



## YOUFRA \* JEFRA \* GIFRA Franciscan Youth/Jeunesse Franciscain

### The YouFra, present and future

**The YouFra and the Church:** The YouFra commits itself to promote the Christian vocation through:

A coherent and authentic witness, which is more convincing than words.

The transmission of faith through attitudes of respect, listening, dialogue, true friendship, solidarity and service.

Its own experience and formation that helps in the task of evangelization.

Decisions and commitments that are coherent and definitive.

### The YouFra in the Franciscan Family

Recovering the spirit of Francis, the Young franciscan must be filled with a passion and love that places God in his/her first place.

If God is at the center of my life, I can also love and respect the other as he or she is, without discrimination of age, religion, culture or race.

It is important to abolish the barriers that I have within me so that I may see others as real brothers or sisters.

Being a member of the Franciscan Family, Youfra has and must take advantage of the opportunity to take the Gospel in a Franciscan way to all corners of life and be a light in today's world.

### The Eucharist for the Franciscan Youth

Like Francis, we too are called to recognize the sacrament of God's body in the Eucharist, and to live the Trinitarian experience on the basis of the Word and the Eucharist.

For the Young franciscans, the intimate relationship with Jesus and His word is fundamental in order to be able to live the Eucharist.

Minority, humility, innocence and poverty, are values that help to understand and live the Eucharist.

As Franciscans, we must celebrate the Eucharist in true community; prayer, formation and mission have no meaning without community.

## The YouFra in the future

The Local Fraternity must be strengthened as the place in which the evangelical life style to which the Young franciscan is called, can be deepened. Availability, poverty and fraternity must be fostered among its members. This will make the group grow and will support the sense of belonging to the YouFra.

The Franciscan Youth is not just another group; the YouFra Local Fraternity must be recognized by the Franciscan Family and in the church community. In order to achieve this, the presence in the Eucharist, the social works and the activities organized by the parish, the diocese and/or the Franciscan Family, are absolutely necessary. Furthermore, the YouFra must enrich itself through the knowledge of other youth church groups as well potentially being recognized as a juridical civil entity.

Ongoing formation must be enriched with spiritual retreats or other activities at the Regional or National level. The contacts through internet with other YouFra realities can also help the growth of the Young franciscan or the group. The Local Assistant must promote a greater approach to the young members of the Fraternity.

## **Who are we?**

**We are Franciscan Youth.**

**We are young.(16-30)**

**We feel attracted by St Francis of Assisi.**

**We try to share the experience of Christian life in Fraternity.**

**We deepen our vocation within the context of the Secular Franciscan Order.**

**We have our own specific organization, YOUFRA.**

**We are present in many countries.**