



FIVE FRANCIS MARTYRS REGION

FRATERNAL and PASTORAL VISITATION REPORT

Queen of Peace Fraternity

Ocala, FL ~ November 23, 2024

Part 1: Fraternal Visitor

Visitation

Queen of Peace Fraternity was visited by Margie Sweeney, OFS, Fraternal Visitor and Fr. Tobias Wirmum, OFM Cap, Pastoral Visitor. The Visitation occurred on November 23, 2024 at Queen of Peace Catholic Church in Ocala, FL.

Statistics and Composition

Queen of Peace Fraternity was established May 26, 1990 and is bonded to the OFMs of Our Lady of Guadalupe Province which is documented with the Region.

Current Membership consists of 4 Professed (down from 6), 6 Active Excused, 1 lapsed, 1 death, and 1 moved. There was a visitor who is considering formation.

Growth in the last 3 years - Since the Interim Visit of August 20, 2024 there has been continued decline in numbers as noted above. There has not been a full Council for several months. On the positive side, there is one visitor, Diane Ducette who has attended 3 gatherings and is considering entering into formation.

The current Council elected May 27, 2023.

Awilda Guadalupe, OFS, SA is the Spiritual Assistant. Her appointment is on file with the Region. She was not present for the Visitation. Three members were present: Margaret Wendel, OFS, Minister, Nick Wineriter, OFS, Vice-Minister, Judy Torres, Treasurer as well as Diane Ducette, visitor.

Preparatory Information

The Pre-Visitation Questionnaire was completed and received by the Visitors in a timely manner. Members completed the Reflection Questionnaires and Council members completed the Self-Evaluations.

Records

Since the were Interim Visitations in May and August, fraternity records were not reviewed at this Visitation.

- Roster of Members was previously presented.
- Official Profession Register was previously presented.
- NAFRA data base information and who in the fraternity updates the database was not presented.
- Copies of essential documents including Rule, Constitution, Statutes, Regional Guidelines - These were not presented.
- Minutes – Fraternity and council meetings were previously presented.

- Attendance records were presented.
- Treasury Reports – These were previously presented but not scrutinized.
- Year-End Report to the Region sent in a timely manner? This was submitted in a timely manner for 2023.
- History - is documentation of past events and history of the fraternity being kept? Yes.
- Publications – The fraternity publishes a newsletter but does not have an online presence.

Participation in local, regional, and national activities

Participation in the Annual Regional Meeting - Margaret Wendel, OFS, Minister attends the Annual Regional Meetings.

Are there any fraternity members serving on the regional or national council? Due to distance and health problems members are not engaged in Local, Regional, or National activities, except for Margaret Wendel, Minister, who is also a Spiritual Assistant to another fraternity.

Do they receive and read the TAU-USA National newsletter and the newsletter JOYFUL MESSENGER of the Region? Yes.

In what ways do they interact with other fraternities or participate in Family Gatherings? Due to health and distance, members do not interact with other fraternities and do not participate in the Family Gatherings, except for Margaret Wendel, OFS, Minister.

Council

The current Council consists of the Minister, Vice Minister, and Treasurer who have been previously interviewed. They show competence in their elected positions but lack enough persons in the fraternity to have a full Council which is necessary to properly run a fraternity. They are missing a Secretary, Formation Director, and Councilor. They do have a Spiritual Assistant.

Gathering Observations

There was no formal gathering due to the small size of members present so no comment could be made for the date of the visit. The two prior interim visits did have good engagement, fellowship, and time for prayer and formation.

Part 2: Pastoral Visitor

Spirituality

Please see Fr. Tobias' comments in the Joint Summary on pages 3 and 4.

Formation

N/A - No one currently in formation.

On-Going:

Please see Fr. Tobias' comments in the Joint Summary on pages 3 and 4.

Fraternity

Please see Fr. Tobias' comments in the Joint Summary on pages 3 and 4.

Apostolate

Visiting their sick members who can no longer attend gatherings.

Part 3: Joint Summary

Commendations and Recommendations

Comments from Margie Sweeney, OFS

Commendations:

- Queen of Peace Fraternity has a visitor who is interested in formation.

Some recommendations:

- Unfortunately they are too small at this point lacking a full Council and Formation Director to proceed.
- The suggestion at this time is for deactivation and becoming a satellite of San Damiano Fraternity in Summerfield. If this option is approved, San Damiano Fraternity or another fraternity in good standing would provide formation, fraternity life, spiritual assistance, and administrative oversight for the members of Queen of Peace fraternity. Awilda Guadalupe, OFS, SA has agreed to continue to work with them as their Spiritual Assistant.
- Any formation to be done for Initial Formation needs to be done in-person with the Formation Team of a fraternity in good standing.

Comments from Fr. Tobias. Wirmum, OFM Cap

- Report After The Pastoral Visit To Queen Of Peace Fraternity Ocala 11/23/2024 On the above date Dr Margie and myself effected a pastoral and fraternal visit to the above mentioned fraternity. First thing is that the fraternity has only four professed active members and one ready to start formation. The latter was asked to follow her formation in the neighbouring fraternity of San Damiano Summerfield. Despite their numbers, they are faithful to their meetings and prayers. The spiritual assistant lives in Oxford and aside from illness, has been providing spiritual assistance to the fraternity. As said above there is no initial formation but they do on-going formation. There was a fraternal spirit reigning among the five of them. Their apostolate consists of visit of the sick and members who are no longer able to attend meetings.
 - RECOMMENDATIONS: Deactivation is necessary. The four are encouraged to come together meet and pray. The lone one for formation should be encouraged to go for formation in the Saint Damiano fraternity of Summerfield. They like other fraternities should do some publicity in parishes around for Christians to hear the call of the Lord to embrace the Franciscan spirituality as SFO members.
- Fr Tobias

The Minister is to share this Report with members of the fraternity.

The fraternity members are to dialogue about the contents and hold each other accountable for the implementation of the practical applications and the suggestions. Suggest that they take their pulse at regular intervals and review this Visitation report periodically.

Visitors' names and contact information

***Name - Fr. Tobias Wirmum, OFM Cap
FFMR Regional Spiritual Assistant
Pastoral Visitor***

Email -

wirmumtobiasdziedzemoon@gmail.com

Phone - 201-359-1726

Name - Margie Sweeney, OFS

***FFMR St. Elizabeth of Hungary Family Councilor
Fraternal Visitor***

Email -

MotherOfTheLivingGospel@gmail.com

Phone - 407-973-3366

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