faithfully Together: Guide for Sunday Mass*. Liturgical Training Publications, 1997.

Mick, Lawrence. *Living Baptism Daily*, Liturgical Press, 2004.

Patricia M. Rumsey, “The Different Concepts of Sacred Time Underlying the Liturgy of the Hours”: *Worship* 78:4 (July 2004): 290-309.

Searle, Mark. *Liturgy Made Simple*, Liturgical Press, 1989.

USCCB (Bishop’s Committee on the Liturgy), “The Liturgy of the Hours: Study Text VII.

DVD: A History of the Mass. Liturgical Training Publications, 2001.

## Interprovincial Postulancy Program

<p><b>The Use of the Psalms in the Liturgy.</b> A survey course on the use of psalms. How do we pray the psalms – how does the liturgy interpret their meaning and their use? What is the difference between liturgical prayer and private prayer? Format: lecture, discussion (8 hours).</p>	<p>Only three of the ten participating jurisdictions offer something on the psalms during postulancy. Since there are no liturgical components are offered during the NAPCC phase of postulancy it seems appropriate to move the course to this period of formation so that all postulants can participate in the course.</p>
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### Suggested Bibliography for Interprovincial Postulancy Program

Atherton, Richard. *Praying the Psalms in the Liturgy of the Hours: New Light on Ancient Songs*, Liguori Publications, 2007.

Lamb, John Alexander. *The Psalms in Christian Worship*, The Faith Press, 1962.

## NAPCC Novitiate

SUBJECT	EXPLANATION
<p><b>Liturgical Spirituality.</b> This course examines the spirituality that underlies all our liturgical celebrations. Format: lecture, discussion, pre-reading (8 hours)</p>	<p>The courses offered in the postulancy on the Liturgy of the Hours, the History and Theology of the Liturgy of the Hours, and the Eucharist are introductory course that have a particular focus.</p>
<p><b>History of Liturgy (Eucharist).</b> A survey course on the development of the Western Rite. Format: lecture, discussion, pre-reading (8 hours)</p>	<p>This course goes beyond and builds upon the introductory course offered during postulancy. The advantage to this course is that it shows the evolutionary nature of our liturgical and rituals.</p>
<p><b>History of Liturgy (Divine Office).</b> A survey course of the major developments of the Western Rite Liturgy of the Hours. Format: lecture (8 hours).</p>	<p>This course goes beyond and builds upon the introductory courses offered during postulancy. The advantage to this course is that it shows the evolutionary nature of our liturgical and rituals.</p>

**Suggested Liturgical Formation Bibliography for NAPCC Novitiate Program**

Anderson, Frank. Eucharist: *Participating in the Mystery*, 1998.

Buano, Anthony M. *Praying With the Church*, Alba House, 1990.

Jones, Cheslyn ed. *The Study of Liturgy*, Oxford Press, 1978.

Palazzo, Eric. *A History of the Liturgical Books from the Beginning to the 13<sup>th</sup> Century*, Liturgical Press, 1990.

There are multiple resources available from the USCCB Office of Liturgy, Liturgical Training Publications (LTP), Liturgical Press, St. Anthony Messenger Press and the Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions (FDLC) to assist the staffs of the postulancy programs and novitiate in implementing the changes of revised Roman Missal.

For those (vice) provinces who do not have the formation personnel necessary to fulfill the above course requirements or access to qualified presenters from outside their jurisdictions, Liturgical Training Publications (LTP) and Now You Know Media offer a reputable selection of courses that may be used as well.

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## SPIRITUAL FORMATION

<b>Postulancy</b>	
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>EXPLANATION</b>
<p><b>History of Christian Spirituality</b> (12hrs)</p> <p><b>Reading:</b> Charles J. Healey, <i>Christian Spirituality: An Introduction to the Heritage</i>. New York: Alba House, 1999.</p>	<p>Postulants should arrive at the novitiate with a basic background in the history of spirituality and religious life, as well as practical experience in developing a prayer life. Exposure to a wide variety of topics and experiences can help them to begin a process of discernment and provide material for discussion with spiritual directors and formation advisors.</p>
<p><b>Introduction to Methods of Prayer</b> (6hrs)</p>	<p>Cf. above</p>
<p><b>Retreats and Days of Recollection</b></p>	<p>In addition, various days of prayer and retreat should be a regular part of the postulancy experience.</p>
<p><b>Monthly Spiritual Direction</b></p>	<p>A list of spiritual directors should be provided and expectations be made known regarding monthly spiritual direction.</p>

<b>Interprovincial Postulancy Program</b>	
<p><b>Contemplative Prayer</b> (4hrs)</p>	

<b>NAPCC Novitiate</b>	
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>EXPLANATION</b>
<p><b>History of Religious Life</b> (6hrs) – Relating this history to the history of Christian Spirituality</p>	<p>Listed in Novitiate Manual</p>
<p><b>History of Contemplative Prayer</b></p>	<p>Novitiate Manual only lists “Meditation Techniques/Skills</p>
<p><b>Biblical Spirituality</b> (6 hrs)</p>	<p>Religious life themes of vocation, desert/exile, journey, the paschal mystery.</p>
<p><b>Spiritual Discernment</b> (12 hrs)</p>	<p>Listed in Novitiate Manual</p>

**Bibliography:**

- Andre Louf, *Teach Us To Pray*  
 Richard Hauser, *In His Spirit*  
 Thomas Green, *Prayer Beyond the Beginnings* (revised edition)  
 Michael Casey *Toward God and Sacred Reading*  
 Charles J. Healey, *Christian Spirituality: An Introduction to the Heritage*

**CATECHETICAL FORMATION**

<b>Postulancy</b>	
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>EXPLANATION</b>
<p><b>The Creed</b>                      Using “The United States Catholic Catechism for Adults” (USCCB) as the basic text within a lecture/discussion format. (10 hrs)</p>	<p>Postulants enter the program with a range of levels of understanding and practice of the faith. It is important that whatever level they are at in their faith practice and knowledge to review it throughout the Postulancy. This is also a means to further help them to more deeply understand and appreciated the foundation from which their vocation and is nourished grows.</p>
<p><b>The Sacraments</b>                      The USCCB as the basic text within a lecture/discussion format. (8 hrs)</p>	<p>Cf. above</p>
<p><b>Life in Christ – Commandments</b>                      Using “The United States Catholic Catechism for Adults” as the basic text within a lecture/discussion format. (10 hrs)</p>	<p>Cf. above</p>
<p><b>Christian Prayer</b>                      Using “The United States Catholic Catechism for Adults” as the basic text within a lecture/discussion. (6 hrs)</p>	<p>Cf. above</p>
<p><b>Social Teaching of the Church</b>                      Relying on <i>The Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church</i>, this is an introduction to the classic social justice encyclicals and pastoral letters. (8 hrs)</p>	<p>As the postulants are involved in apostolic work with the Poor, it is important to open to them basis from which the Capuchin Order works within the Social Teaching of the Church. This will help situate for them a clear understanding of why it is done and how the Order participates in the greater reality of the Church’s Social Teaching.</p>
<p><b>Introduction to Key Documents of Vatican II</b>  <i>Dei Verbum, Lumen Gentium, Sacrosanctum</i></p>	<p>An Introduction to these main documents as foundational to catechesis, and not simply a</p>

<i>Concilium, and Gaudium et Spes.</i> (8hrs)	“classroom experience”, but also as part of their discernment.
<b>Introduction to the Bible (10 hrs)</b>	This introductory course is given as a means of both introduction to the subject and a means to broaden their faith knowledge and assist in the growth in understanding and appreciation of their vocation as not just within the Capuchin Order but as part of the reality of the Church as a whole.

MINISTERIAL FORMATION

<b>Postulancy</b>	
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>EXPLANATION</b>
<b>Weekly Apostolate</b> – (10-25 hrs/wk) Preference is given to ministries serving the poor, and apostolates take place within the framework of supervision, reflection, and evaluation.	
<b>Formal Training Programs in child safety, professional ethics, and professional boundaries as required by local Church policy.</b> (hrs. will vary accordingly)	
<b>Formal Group Reflections on Apostolic Ministry</b> (2hrs/mo)	
<b>Interprovincial Postulancy Program</b>	
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>EXPLANATION</b>
<b>Apostolic Ministry</b> – (14-16 hrs/wk)	
<b>Formal Group Reflections on Apostolic Ministry</b> (1.5 hrs/wk)	
<b>NAPCC Novitiate</b>	
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>EXPLANATION</b>
<b>Apostolic Ministry</b> – (5-6 hrs/wk)	Preference is given to ministries serving the poor, and apostolates take place within the framework of supervision, reflection, and evaluation.



## HUMAN FORMATION

<b>Postulancy</b>	
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>EXPLANATION</b>
<b>A Recognized Virtus or Praesidium Style, Accredited Training Program</b> (3 hrs)	This is the initial program required for all who will be ministering with children in the future
<b>Review of Provincial Policy on Misconduct</b> (2.5 hrs)	
<b>Course on Boundaries</b> (2.5 hours)	
<b>Course on Culture and Diversity Training</b> (4 hrs)	
<b>Monthly Formation Advisory Meetings</b>	
<b>Semi-annual Evaluations.</b>	This includes peer, community, ministry, self and staff evaluations.
<b>Human Sexuality</b> (12 hours)	A holistic approach.

<b>Interprovincial Postulancy Program</b>	
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>EXPLANATION</b>
<b>Class on Intercultural/Multicultural Issues</b> (8 hrs)	This helps Postulants appreciate differences among themselves in community and in outside Church and social communities.
<b>Communication Skills Workshop</b> (4 hrs)	also includes Conflict Resolution
<b>Promotion of Self-Knowledge Workshop</b> (14 hrs)	Presently includes Myers-Briggs Personality Sorter and Enneagram
<b>Course on Safe Environment</b> (2.5 hours)	This is to provide a common basis for all NAPCC postulants and novices.

<b>NAPCC NOVITIATE</b>	
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>EXPLANATION</b>
<b>Sexuality/Celibate Chastity</b> (12 hrs)	In Novitiate Manual

