

Pope to Capuchin Friars: True greatness is in smallness



Pope Francis meets Capuchin friars during their General Chapter in Rome and tells them that frugality and sobriety among their communities are the visible signs of God.

By Francesca Merlo

After welcoming the new General Minister, Br. Roberto Genuin, Pope Francis recognized some of the focal points of this year's General Chapter. These include studying the theme "take my yoke... and learn from me"; and a document which "helps lead the consecrated person into the heart of the Gospel".

Simple Lord

In prepared remarks handed to the monks friars at the beginning of the meeting, Pope Francis urged the friars to push themselves "to live religious service and activities in gratuitousness, humility and meekness". He explained that by doing so, they would be following the example of Saint Francis of Assisi. "In this way, with daily, concrete actions you will be able to bring to life the 'smallness' that characterizes Francis' followers."

"This is how the Lord acts:" said the Pope. "He does things simply. Humility and simplicity are God's way of life." This is the same way of life that Christians are called to assume in our lives and in our missions.

"The true greatness is to make yourself small, and serve", said Pope Francis.

He asked that "with this 'smallness' in your hearts and way of life you bring your share into the Church's efforts for evangelization". This can be done, according to Pope Francis, "by generously bringing the apostolate into direct contact with different chapters – especially with the poor and the suffering." [\[Full Article...\]](#)

[The meeting with Pope Francis...](#)

