

St. Francis: Gift from God, Man of Prayer

Fr. Charlie Smiech, O.F.M., M.Div.

12 Lectures (5 CDs) Including Electronic Study Guide

St. Francis of Assisi continues to electrify the Church with his words and deeds. Now, discover St. Francis as a model for modern spirituality in this powerful retreat.

Growing up in the merchant class of medieval Italy, Francis enjoyed a life of luxury, but he slowly became aware of another calling—the call from God. After his astounding conversion, Christ appeared to Francis in the Church of San Damiano and instructed him to “repair my house.”

This command to repair God’s church is as pertinent today as ever as we face the modern challenges of poverty, war, and corruption. In this 12-conference retreat, you will look at St. Francis as a guide for modern spiritual life. By looking at Francis’s personal conversion and his life of poverty, you will discover a model for your own faith journey. His experiences rebuilding the Church will inspire you on your own pilgrimage of life.

Among all the saints within the Catholic tradition, St. Francis is the most popular. His simple love and devotion to Christ and his Church make him an icon for today’s Church. In this retreat, you will encounter St. Francis’s great love for the Church in spite of all its imperfections. You will be inspired by his generous response in becoming God’s “instrument of reconciliation” and by his devotion to living Gospel truths.

Take St. Francis as your spiritual guide today.

About Your Presenter



Father Charlie Smiech, O.F.M., is an international retreat director and spiritual advisor. Ordained as a Franciscan friar in 1981, he is a member of Saint John the Baptist Province in Cincinnati, Ohio. He has traveled throughout the world offering the best in Catholic teaching and Franciscan spirituality. Father Smiech received his Master of Divinity from Christ the King Seminary in East Aurora, New York, and he continued his studies in spirituality at St. Michael's College in Toronto, Ontario, and at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.

From 1999 to 2006, Father Smiech served as spiritual director and guardian at the St. Francis Retreat House in Eaton, Pennsylvania. He preaches to religious congregations, at parish missions, and at numerous retreat centers throughout the United States and Canada. He has also attended inter-faith conferences in Germany, India, Italy, Jamaica, Mexico, and Pakistan.

Topic Titles

- Introduction: Francis before the Cross
- A Simple Man, a Complex Person
- A Man of Prayer
- From Fear to Liberation
- Self-Reflection towards an Enriched Life
- Fraternal Correction and Human Development
- Francis: A Man of Faith and Joy
- Contemplation/Action: Keeping a Healthy Balance in Life
- The Art of Community Established in Faith, Hope, and Love
- Francis: An Icon of Compassion and Gentleness
- Franciscan Prayer: A Style for All Peoples and All Generations
- Praising God: A Call to Reverence All of Creation

Electronic Study Guide: <http://x.co/20awl>