

JPIC supplement to Initial Formation - Inquiry
by Andrew Conradi, ofs (JPIC National Animator), 2016
Some ideas/points that could be included at the discretion of the formator

INITIAL FORMATION - INQUIRY

Chapter 4 “Inquiry in the OFS”

The Franciscan Journey (Updated version 2010) by Lester Bach, OFM Cap.

Note 1: *Understanding JPIC (UJPIC)* can be found here:

<http://www.franciscanvoicecanada.com/> Click on “Understanding JPIC” at the foot of the page. [It is best to get it from this source as it will post the amendments quickly after they are made so you will get the latest updated version here]

1.

From FJ p 39: “..., the program of Jesus – is “a heart which sees.”

From UJPIC:

“9.1. To conclude, we can say to be informed by faith, Catholic Social Teaching and Franciscan values; and to live our Rule and Constitutions means to form an opinion and to take a stand. They call us to respect the human dignity of those made in the image of God and be on the side of those who are impoverished, marginalized, excluded, exploited or suffer injustice; to speak and act for an end to war and violence; to understand, respect and actually care for the integrity of creation; and above all to work for the common good in solidarity and recognition of our kinship with all creation, all in imitation of Christ, in the footsteps of Francis and Clare and in the tradition of their followers.

9.2. Bach tells us (1999, 45): “Our call as Franciscans is demanding. We are not called to passive devotions nor fuzzy-friendly fraternity meetings with no content.” JPIC definitely provides serious and important content!

Pope Francis: “We are all asked to accept this call: to come out of our comfort zone and have the courage to reach all the peripheries that need the light of the Gospel” (2013, *Evangelii Gaudium*, n. 20).”

2.

From FJ p 41: “The SFO is not a devotional society that lets you do what you want as long as you pray.”

It bears repeating what was brought to your attention regarding Chapter 2 **from UJPIC**:

“4.1.5. To summarise, although the Leonine rule did not encourage apostolic activity unless it were under control of the ordinary, we were warned in our General Constitutions of 1957 that: “In order not to develop into associations of a purely devotional character, the fraternities of the Third Order are encouraged to promote a particular work of the apostolate.” (art 80) and “... in particular the work of *Catholic Action*.” (art 81)”

Our present (1978 Pauline) Rule no 15 tells us we must be in the forefront of the struggle for justice! Not on the sidelines or in the rear but at the front i.e. leaders. You’ll come to that later (Chapter 23).

Question:

Are we **leaders** in the struggle for JPIC? Or **followers**?