



Martín Carbajo-Núñez

Celebrating Life:

*The Rule and
Christmas at Greccio*

(1223-2023)

2nd edition

Martín Carbajo-Núñez

Celebrating life:
The Rule and Christmas at Greccio
(1223-2023)

2nd edition

CARBAJO-NÚÑEZ Martín, *Celebrating life: The Rule and Christmas at Greccio (1223-2023)*, 2nd edition.

© 2023 Martín Carbajo-Núñez

Original edition: CARBAJO-NÚÑEZ M., *Celebrando la vida. La Regla y Greccio (1223-2023)*, Ed. Efarantzazu, Vitoria-Gasteiz 2023.

First English edition: CARBAJO-NÚÑEZ Martín, *Celebrating life: The Rule and Christmas at Greccio (1223-2023)*, Tau Publishing, Phoenix (AZ) 2023.

To the Franciscan family,
which joyfully celebrates its own charism.

Abbreviations

1. Books of the Bible

1Cor	1 Corinthians
1Kgs	1 Kings
2Tim	2 Timothy
Acts	Acts of the Apostles
Col	Colossians
Ex	Exodus
Is	Isaiah
Jn	John
Lk	Luke
Mt	Matthew
Ps	Psalms
Rm	Romans
Tit	Titus
Wis	Wisdom

2. Magisterium sources

AdS	FRANCIS, <i>Admirabile signum</i> . Apostolic Letter
CCC	Catechism of the Catholic Church
COD	<i>Conciliorum Oecumenicorum Decreta</i>
DC	BENEDICT XVI, <i>Deus caritas est</i> . Encyclical Letter.
EG	FRANCIS, <i>Evangelii Gaudium</i> . Exhortation
FT	FRANCIS, <i>Fratelli tutti</i> . Encyclical Letter
GE	FRANCIS, <i>Gaudete et Exsultate</i> . Apost. Exhortation
GS	SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL, <i>Gaudium et spes</i>

LG	SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL, <i>Lumen Gentium</i>
LS	FRANCIS, <i>Laudato si'</i> . Encyclical Letter
PC	SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL, <i>Perfectae Caritatis</i>
PL	MIGNE J.-P. (ed.), <i>Patrologia Latina</i>
S19df	AMAZON SYNOD, Final document
VC	JOHN PAUL II, <i>Vita consecrata</i> . Apost. Exhortation

3. Writings of St. Francis & St. Clare

2LtCl	CLARE OF ASSISI, II Letter to Agnes of Prague
2LtF	The second version of the Letter to the Faithful
4LtCl	CLARE OF ASSISI, IV Letter to Agnes of Prague
Adm	The Admonitions
CtC	The Canticle of the Creatures
ER	The Earlier Rule (<i>Regula non bullata</i>)
LR	The Later Rule (<i>Regula bullata</i>)
LtL	A Letter to Brother Leo
LtMin	A Letter to a Minister
LtO	A Letter to the Entire Order
OfP	The Office of the Passion
RCl	CLARE OF ASSISI, Rule
RE	A Rule for Hermitages
SalV	A Salutation to Virtues
TestC	CLARE OF ASSISI, The Testament
Test	The Testament
TestS	The Testament made at Siena

4. Franciscan sources and authors

1Cel	CELANO, The Life of St. Francis (<i>Vita Prima</i>)
2Cel	CELANO, The Remembrance of the Desire of a Soul (<i>Vita Secunda</i>)
CAED	ARMSTRONG R.J., Clare of Assisi: Early Docs.
CAss	The Assisi Compilation (The legend of Perugia)
CCGG	GENERAL CURIA OFM, General Constitutions

CFF	Conference of the Franciscan Family
FAED	AMSTRONG R.J – HERMANN J.A.W. – SHORT W.J. (ed.), Francis of Assisi: Early Documents
FF	Fonti Francescane, Padova ³ 2011
L3C	The Legend of the Three Companions
Lect	DUNS ESCOTO, Lectura
LMj	BONAVENTURE, The Major Legend
OFM	Ordo Fratrum Minorum
Ord	DUNS ESCOTO, Ordinatio (Opus Oxoniense)
Quarac chi	BONAVENTURE, <i>Opera omnia</i> , Collegii S. Bonaventurae, Quaracchi 1882-1902
SC	Sacrum commercium
SpecP	The Mirror of Perfection
Vat	DUNS SCOTUS, Opera omnia

5. Bibliographical and common

a.	Articulus
AAS	Acta Apostolicae Sedis
BAC	Biblioteca de autores cristianos
c.	Chapter
cf.	Confer, see, compare
d.	Distinctio, distinctiones
ed.	Editor, publisher, coordinator, editorial
Ibid	Ibidem
Id	Idem, the same
imp.	Reprint
LEV	Libreria Editrice Vaticana
n.	Number, numbers
OR	L'Osservatore Romano
p.	Pars, page, pages
q.	Quaestio, quaestiones
S.Th	THOMAS AQUINAS, Summa Theologiae
Selfran	Selecciones de Franciscanismo
Univ.	University

UP University Press
Vol. Volume, volumes

Introduction

This book is intended as a contribution to the celebration, in 2023, of the eighth centenary of two important events for the Franciscan family: the confirmation of the Later Rule (*Regula bullata*) by Pope Honorius III, on Nov. 29, 1223, and the celebration of Christmas at Greccio, just a month later. This centenary is a moment of grace and a propitious occasion to renew our consecration to the Lord.

The vital flame that has inspired Francis of Assisi and his followers for these eight hundred years needs to be continually rekindled. We too are invited to assume it today in a creative and dynamic manner, avoiding useless nostalgia. This publication aims to achieve this.

Consecrated life “is not about survival, but new life.”¹ The Lord who granted Francis “to begin doing penance” (*Test 1*) now gives us this opportunity to remember the past with gratitude, to strengthen joyfully our charismatic identity in the present and to open ourselves with hope to the future.

As we celebrate these centenaries, we must listen again to Francis's invitation: “Let us begin, brothers” (*ICel 103*). The Franciscan Order, like any other group of religious life, is a living organism that needs to be open to vital processes of transformation. We must also strive to ensure that the celebration of these centenaries positively impacts our

¹ FRANCIS, «Homily» (Feb. 2, 2019), in *OR 29* (Feb. 4-5, 2019) 11.

society and the cultural environments in which we are immersed.

We celebrate the centenary of “the Later Rule (*Regula bullata*),” which is the one officially and formally recognized by the Church at a canonical level. However, we could simply say that we celebrate the centenary of “the Rule,” without further specifications. Francis wrote three versions of it: Proto-Rule (1209), The Earlier Rule (*Regula non bullata*) (1221), and The Later Rule (*Regula bullata*) (1223). For him, what truly matters is “to observe the Holy Gospel” (*LR* 1) which goes beyond the scope of any legislative text.

Pope Honorius also recognizes the continuity between them, since he merely confirms the Rule that Innocent III had approved orally. In fact, the Pope could not have approved a new Rule without contradicting the decree issued by the Fourth Lateran Council in 1215, which banned the foundation of new religious orders.

In the first chapter, we study the Later Rule (*Regula bullata*), which is one of the four great Rules of consecrated life, and analyzes its inspirational force in today’s secularized society. It is not only a juridical text, but also a spiritual document, a guide “to live according to the pattern of the Holy Gospel” (Part 1). Those in authority must be at the service of this vital process, acting as mothers who take care of life (part 2). The third part presents the Rule’s current relevance and the need of an inspiring leadership that promotes processes of transformation to address the present challenges of religious life.

In the second chapter, we focus on Francis’ celebration of Christmas at Greccio in 1223. It is generally considered that this event gave rise to “the enchanting image of the Christmas crèche” and to the “intense spiritual atmosphere that surrounds Christmas.” In addition to offering some historical notes, the chapter relates it to salient themes of the

Franciscan theological tradition and reflects on its relevance for today's society.

On January 1, 2022, the *CFF* published a document with the Guidelines for the celebration of the Franciscan Centenary (2023-2026), which regards the Easter of Francis and the main events of his last years. More specifically, the *CFF* has articulated that centenary in four more specific centenaries: The Later Rule (*Regula bullata*) and Christmas at Greccio (2023), the gift of the Stigmata (2024), the Canticle of the Creatures (2025) and, as the culmination, the Easter of Francis (2026). At the end of this book, in an appendix, it is reproduced the part of that document that directly refers to the two centenaries which are the object of our study: the Later Rule (*Regula bullata*) and the Nativity at Greccio.

For the celebrations of the year 2023, the *CFF* has chosen the title “You are joy,” taken from the “Praises to God Most High” of St. Francisco. Our study also invites all to joyfully celebrate the life that God has given us through our religious profession in the Franciscan Order.

The *CFF* document and the successive guidelines, published on August 31, 2022, are organized around four dimensions: theological, anthropological, ecclesiological, and sociological. We will now continue to present the contents of our book following the outline of those four dimensions.

Theological dimension

The *CFF* affirms that the celebration of the centenary of the Later Rule (*Regula bullata*) is an opportunity to discern the centrality of the Gospel in our life. In this sense, our study underlines that, for Francis, the Rule is life, a guide to “live according to the pattern of the Holy Gospel” (*Test* 14). The religious profession means to receive (“*accipere*”) this life

Bibliography

Bible

US CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS, *Books of the Bible*, in *Internet*: <https://bible.usccb.org/bible>.

Magisterium

FOURTH LATERAN COUNCIL, «*Ne nimia religionum diversitas*» (1215), in ALBERIGO Giuseppe et al. (ed.), *COD*, Istituto Scienze Religiose, Bologna ²1996, 242.

COUNCIL OF VIENNA, «“*Exivi de Paradiso*.” Pastoral constitution» (May 6, 1312), *COD* 392-401.

SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL, «*Lumen Gentium*. Dogmatic constitution» (Nov. 21, 1964), in *AAS* 57 (1965) 5-71.

SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL, «*Gaudium et spes*. Pastoral constitution» (Dec. 7, 1965), in *AAS* 58 (1966) 1025-1120.

_____, «*Perfectae Caritatis*. Decree on the Adaptation and Renewal of Religious Life » (Oct. 28, 1965), in *AAS* 58 (1966) 331-352.

HONORIUS III, «*Cum secundum consilium*, Bull» (Sept. 22, 1200), (*FF* 2711-2715).

_____, «*Solet annuere*. Bull» (Nov. 29, 1223), (*FF* 2716).

GREGORY IX, «*Quo elongati*. Bull» (Sept. 28, 1230), in *Bullarium Franciscanum* I, 68-70 (*FF* 2729-2739).

- JOHN PAUL II, «Address to the Franciscan Family in Greccio» (Jan 2, 1983), in *SelFran*, 12/34 (1983) 143-158.
- _____, «*Vita consecrata*, Apostolic Exhortation post-sinodal,» (March 25, 1996), in *AAS* 88 (1996) 377-486.
- BENEDICT XVI, «Deus caritas est. Encyclical Letter» (Dec. 25, 2005), in *AAS* 98 (2006) 217-252.
- _____, «Address at the opening of the 12th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops» (Oct. 6, 2008), in *Ecclesia* 3436 (2008) 26.
- _____, «Homily during midnight mass of the Nativity» (Dec. 24, 2011), in *Insegnamenti di Benedetto XVI*, VII/2 (2011) 957-961, *LEV*, Vatican City 2012.
- _____, «General audience» (Dec. 23, 2009), in *Insegnamenti di Benedetto XVI*, V/2 (2009) 784-787, *LEV*, Vatican City 2010.
- FRANCIS, «Homily» (April 14, 2013), in *OR* (April 15-16, 2013) 8.
- _____, «Address to participants in the international congress on catechesis» (Sept. 27, 2013), in *OR* (Sept. 29, 2013) 8.
- _____, «*Evangelii gaudium*. Apostolic Exhortation» (Nov. 24, 2013), in *AAS* 105 (2013) 1019-1137.
- _____, «Apostolic Letter a todos los consagrados» (Nov. 21, 2014), in *AAS* 106 (2014) 935-947.
- _____, «*Laudato si'*. Encyclical Letter» (May 24, 2015), in *AAS* 107 (2015) 847-945.
- _____, «Homily» (Feb. 2, 2019), in *OR* 29 (Feb. 4-5, 2019) 11.
- _____, «Address at the ceremony commemorating the 50th anniversary of the institution of the synod of bishops» (Oct. 17, 2015), in *OR* 238 (Oct. 18, 2015) 4-7
- _____, «*Gaudete et Exsultate*. Apostolic exhortation» (March 19, 2018), in *AAS* 110 (2018) 1111-1161.

- _____, «*Admirabile signum*. Apostolic Letter» (Dec. 1, 2019), in AAS 111/12 (Dec. 6, 2019) 1839-1848.
- _____, «*Fratelli tutti*. Encyclical Letter. Encyclical letter» (Oct. 3, 2020), *LEV*, Vatican City 2020.
- Catechism of the Catholic Church, *LEV*, Vatican City 2019.
- AMAZON SYNOD OF BISHOPS, «Amazonia: New Paths for the Church and for an Integral Ecology. Final document,» in *Internet*: <http://www.sinodoamazonico.va/>
- XIII ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS, (Oct. 7-28, 2012), *Message to the People of God*, *LEV*, Vatican City 2012.
- Conciliarum Oecumenicorum Decreta*, (ed. Giuseppe Alberigo; aliorumque), Bologna ²1996.

St. Francis and St Clare: writings and early documents

- CLARE OF ASSISI, «The second letter to Agnes of Prague» (*CAED*, 47-49).
- _____, «The Form of Life of Saint Clare» (*CAED*, 106-126).
- _____, «The fourth letter to Agnes of Prague» (*CAED*, 54-58).
- _____, «The Testament» (*CAED*, 59-65).
- FRANCIS OF ASSISI, «Admonitions» (*FAED I*, 128-137).
- _____, «A Letter to a Minister» (*FAED I*, 97-98).
- _____, «A Letter to Brother Leo» (*FAED I*, 112, 122-123).
- _____, «A Letter to the entire Order» (*FAED I*, 116-121).
- _____, «A Rule for Hermitages» (*FAED I*, 61-62).
- _____, «A Salutation to Virtues» (*FAED I*, 164-165).
- _____, «The Canticle of the Creatures» (*FAED I*, 113-114).
- _____, «The Earlier Rule» (*FAED I*, 63-86).
- _____, «The Later Rule» (*FAED I*, 99-106).
- _____, «The Office of the Passion» (*FAED I*, 139-157).
- _____, «The second version of the Letter to the Faithful» (*FAED I*, 45-51).
- _____, «The Testament» (*FAED I*, 124-127).

- _____, «Testament made at Siena,» in *Internet*:
<http://www.liturgies.net/saints/francis/writings.htm#TestamentumSenis>
- «*The Assisi Compilation* (The legend of Perugia)» (*FAED* II, 111-230).
- «The Legend of the Three Companions» (*FAED* II, 61-110).
- «The Mirror of Perfection» (*FAED* III, 207-372).
- «The Sacred Exchange between Saint Francis and Lady Poverty» (*Sacrum commercium*) (*FAED* I, 521-554).
- BONAVENTURE, «The Major Legend» (*FAED* II, 525-683).

Franciscanism: Reference works

- DUNS SCOTUS John, *Opera Omnia*, studio et cura Commissioni Scotisticae ad fidem codicum edita, *LEV*, Vatican City 1950ss.
- _____, *Opera omnia*, vol. 1-26, ed. Vivès L., Paris 1891-1895.
- Fonti Francescane*, Ed. Francescane, Padova et al. ³2011.
- ARMSTRONG Regis J. - HELLMANN J.A.Wayne - SHORT William J., ed., *Francis of Assisi: Early documents*, 3 vol., New City Press, New York 2001.
- ARMSTRONG Regis J., *Clare of Assisi: Early Documents*, New City Press, New York 2006.
- GUERRA José Antonio (ed.), *San Francisco de Asís. Escritos, biografías, documentos de la época*, BAC, Madrid 2013 (4^a imp.)
- JACQUES DE VITRY (JAMES OF VITRY), «*Historia Occidentalis*» (*FAED* I, 578-589).
- _____, «Letter I» (1216) (*FAED* I 578-580).
- _____, «Letter VI» (1220) (*FAED* I 580-581)
- JORDAN OF GIANO, «Chronicle» (*FF* 2323-2412)
- THOMAS OF CELANO, «The Life of Saint Francis» (*FAED* I, 171-308).

- _____, «The Remembrance of the Desire of a Soul» (*FAED II*, 231-393).
- _____, *The life of Saint Francis (Shorter Life)*, St Paschal Friary, Box Hill, VIC, 2015.
- _____, «Treatise on the Miracles of Saint Francis» 3,19 (*FAED II* 298-308).

Books

- ACCROCCA Felice, *Francesco fratello e maestro*, Messaggero, Padova 2012.
- AGAMBEN Giorgio, *The Highest Poverty: Monastic Rules and Form-of-Life.*, Meridian, Stanford (CA) 2013. (ID., *Altissima povertà. Regole monastiche e forma di vita*, Neri Pozza, Vicenza 2011).
- AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO, *The Confessions of St Augustine*, Cosimo Classics, New York 2009. (ID., *Las confesiones*, Palabra, Madrid ²⁰2011).
- _____, «Sermo 375» (*PL* 39, 1668).
- ALBERZONI Maria Pia et al., *Il perdono di Assisi e le indulgenze plenarie: atti dell'Incontro di studio in occasione dell'VIII centenario dell'Indulgenza della Porziuncola (1216-2016): S. Maria degli Angeli, 15-16 luglio 2016*, Fondazione CISAM, Spoleto 2017.
- BARTH Karl, *The Epistle to the Romans*, Oxford UP, London 1968 (ID., *Carta a los Romanos*, BAC, Madrid 2002).
- BOFF Leonardo, *Francis of Assisi. A Model for Human Liberation*, Orbis, Maryknoll (NY) 2006. (ID., *San Francisco de Asís: ternura y vigor*, Ps Terrae, Santander ⁷1982).
- BONI Andrea, *La novitas franciscana nel suo essere e nel suo divenire (cc. 578/631)*, Antonianum, Rome 1998, 224-225.

- BRUFANI Stefano, (ed.), *Il Perdono d'Assisi. Storia agiografia erudizione*, Fondazione CISAM, Spoleto 2016.
- CACCIOTTI Alvaro, (ed.), *Il Natale di Francesco a Greccio*, Ed. Biblioteca Franciscana, Milano 2022.
- CARBAJO-NÚÑEZ Martín, *The universal fraternity. Franciscan roots of Fratelli tutti*, TAU publishing, Phoenix (AZ) 2023.
- _____, *Being a Franciscan in the Digital Age: New Challenges, New Life*, TAU publishing, Phoenix (AZ) 2021.
- _____, *Sister Mother Earth. Franciscan Roots of the Laudato Si'*, Tau Publishing, Phoenix (AZ) 2017.
- CENCINI Amedeo, *La vida fraterna: comunión de santos y de pecadores*, Sígueme, Salamanca ²1999.
- CLARENO Ángel, «Libro de las tribulaciones» quoted in DESBONNETS T., *De la intuición a la institución*, 9 (cf. FF 2113-2199/8).
- INTERNATIONAL THEOLOGICAL COMMISSION, *Synodality in the life and mission of the Church* (March 2, 2018), BAC, Madrid 2019 (https://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/cti_documents/rc_cti_20180302_sinodalita_en.html)
- .
- DESBONNETS Théophile, *De la intuición a la institución. Los franciscanos*, Ed. Franciscanas, Arantzazu 1991.
- DORIVAL Gilles - BOYER Jean Paul, (ed.), *La Nativité et le temps de Noël. Antiquité et Moyen Age*, Provence UP, Aix-en-Provence 2003.
- ESSER Kajetan, *Origins of the Franciscan Order*, Franciscan Inst. Pubs., Chicago 1970 (ID., *La Orden franciscana, orígenes e ideales*, Arantzazu, Oñate 1976).
- FERRERO Ernesto, *Francesco e il Sultano*, Einaudi, Torino 2019.

- GIEBEN Servus (ed.), *Francesco d'Assisi nella storia: Secoli XIII-XV*, Istituto Storico dei Cappuccini, Rome 1983.
- GRUNDMANN Herbert, *Religious movements in the Middle Ages*, Notre Dame UP, Notre Dame (IN) 2005. (ID., *Movimenti religiosi nel Medioevo*, Il Mulino, Bologna 1980).
- HALSBERGHE Gaston H., *The cult of Sol Invictus*, Brill, Leiden 1972.
- HOBBS Thomas, *On the Citizen*, Cambridge UP, Cambridge 2019. (ID., *De cive: elementos filosóficos sobre el ciudadano*, Alianza, Madrid 2016).
- The Rule of St. Benedict: an introduction to the contemplative life*, St. Martin's Essentials, New York 2020.
- LE GOFF Jacques, *Saint Francis of Assisi*, Routledge, London & NY 2014 (ID., *Francesco d'Assisi*, Biblioteca Francescana, Milano 1998).
- MARANESI Pietro – ACCROCCA Felice (ed.), *La regola di frate Francesco. Eredità e sfida*, Ed. Francescane, Padova 2012.
- METZ Johann Baptist, *Mistica degli occhi aperti. Per una spiritualità concreta e responsabile*, Queriniana, Brescia 2013.
- PALAZZO Éric, «Liturgie et société au Moyen Age,» Aubier, Paris 2000.
- POTTHAST August, *Regesta pontificum Romanorum*, De Decker, Lyon 1874.
- PUMA Giulia, *Les natiuités italiennes (1250-1450)*, l'École française de Rome, Rome 2019.
- RACCA Giorgio, *La Regola dei frati minori*, Porziuncula, Assisi 1986.
- RADI Luciano, *Francesco e il Sultano*, Citadella Editrice, Assisi 2006.
- RUIZ DE LA PEÑA Juan Luis, *Una fe que crea cultura*, Caparrós, Madrid 1997.

- SABATIER Paul, *Life of St Francis of Assisi*, Outlook, Frankfurt 2020 (ID., *Vita di san Francesco d'Assisi*, Mondadori, Milano 1978).
- SECONDIN Bruno, *Abitare gli orizzonti. Simboli, modelli e sfide della vita consacrata*, Paoline, Milano 2001.
- SENSI Mario, *Il perdono di Assisi*, Porziuncola, Assisi 2002.
- SINEK Simon, *Start with why. How great leaders inspire everyone to take action*, Portfolio, New York 2009.
- THODE Henri, *Franz von Assisi und die Anfänge der Kunst der Renaissance in Italien*, vol. I, Grote, Berlin 1885.
- TODISCO Orlando, *La libertà fondamento della verità. Ermeneutica francescana del pensare occidentale*, Messaggero, Padova 2008.
- THOMAS AQUINAS, *Summa Theologiae*, 35 voll., Studio Domenicano, Firenze 1949-1975.
- URIBE Fernando, *La Regla de San Francisco. Letra y Espíritu*, Espigas, Murcia 2006.
- VELÁSQUEZ Daniel Ignacio, *La Regla de los Frailes Menores*, Cali 1949.
- YOUNG Karl, *The Drama of the Mediaeval Church*, Vol. II, Clarendon Press, Oxford 1933.
- ZANARDI Bruno – ZERI Federico – FRUGONI Chiara, *Il cantiere di Giotto. Le storie di S. Francesco ad Assisi*, Skira, Milan 1996.

Articles in books

- ACCROCCA Felice, «Il Natale di Greccio nella testimonianza delle fonti,» in CACCIOTTI Alvaro, (ed.), *Il Natale di Francesco a Greccio*, 8-36.
- _____, «Un cantiere aperto. Travagli redazionali delle Regole “di” Francesco,» in MARANESI P. – ACCROCCA F. (ed.), *La regola di frate Francesco*, 13-56.

- BARTOLI LANGELI Attilio, «La *Solet annuere* come documento,» in MARANESI P. – ACCROCCA F. (ed.), *La regola di frate Francesco*, 57-94.
- DOZZI Dino, «La Regola per la vita,» in MARANESI P. – ACCROCCA F. (ed.), *La regola di frate Francesco*, 191-228.
- ESSER Kajetan, «Melius catholice observemus. Esposizione della Regola Franciscana alla luce degli scritti e delle parole di san Francesco,» in *Introduzione alla Regola franciscana*, Cammino, Milano 1969, 107-221.
- FRUGONI Chiara, «Analisi delle singole scene,» in ZANARDI Bruno – ZERI Federico – FRUGONI Chiara, *Il cantiere di Giotto*, 66-363.
- _____, «Sui vari significati del Natale di Greccio, nei testi e nelle immagini,» in CACCIOTTI A., (ed.), *Il Natale di Francesco a Greccio*, 53-141.
- HENRICUS ABRINCENSIS, «Legenda S. Francisci versificata,» in AA.VV., *Legendae S. Francisci Assisiensis saeculis XIII et XIV conscriptae, Quaracchi, Ad Claras Aquas 1926-1941, Fasc. IV*, 362ss.
- HULST Cesario van, «Natale,» in CAROLI Ernesto (ed.), *Dizionario Francescano. Spiritualità*, Messaggero, Padova 1995, 1216-1218.
- IULIANUS SPIRENSIS, «Vita S. Francisci,» in AA.VV., *Legendae S. Francisci Assisiensis saeculis XIII et XIV conscriptae, Quaracchi, Ad Claras Aquas 1926-1941, Fasc. IV*, 360-361.
- MARANESI P., «La relazioni tra fratelli,» in MARANESI P. – ACCROCCA F. (ed.), *La regola di frate Francesco*, 507-549.
- NAGY Piroska, «Making a Collective Emotional Body. Francis of Assisi Celebrating Christmas in Greccio (1223),» in MARTÍN-MORUNO Dolores - PICHEL Beatriz

- (ed.), *Emotional Bodies: The Historical Performativity of Emotions*, Champaign (IL) 2019.
- ODOARDI Giovanni, «Il S. Francesco della Comunità nei sec. XIV e XV,» in GIEBEN Servus (ed.), *Francesco d'Assisi nella storia: Secoli XIII-XV*, vol 1, Istituto Storico dei Cappuccini, Rome 1983, 123-159.
- OFM, «General Constitutions,» in ID., *The General Constitutions and the General Statutes of the Order of Friars Minor*, General Curia OFM, Rome 2021 (<https://ofm.org/uploads/The%20General%20Constitutions%20and%20Statutes%20ENG.pdf>).
- RODRÍGUEZ CARBALLO José, «La grazia delle origini. VIII centenario della fondazione dell'Ordine dei Frati Minori (1209-2009),» in *Enchiridion dell'Ordine dei Frati Minori. Documenti 2003-2007*, III, LIEF, Vicenza 2009, 750-765.

Articles

- BAISAS Bienvenido Q., «San Francisco de Asís y el portal de Belén,» in *SelFran* 145/51 (2022) 107-114.
- BEKLINER Nicholas R., «The origins of the crèche,» in *Gazette des beaux Arts* 30/2 (1946) 249-278.
- CARBAJO-NÚÑEZ Martín, «La alegría de evangelizar. Potencialidad de la via pulchritudinis y del lenguaje narrativo,» in *Verdad y vida* 265 (2014) 333-367.
- _____, «Duns Scoto e il dialogo oggi,» in *Studi ecumenici* 27/4 (2009) 445-476.
- _____, «“Proclamad la Buena Nueva a toda la creación” (Mc 16,15). Ecología integral y evangelización» (Número monográfico), in *Frontera Hegian. Cuadernos de Formación Permanente de VR*, n. 121/3 (2023).

- ESSER Kajetan, «Das ‘ministerium generale’ des hi. Franziskus von Assisi,» in *Franziskanische Studien* 33 (1951) 329-348.
- _____, «Gehorsam und Autorität in der frühfranziskanischen Gemeinschaft,» in *Wissenschaft und Weisheit* 34 (1971) 1-18.
- GARCÍA PAREDES José C. Rey, «El liderazgo “que viene de Dios,”» in *Vida religiosa* 112/4 (2012) 24, 259-264.
- _____, «Procesos de transformación: volar, viajar, contemplar» (31.01.2017), in <https://vidareligiosa.es/procesos-de-transformacion-volar-viajar-contemplar/>
- GONZALO DíEZ Luis Alberto, «Líderes que mantengan la expectación y el apasionamiento,» in *Vida religiosa* 112/4 (2012) 17, 250-258.
- GOUGAUD Louis, «La crèche de Noël avant saint François d’Assise,» in *Revue des Sciences Religieuses* 2 (1922) 26–34.
- GRISAR Hartmann, «Antiche basiliche di Rome imitanti i santuari di Gerusalemme e Betlemme,» in *Analecta Romana*, Rome 1899, 577-594.
- GUERRA José Antonio, «Autoridad y obediencia en las dos Reglas franciscanas. Una reflexión sobre 1R 4-6 y 2R 10,» in *SelFran* 29 (2000) 203-248.
- HONORIUS III, «*Quia populares tumultus*. Bull» (3.12.1224), in *Bullarium Franciscanum* I, 20.
- KAPROŃ Mariusz Adam, «¿Cómo celebró San Francisco la Navidad en 1223? 800 años después de la Navidad de Greccio,» in *Yachay* 40/77 (2023) 9-34.
- LEHMANN Leonard, «El “Salmo Navideño” de San Francisco (*OfP* 15),» in *SelFran* XX/59 (1991) 261-263.
- MARANESI Pietro, «Il travaglio di una redazione. Le novità testuali della Regola bollata indizi di un’evoluzione,» in *Miscellanea Francescana* 109 (2009) 61-89; 353-384.

- MÉHU Didier, «L'évidement de l'image ou la figuration de l'invisible corps du Christ (IX^e –XI^e siècle),» in *Images Re-vues* 11 (2013), in *Internet*: <http://journals.openedition.org/imagesrevues/3384>.
- PRINZIVALLI Emanuela - FIORELLI Lorenzina, «Alcune riflessioni sulla “Vita s. Francisci” di Giuliano da Spira,» in *Hagiographica* 3 (1996) 137-162.
- RAMINA Antonio, «La carità dell'obbedienza,» in MARANESI P. – ACCROCCA F. (ed.), *La regola di frate Francesco*, 435-470.
- ROSENTHAL Erwin, «The Crib of Greccio and the Franciscan Realism,» in *Art Bulletin* 36/1 (1954) 57-60.
- SCHMUCKI Okavian, «La Regola di Giovanni da Matha e la Regola di Francesco d'Assisi: somiglianze e peculiarità, nuovi rapporti con l'Islam,» in *Italia Franciscana* 74/3 (1999) 11-42.
- SEDDA Filippo, «*Exivi de Paradiso*: la conciliazione di una storia contrastata,» in *Frate Francesco* 83/1 (2017) 137-159.
- URIBE Fernando, «Apuntes para una lectura actualizada de la regla franciscana. La dimensión evangelizadora de la vida según la regla bulada,» in *SelFran* 36 (2006) 181-206.
- _____, «Comentar hoy la Regla franciscana,» in *Collectanea Franciscana* 76 (2006) 119-160.
- _____, «Cristo en la experiencia y en las enseñanzas de Santa Clara de Asís,» in *SelFran* 66 (1993) 437-464.

Name Index

A

Accrocca F., 20, 24, 25, 31, 34,
40, 49, 50, 52, 81, 93, 94, 97
Agamben G., 27, 89
Agnes of Prague, 35, 36, 87
Alberzoni M.P., 59, 89
Armstrong R.J., 88
Arnolfo di Cambio, 54
Augustine of Hippo, 17, 19, 39,
43, 50, 73, 89

B

Baisas B.Q., 53, 95
Barth K., 67, 90
Bartoli L.A., 20, 93
Basil (Saint), 19
Bekliner N.R., 55, 95
Benedict XVI, 5, 39, 43, 50, 52,
65-68, 79, 83, 86
Benedict (Saint), 19, 23, 27
Bernard (saint), 39, 43, 58
Boff L., 74, 90
Bonaventure, 7, 51, 55, 56, 61,
62, 64, 83, 88, 118
Boni A., 19, 88
Boyer J.P., 53, 91
Brufani S., 59, 90

C

Cacciotti A., 50, 53, 81, 90, 93,
94

Carbajo-Núñez M., 17, 34, 44,
63, 69, 90, 95
Caroli E., 72, 94
Cencini A., 42, 90
Clare of Assisi, 7, 35, 36, 77,
87, 88, 107
Clareno A., 21, 90
Clemente V, 20

D

Dalarun J., 81
Dejure A., 81
Desbonnets T., 20, 21, 35, 90,
91
Dorival G., 53, 91
Dozzi D., 24, 94
Duns Scotus J., 88

E

Esser K., 19, 28, 31, 39, 91, 94,
96

F

Ferrero E., 40, 59, 91
Fiorelli L., 51, 97
Francis (Pope), 5, 6, 9, 11, 15,
16, 23, 32, 43, 45, 54-56, 61,
65, 67, 86
Frugoni C., 53, 59, 93, 94

G

García Paredes J.C.R., 43, 46,
96
Gerhoh of Reichersberg, 55

Gieben S., 33, 91, 95
 Giotto, 59, 93, 94
 Giovanni da Matha, 38, 97
 Gonzalo Díez L.A., 96
 Goff J. Le, 25, 91
 Gougaud L., 54, 96
 Gregory IX, 26, 36, 86
 Gregory of Naples, 40
 Grisar H., 53, 96
 Grundmann H., 22, 91
 Guerra J.A., 36, 86, 96

H

Halsberghe G.H., 53, 91
 Hellmann J.A.W., 88
 Henricus Abrincensis (Henry of Avranches), 51, 52, 94
 Hippolytus of Rome, 52
 Hobbes T., 37, 91
 Honorius III, 9, 10, 14, 19, 20, 30, 33, 40, 59, 61, 62, 85, 97
 Horowski A., 40
 Hugo of Ostia, 24, 26, 30, 40
 Hulst C. van, 72, 94

I

Iulianus Spirensis (Giuliano da Spira), 51, 94

J

Jacques de Vitry (James of Vitry), 32, 40, 59, 89
 John of Greccio, 18, 56, 62
 John Paul II, 6, 76, 86
 Jordan of Giano, 40, 89
 Julian of Speyer, 51

K

Kapron M.A., 53, 97
 Kumka E., 81

L

Lehmann L., 50, 97
 Liberius (Pope), 52

M

Maranesi P., 20, 24, 25, 31, 32, 34, 38, 81, 92-94, 97
 Martín-Moruno D., 55, 95
 Matthew of Narni, 40
 Méhu D., 70, 97
 Melli M., 81
 Metz J.B., 13, 92

N

Nagy P., 54, 94
 Nicholas IV, 54
 Nuño J.F., 49

O

Odoardi G., 33, 95

P

Palazzo É., 62, 92
 Pichel B., 55, 95
 Innocent III, 38, 54

Potthast A., 54, 92
 Prinzivalli E., 51, 97
 Pseudo Dionigi, 38
 Puma G., 60, 92

Q

Quaglia A., 81

R

Racca G., 21, 92
 Radi L., 56, 92
 Ramina A., 31, 97
 Rodríguez Carballo J., 43, 95
 Rosenthal E., 54, 97
 Ruiz de la Peña J.L., 66, 92

S

Sabatier P., 24, 25, 92
 Schmucki O., 38, 97
 Secondin B., 48, 82, 92
 Sedda F., 21, 97
 Sena L., 27
 Sensi M., 59, 92

Short W.J., 87
Sinek S., 46, 92
Sixtus III, 53
Mélek-al-Kamel (Sultan), 59

T

Thode H., 52, 93
Thomas Aquinas, 8, 37, 64, 68,
93
Thomas of Celano, 26, 33, 42,
50, 51, 55, 60, 87, 111
Todisco O., 63, 93

U

Uribe F., 19, 21, 29, 93, 97

V

Velásquez D.I., 21, 93

Y

Young K., 55, 93

Z

Zanardi B., 59, 93, 94
Zeri F., 59, 93, 94

Subject Index

A

Adoration of the kings, 18
Amartiocentric vision, 71, 72
Anthropology: negative 39;
positive, 83
Ars moriendi, 46

B

Baptism, 78
Bardi table, 64

C

Casuistic interpretation, 23
Chapter: general (1266), 65
of the elders, 42
Charism, 3, 13, 19, 23, 49-51,
54, 86, 108
Charismatic ideal, 12, 49;
identity, 9
Christocentric vision, 72
Conscience, 34, 38, 39, 40
Consecrated life, 9, 10, 21,
33, 41, 45, 49
Consumerism, 13, 53;
consumerist society, 87
Contemplation, 13, 59, 73,
113
Council: 4th Lateran, 10, 22,
89; 2nd Vatican, 6, 16, 23,
51, 86, 80; of Vienna, 22,
89
Crusades, 62, 63

Cry: of the earth, 13, 77; of
the poor, 13

D

Dimension: anthropological,
13; ecclesiological, 15,
105; sociological, 17;
theological, 12, 107
Dream, 46, 47, 48, 86

E

Evangelical counsels, 23
Evangelization, 17, 115

F

Family: cosmic 75, 76;
Franciscan, 3, 7, 9, 15, 17,
82, 90, 107-111, 113, 114;
universal, 75
Fraternity, 14, 16, 33-37, 39,
43, 79, 94, 110-112, 116
Fuga mundi, 74

G

Gallican psalter, 31

H

Hierarchical: church, 15, 32;
differences, 16; pyramid,
48
Holiness, 13, 66, 76

I

Ideal: charismatic, 12, 49;
evangelical, 24, 50; high,

47; original, 48; lack of 86;
 of holiness, 13
 Individuality, 14, 56
 Individualism: liberal, 71, 85
 Indulgence: plenary, 63; of
 the Porziuncola, 62, 93

K

Kenosis, 34, 81

L

Leadership, 37, 41, 48, 49;
 inspiring, 10, 24, 48; of the
 “why”, 49
 Life: consecrated, 9, 10, 21,
 33, 41, 45, 49
 Logic: of gift, 12, 34, 50, 63,
 85; of power, 12, 41, 43,
 50, 85

M

Maternal: care, 14, 36; love,
 36
 Method of programming, 46,
 50
 Monk(s), 14, 30, 35, 36;
 taciturn, 36
 Mortal sin, 23, 28
 Mystery, 14, 55, 59, 64, 66,
 67, 70, 71, 73, 76, 77, 79,
 82, 114; of God, 13; of the
 incarnation, 12, 59, 71, 80
 Mystic of open eyes, 13; of
 ordinary life, 13, 75
 Mystical spirituality, 13;
 union, 79

N

Nostalgia, 9, 47
 Novitiate, 42

O

Obedience: charitable 36;
 personal, 31; reciprocal, 35;
 to God, 38

Order: Dominican 21;
 Franciscan, 11, 26, 33, 47,
 64, 94, 109; Trinitarians, 40

P

Paschal mystery, 68, 87
 People of God, 16, 91
 Poor Clares, 42
 Process(es): of
 transformation, 10, 24, 47,
 49, 50

R

Relationships: horizontal 14;
 fraternal, 29, 34, 35, 36
 Religious: institute, 49; life;
 profession, 11, 12, 23, 30,
 86, 87
 Roman curia, 25, 28, 44
 Rule: Early 27: Proto-rule,
 10, 26, 27, 35

S

Society: consumerist 85;
 secularized, 10, 21, 24, 53,
 85; today's, 11
Solet annuere, 21, 22, 32, 35,
 44, 90, 97
 Spiritual: discernment, 38;
 life, 12
 Spirituality of poverty, 80
 Symbolic language, 80
 Synodal church, 15, 16, 110
 Synodality, 15, 16, 94, 112

T

Tradition: Augustinian 67;
Franciscan, 11, 53, 54, 74;
Medieval 53; Monastic, 60

U

Universal: family, 74;
fraternity, 43

V

Vital: dynamism, 29, 36, 46;
process, 10, 23, 24, 47, 117
Vocational crisis, 86

General index

Abbreviations	5
Introduction	9
Theological dimension.....	11
Anthropological dimension	13
Ecclesiological dimension	14
Sociological dimension.....	16
1. “So that they might have life.” The Later Rule of Saint Francis	19
1.1. “The life of the lesser brothers begins”	22
1.1.1. The rule is life.....	23
1.1.2. “Those who wish to adopt this Life” (<i>LR 2</i>).....	26
1.1.3. Let them “be received to obedience”	28
<i>a) Obedience in the first person</i>	29
<i>b) To obey is to embrace fraternity and the logic of gift</i>	32
1.2. Authority: mothers who care for life	34
1.2.1. Listening to the Holy Spirit, true Minister General	36
1.2.2. Reluctance of some ministers: The logic of power	38
1.3. Today we need the Rule	42
1.3.1. How should we live the Rule today?	42
1.3.2. Assuming the Rule as a vital process of transformation.....	44
1.3.3. Authority: Witnesses who inspire and animate	45
1.4. Summarizing.....	47
2. Celebrating life that rises again: The Nativity Scene at Greccio	49
2.1. The narratives on the nativity scene at Greccio.....	51
2.1.1. Some precedents	52
2.1.2. The version of Celano (<i>ICel 84-87</i>).....	55
<i>a) New Bethlehem, new Church, new creation</i>	55
<i>b) Peace on Earth</i>	57

c) <i>A new humanity</i>	59
2.1.3. Bonaventure's narrative (<i>LMj</i> 10,7).....	60
2.2. The mystery of God as generous love.....	62
2.2.1. Divine love as the origin and foundation of all that exists.....	63
2.2.2. The nearness of God.....	64
2.3. The Incarnation illuminates our humanity.....	65
2.3.1. Christocentrism and relational anthropology.....	66
2.3.2. The human being is a contemplative, a “hearer of the Word”..	68
2.4. Strengthening family relationships.....	69
2.4.1. Everyone has a place in Bethlehem.....	70
2.4.2. The Incarnation and the Eucharist build the cosmic family.....	71
2.5. The Goodness and Sacramentality of Creation.....	72
2.5.1. Sister creatures.....	73
2.5.2. Creation manifests the goodness of God.....	73
2.5.3. A joyful, visual, and emotional experience.....	74
2.6. St. Clare and the Mystery of the Incarnation.....	76
2.7. Summarizing.....	77
General conclusion	79
Bibliography	83
Bible.....	83
Magisterium.....	83
St. Francis and St Clare: writings and early documents.....	85
Franciscanism: Reference works.....	86
Books.....	87
Articles in books.....	90
Articles.....	92
Name Index	95
Subject Index	99
Appendix	103
A. General Observations.....	103
Themes.....	103
Recipients.....	104
Methodology.....	104
B. Celebrating the Rule (1223-2023).....	105
Texts.....	105
Our being in Christ.....	106

Our being brothers and sisters	107
Our being in communion	107
Our being in the world.....	108
C. Celebrating Christmas at Greccio 1223-2023.....	109
Texts	109
Our being in Christ	111
Our being brothers and sisters	111
Our being in communion	112
Our being in the world.....	112
General index	115

The book

This book is intended as a contribution to the celebration of the eighth centenary of two important events for the Franciscan family: the confirmation of the Later Rule (*Regula bullata*), and the celebration of Christmas at Greccio. The Pope reminds us that consecrated life "is not about survival, but new life." Avoiding useless nostalgia, this book aims to help Franciscans rekindle the vital flame that inspired Francis of Assisi enabling them to remember the past with gratitude, strengthen joyfully their charismatic identity in the present and open themselves with hope to the future.

The author

Martín Carbajo-Núñez, OFM, was born in Figueruela de Arriba (Spain) and currently teaches ethics and communication at two Pontifical universities: Antonianum (PUA) and Alfonsianum (PUL). At the PUA, he has served as Vice-Rector and Rector Magnificus *ad interim* for three years. He also teaches regularly in Spain and the USA.

He holds a doctorate degree in Moral Theology (PUL), a Master in Social Communication (Gregorian Univ, Rome), a License degree in Germanic Philology (Univ. Santiago de Compostela) and he is a qualified computer technician. He has more than 300 publications, including 51 books. More information on www.antoniano.org



Current Day Hermitage Shrine in Greccio, Italy

This book is intended as a contribution to the celebration, in 2023, of the eighth centenary of two important events for the Franciscan family: the confirmation of the Later Rule (Regula bullata) by Pope Honorius III, on Nov. 29, 1223, and the celebration of Christmas at Greccio, just a month later. This centenary is a moment of grace and a propitious occasion to renew our consecration to the Lord.



\$16.95
ISBN 978-1-61956-665-1
51695>

