



TO BECOME A FRANCISCAN TERTIARY

The following requirements are written by the Capuchin Friars of Morgon, France. They are given as a guide to priests who are asked to write letters of recommendation for candidates seeking to become Third Order Franciscans.

- Candidates must be in accord with the doctrinal position of the Capuchins of Morgon and of the Society of Saint Pius X in the present combat. Thus, no sedevacantists, no Fraternity of St. Peter, etc.
- They must not be "too" worldly. While they need not have a detachment from the world proper to those in the religious state, their lives nevertheless must not be entangled by worldliness.
- No originals. Those who are too singular, who act strongly and attract attention to themselves (such as praying in public with arms outstretched, dressing strangely, acting out, showing off, etc.) are not suitable for the Third Order.
- Those who do not have the spirit of concord should not be recommended.
- For those who are of such an age or who have such a rigidity of character that they would find it too difficult to acquire the Franciscan spirit and to go through the noviciate training, becoming Cordbearers would be more appropriate.
- Those who through their own fault have outstanding debts (having managed their affairs badly) are not to be admitted to the Third Order. This does not apply to those who are not at fault for their debts.
- No (seriously) unbalanced or depressive people.
- Those who are received must study well throughout the 1½ year noviciate to prepare themselves for their profession at the end of this period. (The Ceremony for the profession must also be studied).
- Those who are received are not allowed to wear the full outward habit in public. It may be worn for the clothing, for the profession and also for the tertiary's burial. The usual habit of the large scapular and cord must ordinarily be worn under one's clothing at all times according to the prescriptions of the rule.
- New converts are only accepted once they have acquired a good catechistic formation and the habits of a christian life.
- Candidates must be capable of being docile towards the superiors of the Third Order.