

**INTRODUCTION TO THE SPIRITUAL LIFE**  
**SESSION THREE—FRANCISCAN SPIRITUALITY**  
**INTIMATE DIALOG: PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS**

**PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS**

Almighty, eternal, just and merciful God,  
grant us in our misery (the grace)  
to do for You alone  
what we know You want us to do,  
and always  
to desire what pleases You.

Thus,  
inwardly cleansed,  
interiorly enlightened,  
and inflamed by the fire of the Holy Spirit,  
may we be able to follow  
in the footprints of Your beloved Son  
our Lord Jesus Christ.

And,  
by Your grace alone  
may we make our way to You  
Most High,  
Who live and rule  
in perfect Trinity and simple Unity,  
and are glorified  
God all-powerful  
forever and ever.

Amen.

*Francis and Clare: The Complete Works*, translation and introduction by Regis J. Armstrong, OFM, and Ignatius C. Brady, OFM (New York: Paulist Press, 1982), p. 61.

*(Source: Patricia Blakely for EDFP, Fall, 2004)*