

A brief Lenten message from the National Minister

I hope to send a letter to all regions early in Lent. This is an early Lenten thought to all of you.

It is often that we find resonance with words of our wonderful Pope in the ofs Rule, such as

From the Lenten Message of Pope Francis

Lent is a favourable season for opening the doors to all those in need and recognizing in them the face of Christ. Each of us meets people like this every day. Each life that we encounter is a gift deserving acceptance, respect and love. The word of God helps us to open our eyes to welcome and love life, especially when it is weak and vulnerable

OFS Rule of Life

5. Secular Franciscans should seek to encounter the living and active person of Christ in their brothers and sisters, in Sacred Scripture, in the Church in Liturgical activity

13 As the Father sees in every person the features of his son, the firstborn of many brothers and sisters, so the Secular Franciscans with a gentle and courteous spirit respect all people as a gift of the Lord and an image of Christ

It is not so easy to live up to these words. May this Lent help us to live our way of life more faithfully.



The Prayer before the Crucifix

Most High glorious God,
Enlighten the darkness of my heart
And give me
True faith, certain hope and perfect charity,
Sense and knowledge. Lord,
That I may carry out Your holy and true command

Paula ofs