



SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER

Five Franciscan Martyrs Region

Florida, South Georgia, Lower Alabama

www.ffmr-ofs.org

Annual Local Fraternity Report for the Year Ending December 31, 2024

Complete *and* approve at a Fraternity Council Meeting *and* submit before **February 14, 2025.**

(Attach additional pages if there is not enough space.)

This may be completed by editing the file and sending the completed, saved report to the Regional Minister.

Name of Fraternity: Little Flowers of St. Francis Fraternity, #51-11601

Gathering Place: Fireplace Room at the Basilica of St. Paul Catholic Church, Daytona Beach, Florida

Address: 317 Mullally St, Daytona Beach, FL 32114

Minister's Phone: 973-879-4343

Council Meeting Day(s): First Monday of each month

Time, 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.: Place: Mary Jane McMenemy, OFS, Formation Director's Home:

Monthly Gathering Day(s), 2nd Saturday of each month

Time: 9:30 am to 12 Noon

- **Were there any changes in your Fraternity Council in 2024?** {NO} {YES}; If not due to an official election, give reason for change:

SPIRITUAL ASSISTANT INFORMATION

- **Does your fraternity have a Spiritual Assistant? If so, please provide name, address, phone, and email if not already provided with Council contact information.** Karen Szczesniak, OFS, Spiritual Assistant, 1409 Cottage Hill Dr., DeLand, FL 32724, Cell: 386-785-7882; Email: karensof@gmail.com
- **In what year did this assignment begin?** 2011
- **Was he/she formally assigned by your Provincial?** {NO} {YES}; **If so, list the name of the Provincial who made the assignment and the obedience to which you are bonded.**
 - a. First appointment: Fr. Gene Pistachio, OFS; The OFMs continued me in this service, while their Provincial Appointments changed. I have served for over twelve plus years – the Provincial Spiritual Assistants “restarted” my service at the beginning of 12 years, more than once. Our Lady of Guadalupe Province is whom we are bonded to and should be sending a reappointment letter to the fraternity.
- **How many of your local fraternity gatherings has your Spiritual Assistant attended this past year?**
 - a. Has attended 12 monthly Chapter Gatherings.
 - b. Offers Council On-Going Formation at every meeting., uses the SERVANT LEADER HANDBOOK many times during preparation for whatever is called for in service to the council and fraternity. Formation Fridays from National are also used.

How many local Council meetings has your Spiritual Assistant attended this past year?

- a. Has attended 12 monthly Council Meetings.

FORMATION INFORMATION

- List all the books and other materials used for initial and ongoing formation:

c. **INITIAL:**

1. COME and SEE, Orientation
2. FRANCISCAN JOURNEY Embracing the Franciscan Vision; Chapters 1-33, concluding with 26 full month in that book.
3. To Live as Francis Lived, Leonard Foley OFM/Jovian Weigel, OFM, Patti Normile, OFS

d. **ONGOING:**

1. Servant Leader Handbook;
 2. Catechism of the Catholic Church; our Rule and Constitutions
 3. From Gospel to Life from the National and Regional Formation Director
 4. Called to Make Present the Charism, Benet A. Fonck, OFM
 5. Works of the Seraphic Father, St. Francis of Assisi, Translated by the Religious of the Order
 6. Called to Follow Christ, Benet A. Fonck, OFM
 7. Video Series on Profession, Fr. Richard Trezza, OFM
- **What topics in the *FUN Manual* or *Franciscan Journey* have been used and are useful for Ongoing Formation?** The FUN Manual is mostly used for reference material for the Formation Team members.
 - **How often has your fraternity discussed the status of *Instrumentum Laboris*?** Instrumentum Laboris was discussed during the past three years – but not as regularly as we would have hoped.
 - **What initial goals has your fraternity set as a result of *Instrumentum Laboris*?** We had concentrated on our Formation Program – and Vocations during the past two years. And of course, we realize that we have more work to do in the future.
 - **What goals has your fraternity reached as a result of *Instrumentum Laboris*?** We believe that we have reached our tentative goal in new folks going through initial formation -
 - **Do you have a local fraternity Newsletter?** {NO} **{YES}**
 - If so, how often is it published? Once a month
 - How is it distributed? Mostly electronically, however, we have hard copies available for those who do not have computers or printers.
 - **With whom do you share your newsletter (bishop, Regional Executive Council, your Family Councilor, etc.)?** We send out newsletter to other fraternities, family council (now that we have new councilors). We plan on reaching out to our local bishop in the future, which is part of our Vocation plan
 - **What Apostolic work does your fraternity do as a whole fraternity? What percentages of the fraternity participate?** We sponsor a poor family abroad as well as poor in our local area; annually gathering together personal needs for the needy. Most everyone in the fraternity contributes to this effort either, physically or monetarily.
 - **Describe the activities (Mass, prayer services, etc.) your fraternity attends outside the regular gathering times.** Our newly professed, Fr. Timothy Daly, OFS, offers a monthly Mass for one of our fraternity deceased throughout the year. The fraternity also attends special events with (our sister) St.

Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity, in DeBary, Florida. We also attend available programs at other fraternities, when notified (invited).

JPIC, YOUFRA, ECUMENCIAL OUTREACH, VOCATIONS

- **Describe the personal contact you have had with the youth in your area this past year.** This is one of plans for the new year. We have two members who will be working with youth.
- **Who is the current contact for your Youth/Young Adults/YouFra Animator for your fraternity?** At this time the Minister is the one who keeps the fraternity abreast of what is going on with YouFra.
- **How many in your fraternity, including the Minister or Youth Animator, attended any National or Regional Youth/YouFra Zoom or in-person workshops/meetings?** The Minister, and there is always an invitation to participate in the Zoom or in-person workshops/meetings.
- **List your Fraternity “JPIC” projects and activities for 2024.** At this time, it is our annual plan to work on JPIC Projects
- **Describe your participation in any Ecumenical outreach activities in 2024.**
 1. We recently gave the fraternity a special DRAMA – A PLAY, between St. Francis and The Sultan, based on the book ‘St. Francis of Assisi and the Conversion of the Muslims, by Frank M. Rega; We also had a fraternity quiz about the Moslem Religion and what we knew or didn’t know about it. We plan on enlarging our ability to reach out in the future.
- **Describe the activities you have done to increase vocations to the Secular Franciscans in your fraternity.**

GENERAL QUESTIONS

- **What programs has your Fraternity participated in during 2024** (Retreats, Days of Recollections, special celebrations)? Our Annual Fraternity Evaluations help us plan our year – some of our member attended special Retreats by the Region, Day of Recollection and monthly special celebrations
- **What programs/events has your Fraternity Council planned for 2025?** We will be attending the Christmas Program at the Basilica in Orlando in January; We will be developing our annual plan from the fraternity evaluations that are completed in December.
- **Is there anything you wish to share with the Regional Executive Council?** At this particular time, we cannot think of any, however, we thank you for all the assistance that you make available for us.
- **Describe any difficulties you have had connecting with the Region when scheduling elections, visitations or when having problems within your fraternity.** We are not aware of any difficulties that we have had in connecting with the Region. We are anxious to work with the new family councilors.
- **What has been your fraternity’s greatest challenge this past year?** As we began being very successful in building up our fraternity – we found it necessary to explore more ways to handle the number of people who were looking into our Order – Our new Formation Team was the answer – so it is time for us to approach a new challenge.
- **What are your fraternity’s strongest asset(s)?** We believe our strongest asset is the membership itself – and the love and concern that is shown to each other.
 1. **How many in person gatherings have you had this past year?** 100%
 2. **About how many members attend in person?** 14 to 18

- **How many attend through some electronic means?** 0%
- **During the past year, how often have you been in touch with your Family Councilor? How was this done (personal contact, zoom, email, or phone conversations)?** Because we are all having new Family Councilors – we haven't felt the need for contact – however, I believe that our Family Council is Kelly Otero, OFS, from St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity. We two local Ministers are together on the Regional Council.
- **How often have you or your delegate attended your family gatherings this past year?** Someone is at every family gathering.
- **How are you keeping in touch with your shut-in members?** We have two shut in members, and there is always someone communicating with them, visiting them, and they receive a newsletter.
- **How are you keeping in touch with your Active-Excused, Lapsed, or Temporary Withdrawn members?** We only have one 'snowbird', who is in the middle of a transfer. We do not have any temporary withdrawn members.
- **When was your last profession?** September 15, 2024 **How many were professed?** July 13th, for a total of 2 Professed
- **Is your *Come and See* brochure available in another language?** Spanish
Do you need the *Essential Documents* in another language? NO, we had no one who speaks Spanish or any other language.
- **How many members received and read the one printed copy of the TAU-USA, the National Fraternity's newsletter?** The TAU-USA is available for all of the fraternity members. I don't know how many actually read it.
- **How many members received and read the 3 electronic copies of the TAU-USA?**
Do you provide a printed copy for those members without email? They are available for those who wish to have them. I know that the Formation Team Members share the TAU-USA with their classes.
- **Do you prefer the electronic or printed copy of the TAU-USA (the cost for each printed edition in Spanish and English is \$30,000)?** It is much more cost efficient to do it by electronic copies

Keep copies of this Annual Report and your Annual Treasurer's Report in the Fraternity's records

IF YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND SOMETHING OR NEED HELP, CONTACT US! WE ARE HERE TO HELP!

Note: You will shortly receive your Fair Share Contribution assessment. Please mail a check along with your Fraternity's 2024 Treasurer's Report to the address below.

MAIL OR EMAIL YOUR ANNUAL REPORT TO:

Jeane Swaynos, OFS (FFMR Regional Minister)
216 East Sweetwater Creek Drive
Longwood, Florida 32779
Cell 407-462-0808

swaynos@cfl.rr.com

Also send a copy to your Family Councilor.

MAIL YOUR TREASURER'S REPORT AND FAIR SHARE CHECK TO:

Karen Rooney, OFS (Regional Treasurer)
1315 Mirror Terrace NW
Winter Haven, FL 33881
Cell 863-224-5919

karenrooneyofs@outlook.com

LOCAL FRATERNITY VISITS

Father Jerome Wolbert, OFM, is one of our National Spiritual Assistants and the Provincial Spiritual Assistant for Our Lady of Guadalupe Province, which encompasses almost the entire USA. He will be coming to visit our region for a Regional Pastoral Visitation on May 16-18, the dates of our Annual Meeting. He will extend his trip to permit him to personally visit as many local fraternities as possible. During these visits he will meet with the council and, if possible, the local fraternity. He will be arriving on May 9th and flying back May 27th.

Below is a list of dates when he could visit your local fraternity. Please designate three dates that would work for you in ranking order. He will be visiting throughout the week. You will need to schedule your meeting at that time and may need to provide housing for one night for him. You may want to meet at someone's home if the church where you meet is not available.

This is a wonderful opportunity to meet with your Provincial Spiritual Assistant, and we will try to accommodate as many fraternities as possible. Please List your first three choices and return it with your completed annual report. Times are flexible, please be specific.

Availability to Meet with Fr. Jerome

Date	Day	Morning 9-12	Afternoon 1-4	Evening 5-9
5-10	Saturday (Regular Gathering 9-12)	Little Flowers of St. Francis Daytona Beach, FL		
5-11	Sunday (Mother's Day)			
5-12	Monday			
5-13	Tuesday			
5-14	Wednesday			
5-15	Thursday			
5-16	Friday Annual Chapter Meeting	Not available	Not available	Not available
5-17	Saturday Annual Chapter Meeting	Not available	Not available	Not available
5-18	Sunday Annual Chapter Meeting	Not available	Not available	Not available
5-19	Monday			
5-20	Tuesday			
5-21	Wednesday			
5-22	Thursday			
5-23	Friday			
5-24	Saturday			
5-26	Sunday			

If you need additional copies of the treasurer report, follow this link

https://www.secularfranciscansusa.org/wp-content/uploads/Local_Fraternity_Treasurers_Forms-Fraternity_Treasurers_Annual_Report.xls; https://www.secularfranciscansusa.org/wp-content/uploads/Local_Fraternity_Treasurers_Forms-Fraternity_Treasurers_Annual_Report.pdf