



**FIRE: Franciscan Immersion and Rekindling Experience
JULY 2011**

Franciscan International Study Centre
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Welcome

May the Lord give you Peace.

We are very pleased to announce the FIRE summer renewal/on-going formation programme for Franciscans of the First and Third Orders Secular and Regular, with a focus on leaders, formation personnel, and Franciscan men and women who are interested in updating themselves in the Franciscan Intellectual and Spiritual Traditions.

The rationale for this type of programme is based on an interest in Franciscanism in the areas of leadership and formation by those who are unable for various reasons to take more than a few weeks time out of their schedules. A short but intense immersion for rekindling the spirit of Francis into one's life and work is an experience that many Franciscans would find attractive.

For this reason the programme is titled FIRE: Franciscan Immersion and Rekindling Experience. It is designed in an adult learning format of informal lecture/discussion, with optional panel presentations in the evenings.

The modules run 4 days a week, Monday to Thursday and are different each week. There are 6 modules per week, with 2 hour daily sessions. Those attending may choose to attend :

- between 1 and 4 different sessions in any day in any week;
- between 1 and 4 weeks

Residential and commuter options are available.

Each of the weeks provides courses/experiences set to different Franciscan themes for immersion into the charism, wisdom, spirituality and way of life that is Franciscan. The themes will embrace the values of Conversion, Contemplation, Minority and Poverty with Fraternitas as the essential fuel for our life throughout all 4 weeks. The 4th week is unique as it is a week long retreat experience.

You will find details of the programme in this brochure.

Attendees will have an enrichment opportunity on Thursday afternoon which includes a visit to the historic Canterbury Cathedral and the site of the first Franciscan friary in England, founded in 1224.

We look forward to welcoming you to Canterbury England, to the Franciscan Centre for Christian Spirituality and to the FIRE programme.

Br Philippe Yates OFM
Principal

Franciscan Centre for Christian Spirituality
A Centre of God-given Peace

THE PROGRAMME

July 3-7 Week 1 *Minority*

Sunday evening begins with a 6:00 pm supper/social and an introduction of faculty and topics

Monday-Wednesday: Faculty members each lead a 2 hour seminar-type session in the morning and repeat that session in the afternoon. Sessions run 8-10 am and 10-12 pm in the morning and 2-4 pm and 4-6 pm in the afternoon.

Thursday Morning: a 1 hour session, repeated once. The afternoon will be open for the participants to engage in a guided experience of the rich Christian and Franciscan heritage of Canterbury and surrounding areas.

The week ends on Thursday evening with a barbeque supper, social and closing panel conversations.

Faculty and Seminar Topics

Theology of Franciscan Formation and Leadership *Séamus Mulholland, OFM*

An exploration of the nature of formation first at the human level, then at the Christian and then the Franciscan so that one can now speak of a Tripartite Formative “Franciscanology” and Anthropology.

Minority: The Inverted Pyramid *Tom Herbst, OFM*

The Franciscan world view is influenced by the desire to return to the harmony of Eden. This can only be resolved as a radical paradox in which worldly standards and values are necessarily inverted.

The Franciscan Sources *Paula Pearce, SFO*

This practical module will introduce you effectively to Francis of Assisi: Early Documents, enabling you to work confidently and competently with the Franciscan Sources, familiarising you with content, style, composition, context and method.

Franciscan Leadership *Crispin Jose, TOR*

Franciscan Leadership based on the Life and Writings of St. Francis.

Canon Law and Franciscan Leadership *Philippe Yates, OFM*

The role of the leader in Canon Law and the Franciscan application of law to life.

God's Extravagant Love *Kathleen Bishop, SFO and Team*

An experiential, reflective immersion into the Franciscan Intellectual Tradition.

July 10-14 Week 2

Poverty

Sunday evening begins with a 6:00 pm supper/social and an introduction of faculty and topics

Monday-Wednesday: Faculty members each lead a 2 hour seminar-type session in the morning and repeat that session in the afternoon. Sessions run 8-10 am and 10-12 pm in the morning and 2-4 pm and 4-6 pm in the afternoon.

Thursday Morning: a 1 hour session, repeated once. The afternoon will be open for the participants to engage in a guided experience of the rich Christian and Franciscan heritage of Canterbury and surrounding areas.

The week ends on Thursday evening with a barbeque supper, social and closing panel conversations.

Faculty and Seminar Topics

The Sine Proprio Father *Seamus Mulholland, OFM*

A Franciscan exploration of the Person of the Father as poor servant of the Trinity.

The Franciscan Sources *Paula Pearce, SFO*

This practical module will introduce you effectively to Francis of Assisi: Early Documents, enabling you to work confidently and competently with the Franciscan Sources, familiarising you with content, style, composition, context and method.

Poverty and the First Order: Life and Law *Philippe Yates, OFM*

Poverty for Franciscans is not primarily an ascetical practice but a fraternal one. Franciscans are not poor in order to become holy heroes, but we are poor so that we live as brothers and sisters to each other, to Christ's faithful, to all humanity and to creation. This course examines the nature of Franciscan poverty and investigates how this concept, properly understood, inspires fruitful Franciscan living.

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Francis and Clare: Models and Metaphors of Servant Leadership *Mary Elizabeth Imler, TOR*

Rooted in the experience of the "Poor One" that Francis and Clare found in Jesus, the course will explore the Franciscan value of poverty as the Source/source from which service empties out for the "Other/other". In this sense, whether in an official capacity or not, all Franciscans are called to be servant leaders.

The Poverty of Being Human *Michael Copps, OFM*

"Each person is called by God the Father to unimaginable greatness in sharing the life of God. However to attain what God desires, each person has to start from where they are that is in human limitation and sin. To imagine any other starting point is the height of folly."

Humility in the Canticle of the Sun *Clare Knowles, TOR*

We will focus on what the symbolism of The Canticle tells us about the humility of Jesus Christ and the implications of this message for today's world.

July 17 - 21 Week 3 Conversion

Sunday evening begins with a 6:00 pm supper/social and an introduction of faculty and topics

Monday-Wednesday: Faculty members each lead a 2 hour seminar-type session in the morning and repeat that session in the afternoon. Sessions run 8-10 am and 10-12 pm in the morning and 2-4 pm and 4-6 pm in the afternoon.

Thursday Morning: a 1 hour session, repeated once. The afternoon will be open for the participants to engage in a guided experience of the rich Christian and Franciscan heritage of Canterbury and surrounding areas.

The week ends on Thursday evening with a barbeque supper, social and closing panel conversations.

Faculty and Seminar Topics

Franciscan Conversion in Today's World *Colin Wilfred, SSF*

Embracing the Franciscan charism of conversion with an integrity that calls us to be both aware of and faithfully respond to the many moments for metanoia in our time and world.

Conversion: A Journey Into Light *Frances Teresa Downing, OSC*

Reflections on medieval images of light and being enlightened, and how this open up for us Clare's image of the mirror.

Conversion in the Admonitions *John Petrikovic, OFM Cap.*

The Admonitions are the synthesis of Francis' ardour for a total and faithful turning to the Lord. This course will explore the passionate love of Francis for Jesus as the primary admonition for conversion, from which the rest of the admonitions naturally flow.

Leadership Skills *Crispin Jose, TOR*

Leadership Skills - Definitions, Roles, Functions, Responsibilities and Practicalities.

Biblical and Liturgical Conversion *David Blowey, OFM Conv.*

This course will examine the biblical notion of metanoia in order to foster a deeper understanding of the liturgical experience of conversion in our life journey.

Rule and Life of the Brothers and Sisters of Penance *Mary Elizabeth Imler, TOR*

In a reflective manner the course will be dedicated to the sum and parts of the Third Order Regular Rule and Life with special emphasis on owning and developing a practice of the core value "evangelical conversion through a spirit of prayer, poverty and humility."

**July 24 - 30 Week 4
Contemplation**

A Guided Silent Retreat

The retreat opens 24 July, Sunday evening at 7 pm and concludes 30 July, Saturday Morning with Mass and Breakfast.

An Affair of the Heart : A Franciscan Eremitical Retreat *Patricia Jordan, TOR*

Focussing on the relationship between the hermitage within and the hermitage without, the retreatant is invited to engage in a gentle, sensitive journey through Scripture and the Life of St. Francis into the mystery of God's extravagant love in the embrace of our beauty and brokenness.

Daily Eucharistic Liturgy as well as opportunities for Reconciliation will be provided by *David Blowey, OFM Conv*

Recommended Text for the Retreat:

An Affair of the Heart: A Biblical and Franciscan Journey. (Available from the FISC bookshop, Canterbury www.franciscanbooks.co.uk).

TIMETABLE

Schedule	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
07:15		Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
08:00		Modules A, B, C	Modules A, B, C	Modules A, B, C	Modules A, B, C	Departure
09:00					Modules D, E, F	
10:00		Comfort Break	Comfort Break	Comfort Break	Comfort Break	
10:15					Module rerun A, B, C	
11:15		Modules D, E, F	Modules D, E, F	Modules D, E, F	Module rerun D, E, F	
12:15		Mass	Mass	Mass	Mass	
13:00		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
13:45		Morning module rerun A, B, C	Morning module rerun A, B, C	Morning module rerun A, B, C		
15:45		Comfort Break	Comfort Break	Comfort Break	Enrichment Afternoon	
16:00		Morning modules rerun D, E, F	Morning modules rerun D, E, F	Morning modules rerun D, E, F		
18:00	Supper	Supper	Supper	Supper	Supper	

MODULE TIMETABLE

Schedule	Faculty	Modules	Faculty	Modules
Week 1	Seamus Mulholland	Theology of Franciscan Formation and Leadership	Tom Herbst	Minority : The Inverted Pyramid
July 3 – 7	Paula Pearce	The Franciscan Sources	Crispin Jose	Franciscan Leadership
Minority	Philippe Yates	Canon Law and Franciscan Leadership	Kathleen Bishop	God's Extravagant Love
Week 2	Seamus Mulholland	The Sine Proprio Father	Paula Pearce	The Franciscan Sources
July 10 – 14	Philippe Yates	Poverty and the First Order : Life & Law	Mary Elizabeth Imler	Francis and Clare : Models and Metaphors of Servant Leadership
Poverty	Michael Copps	The Poverty of being Human	Clare Knowles	Humility in the Canticale of the Sun
Week 3	Colin Wilfred	Franciscan Conversion in Today's World	Frances Teresa Downing	Conversion : A Journey into Light
July 17 – 21	John Petrikovic	Conversion in the Admonitions	Crispin Jose	Leadership Skills
Conversion	David Blowey	Biblical and Liturgical Conversion	Mary Elizabeth Imler	Rule and Life of the Brothers and Sisters of Penance
Week 4	Patricia Jordan (David Blowey)	An affair of the Heart : Franciscan Eremitical Retreat	6 nights' Guided Silent Retreat	
July 24 – 30				
Contemplation				

Faculty Biographies

Bishop, Kathleen, SFO holds an MBA from the City University, London. She is a Regional Council Member and Fraternity Minister in the SFO and has been active in bringing the experience of God's Extravagant Love to the SFO in the UK and to schools and parishes.

Blowey, David, OFM Conv. obtained a Doctorate in Sacred Theology from the Pontifical Theological Faculty of St. Bonaventure in Rome. For 7 years he assisted in the theological formation of seminarians in East Africa. He lectures at the FISC and his interests are in Fundamental Theology and Sacramentology as well as various aspects of Franciscan Spirituality.

Colin, Wilfred, SSF is an Anglican Franciscan who is currently the guardian of the Friary in Canterbury. He was the Provincial Minister of Australia and New Zealand for five years, and is the co-editor of the new Franciscan Office Book called *The Daily Office SSF*.

Copps, Michael, OFM has been a member of the Order of Friars Minor since 1965. From 1981-1990 he was elected Guardian of the community at Chilworth and held the post of Novice Director for the same period. From 1990-2005 Michael served as both parish priest and guardian of the friary in several locations until 2005 when he was elected Minister Provincial of the Province of Friars Minor in Great Britain

Downey, Frances Teresa, OSC is a member of the Poor Clares. She has held several positions of responsibility within the communities to which she has belonged. Her publications include *Living the Incarnation: Praying with Francis and Clare of Assisi*; *This Living Mirror: Clare of Assisi* and *Praying in the Franciscan Spirit*.

Herbst, Thomas, OFM obtained a D.Phil. in Theology from the University of Oxford. He lectures at the FISC and his fields of interest include Franciscan Studies, especially Franciscan Christology and the writings of Francis and Clare. Publications: *The Way of Union: Sources and Reflections on the Johannine Dimension of Bonaventure's Christology*.

Imler, Mary Elizabeth, TOR served ten years as General Minister for the Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart from 1999-2009. She is a team member of the Franciscan Pilgrimage Program and undertakes international facilitation particularly for Franciscan TOR Institutes. She currently serves as the Vice President for Mission Integration and University Ministry at the University of St. Francis, Joliet, IL. Publications include *Cord articles* and *A Franciscan Solitude Experience*.

Jordan, Patricia, TOR is a Franciscan Minoress sister in full time ministry as Formation Director and Director of the Portiuncula House of Solitude in Clay Cross, Derbyshire. She holds a Ph.D. in Franciscan Theology and Spirituality. Publications: *An Affair of the Heart: A Biblical and Franciscan Journey*.

Jose, Crispin, TOR joined the Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy of the Holy Cross in her home country of India in 1975. She has extensive experience of formation both with pre-novices and novices. She first came to the FISC in 2005 and is currently studying for a Ph.D.

Knowles, Clare, TOR is a member of the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of Little Hampton. She is a formator of novices and a Ph.D. student at the Franciscan International Study Centre researching into the writings of St. Francis.

Mulholland, Séamus, OFM, holds PhDs in Biblical Studies and Philosophy. He lectures at the FISC in Biblical Literature, Philosophy, and Franciscan Studies. He has published extensively on Franciscan Studies and Biblical Literature. He is Guardian of the OFM Community and Director of Post Novitiate and On Going Formation for the English Province of the Order of Friars Minor and a Provincial Definitor.

Pearce, Paula, SFO received her MA Franciscan Studies from St Bonaventure University, New York. She was responsible for devising and preparing a five year ongoing formation plan for members of the SFO when she was National Formation Director. She currently serves on Regional and Fraternity Councils of the SFO in the UK. She lectures at the FISC and has contributed to the open learning material produced by the FISC concerning Franciscan history and spirituality.

Petrikovic, John, OFM, Cap is from Butler, PA. He holds Masters degrees in Liturgical Theology and Franciscan Studies. John has served as Provincial Secretary to his Capuchin Province from 1998-2004. Since 2004, John has served as Vice-Rector and Prefect of Studies for the Collegio San Lorenzo in Rome

Yates, Philippe, OFM holds a JCD from the Pontifical University Antonianum, Rome. In 2006 his book *Recollect Franciscan Poverty* was published by the Frati Editori di Quaracchi. He has served as Director of Friars in Temporary Profession and Definitor and Secretary for Formation and Studies for his province. He is the Principal of the FISC and lectures there in Franciscan Studies, Church History and Canon Law. He is a member of the Commission for the Service of Dialogue of the OFM, the Commission of Accompaniment for the Pontifical University Antonianum and the Secretariat for the Retrieval of the Franciscan Intellectual Tradition