

For Reflection & Discussion

The stories of the lives of Francis and Clare of Assisi are the foundation stone of formation and mission work in Franciscan ministries. The stories can be used in many ways with staff, leadership teams and the wider community.

AS WELL AS DISCUSSING THE QUESTIONS WHICH FOLLOW, YOU COULD CONSIDER USING THE STORY OF CLARE AS THE BASIS FOR A MINISTRY MURAL, FOR A DIGITAL REPRESENTATION OF THE MINISTRY FOUNDATIONS OR IN DRAMA AND MUSICAL ACTIVITIES. YOU COULD ALSO INVITE FRANCISCANS TO SHARE WHAT INSPIRED THEM ABOUT THE STORIES OF CLARE.

- What part of Clare's story has the most impact on you?
- How can the life of Clare inspire new generations of people working in Franciscan ministries?

- Clare faced many challenges and struggles in her life and work. What can she teach us about dealing with setbacks and difficulties?
- Clare gave her energy, passion and health to the ideal of Gospel poverty and simplicity. Who might Clare be helping if she was walking in your community today?
- Clare's story highlights the importance of prayer and reflection in listening to God's call to mission. She spent time in silence; she listened to the voices of the poor and marginalised; she responded to the needs of her time through healing and support.

How can your ministry ensure that prayer, reflection and discernment are the heart of everything that you do?

- Clare's life inspired others and her legacy became the foundation of Franciscan enterprises across the world. She is the co-founder of the Franciscan tradition. What made her work and her vision appealing to others? Who are our contemporary Clares challenging social and political paradigms and practising radical mercy and compassion?

