

Saint Francis Fraternity
Ongoing Formation
September 2013

Please remember to note anything, in any of the readings, that you find inspiring, puzzling, or would just like to talk about when we meet.

Scripture

God looked at everything he had made, and found it very good. (Gen. 1:31)

Please read (if you haven't already done so): *Finding Identity as a Secular Franciscan* by Edward M. Zablocki, SFO

We will pick up where we left off in August at the top of page 3. Our discussion will focus on exploring the secular aspects of our Secular Franciscan spirituality.

Please consider this quote

“The identity of the Secular Franciscan is rooted in our secularity. St. Francis brought the practice of gospel life out of the monasteries into the world of the family and society. This was, indeed, very good. Deeply spiritual and generous men and women, who could not abandon family responsibilities, now had a way to follow the Lord in the manner of St. Francis.

“The Rule identifies the world as the place where the brothers and the sisters, led by the Spirit, strive for perfect charity, in [our] own secular state. The world is our home and our mission field, and we are stewards of its resources and responsible for its care.”

~ Anne Mulqueen, SFO, “Our Identity as a Secular Franciscan” (Chapter 8 of the FUN Manual)

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Questions for meditation and discussion

- What is a secular spirituality?
- What do I bring to the world and share with the world that comes specifically out of my Secular Franciscan spirituality. What is uniquely Franciscan about my engagement with the world?
- Zablocki suggests the idea of a new “Canticle of the Culture.” What verse would you compose for such a canticle?