

# Franciscan Brothers of the Holy Cross

The Franciscan Brothers of the Holy Cross are vowed religious men who share a life of prayer and apostolic work in community.



The Congregation was founded by Peter Wirth, later to become Brother James, in 1862 in Hausen, Germany. Brother James founded the Congregation in response to his deep desire to answer God--- who was calling him--- to the care and education of orphan boys and to the attendance and care of the sick, the suffering and anyone who was in need.

Brother James and his followers were convinced that they were called to a religious vocation imitating the virtues, values, and vision of St. Francis of Assisi. This desire was realized in the way the Brothers chose to live in community: by living and preaching by their example the message of the Cross of Jesus. The motto of the Congregation was borne out of the sufferings that St. Francis experienced as well as the founder: "In Cruce Victoria!", "In the Cross is Victory!"

The General Motherhouse, of the Franciscan Brothers of the Holy Cross is located at the foundation place or birth place of our Congregation, in Hausen. Germany. It is located in the region called the Westerwald, near the Wied River. The Franciscan Brothers of the Holy Cross are an international community. Our desire to that we further our presence and mission by fostering vocations to interested men in India who have the desire to follow Jesus and St. Francis, and serving as a Franciscan Brother in our Congregation.

Brothers strive to bring people to the knowledge of the Gospel and the message of the Cross and to make others know they are valued and have a place in making the world a better place. The Franciscan Brothers of the Holy Cross can be found in various ministries to help attain this goal.

Today, the Brothers are engaged in various ministries that serve the sick, the suffering and anyone who is in need. In particular, the Brothers work in parishes, in religious education, as teachers, in healthcare facilities, nursing homes and residential and day training facilities for the intellectually disabled.

Brothers also share their vocation with and in the Catholic Church as secretaries, liturgical artists, and musicians, sacristans and other liturgical ministries. Brothers also serve as specialized technicians, handworkers, mechanics, groundskeepers and cooks. We all share the common household duties and tasks as with any family.

As Franciscan Brothers of the Holy Cross, we freely bind ourselves to a life of commitment through the act of public vows. These vows are Consecrated Celibacy, Poverty, and Obedience.

We welcome interested men between the ages of 18 upward to our community. Formal entrance, however, would be initiated after a time of discernment and in communication with our vocation team assigned to you.

**For more information, to learn about us contact at:**

## **Franciscan Brothers of the Holy Cross**

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