

# **Enkindling Love: The Spiritual Journey of St. Francis according to Bonaventure**

**Br. Edward Coughlin, O.F.M., Ph.D.**

**12 25-minute lectures on CDs with study guide**

**Also available in DVD format**

In this fascinating exploration of the biographies of St. Francis, you will discover new ways in which St. Francis can be your spiritual model.

Through 12 erudite lectures, you will give particular attention to the image of St. Francis in *The Major Legend* of St. Francis, written by St. Bonaventure, the great Doctor of the Church. When St. Bonaventure wrote this groundbreaking biography, he approached the task as a theologian who saw Francis as an “exemplar of Gospel perfection.” You will explore the powerful question posed by Bonaventure: Do we wish to admire or to imitate Francis, the perfect follower of Christ?

You can take no better guide for this journey than Br. Coughlin, O.F.M., an expert on both Francis and Bonaventure. His deep knowledge is matched by his enthusiastic teaching.

You will focus on the many ways Francis’s inner transformation—conversion of mind, heart, and choice—was embodied in a manner of life through which Francis became “a practitioner, a leader and a herald of Gospel perfection.” In each lecture, you will investigate how you might learn by his example for find a way of truth and peace.

While the twenty-first century is radically different from the medieval context in which Francis lived, his virtues of humility, right action, and prayerful attentiveness to personal experience are as relevant today as ever. Join St. Francis in leading a life of commitment to Christ today.

## **Topic Titles**

- Bonaventure: The Theologian of Francis’s Experience
- The Major Legend of St. Francis: A Portrait of the Most Perfect Follower of Christ
- The Major Legend: An Overview of the Structure and Contents of This Important Work
- Francis of Assisi: The Pursuit of Christ-like Virtues
- Austerity: The Struggle for a Disciplined Pattern of Life
- Humility: Francis Learning to Love His “Great Littleness”
- Poverty: On Learning to Place His Trust in God
- Pietas: On Learning to Live in Right Relationship with God, Others, Self, and All of Creation
- Caritas: On Learning to Love
- Prayer: On Learning to Keep the Spirit in the Presence of and Turn to God
- Francis: Formed by the Word of God
- “Let Us Begin Again”