

FRANCISCANS

Order of Friars Minor

FOUNDER

Saint Francis of Assisi was born in 1181 to wealthy parents. In his youth, Francis immersed himself in vice. His conversion was slow, but despite reproach from his wealthy peers, he prayerfully let God into his heart. In his humble simplicity and fervent love for God, Francis began to attract companions, and their brotherhood grew rapidly. Despite begging for food and dressing in rags, people were attracted to their constant peace and joy. Francis received approval for his order from Pope Innocent III in 1209.

MOTTO

"Pax et bonum"

"Peace and the good"

TYPE

The Franciscans are a Mendicant Religious Order. Mendicants are friars or sisters that live from alms, recite the Divine Office, and evangelize through apostolic activities.

HABIT

The two branches are the Capuchins (strictest observants of the Franciscan Rule) and the Conventuals. Capuchins are known for wearing brown habits and Conventuals wear grey or black. Franciscans also wear a cord around the waist with three knots to represent Poverty, Chastity and Obedience.

COAT OF ARMS



NOTABLE SAINTS

- **St. Anthony of Padua** (1195 - 1231) Feast Day: June 13
- **St. Bonaventure** (1221-1274) Feast Day: July 15
- **St. Padre Pio** (1887-1968) Feast Day: September 23
- **St. Maximilian Kolbe** (1894-1941) Feast Day: August 14

SPIRITUALITY

The characteristics of Franciscan spirituality include poverty, fraternity, living the Gospel, and following Jesus Christ.

QUOTATION

"Love God, serve God; everything is in that."

- St. Clare of Assisi (one of the first followers of St. Francis of Assisi)

