



STATEMENT OF FRANCISCAN VALUES

**“Let them pursue what they must desire above all things: to have a Spirit of the Lord and His holy manner of working.”
St. Francis**

- I. We acknowledge our first moment in our spiritual life as an encounter with human suffering among the poorest of the poor who mirror the Crucified Christ among us.
- II. We follow the footsteps of St. Francis walking with the outcasts among us-- the powerless, the poor, the beggars, the sick and the dying according to the form of the Holy Gospel.
- III. We the Knights of Saint Francis of Assisi, “willing disrobe our earthly garments” and put on Christ who is the model, the way, the truth and the life.
- IV. We commit to a path which is expressed concretely in a life characterized by relationships of brotherhood and sisterhood in the imitation of Christ our Brother and modeled on the word of the Gospel.
- V. We the Knights of Saint Francis of Assisi listen with humility to the Word with our “Human Heart” open to the Spirit who conforms each of us to Christ.
- VI. We the **Catholic** Knights of Saint Francis of Assisi adore, praise and receive the Most Holy Body and Precious Blood of the Risen Christ in the Eucharist which we declare is tantamount to the apostle’s own experience of the earthly and incarnate Jesus.
- VII. As Jesus gives himself in the form of bread and wine we Knights of Saint Francis of Assisi give ourselves in the form of love and service to God and others.
- VIII. In the Stigmata Francis becomes what he sees...and we the Knights of St. Francis of Assisi become what we receive in the Word and Sacrament.
- IX. In a Franciscan life of love in action we proclaim a pattern of salvation in Jesus who offered us the humility of the incarnation, the poverty of his earthly life and the charity of his Passion.
- X. As custodians of the environment we the Knights of St. Francis of Assisi give witness in word and deed by proclaiming respect for the created world which is a gift to all people from the hand of God.
- XI. We the Knights of St. Francis of Assisi follow a penitential path which turns us away from sin and toward God by our embrace and our encounter with each other through interfaith dialogue, intercultural discourse and intergenerational conversations on issues of peace and justice.
- XII. We the Knights of St. Francis of Assisi entrust ourselves to Mary who is “the Virgin made Church”, the tabernacle, the first disciple and Mother of Christ. She gives Jesus the flesh of our humanity with its frailty through her relationship with almighty God. She is the daughter of the Father, the mother of the Son and the Spouse of the Holy Spirit.