

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: Mother of the Living Gospel

Gathering Place, Address, Phone: Incarnation Catholic Church 1515 Edgewater Dr. Orlando, FL 32804

Phone: 407-843-2886

Council Meeting Day(s), Time, Place: 1st Saturday at 9:00 am, Incarnation Catholic Church

Monthly Gathering Day(s), Time: 1st Saturday at 11:00 am, Incarnation Catholic Church

Were there any changes in your Fraternity Council in 2024? {NO} {YES};
 If not due to an official

election, give reason for change:

<u>Chapter of Elections: 9/7/2024</u> Minister: Margie Sweeney, OFS

Vice-Minister: Magdy Pavletic, OFS

Formation Director: Nora (Myriam) Miranda, OFS

Secretary: Kimberly Taylor, OFS
Treasurer: Patricia Rochette, OFS
Councilor-At-Large: Rita Freitas, OFS

Councilor-At-Large: William Sanchez, OFS

Spiritual Assistant: Awilda Guadalupe, OFS, SA (no change, just adding for completeness)

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.

Awilda Guadalupe, OFS, SA

5119 Harbour Dr. Oxford, FL. 34484

Phone: 678-438-7648 Email: guadalupewillie882@gmail.com

In what year did this assignment begin? 2023

- Was he/she formally assigned by your Provincial? {NO} {<u>YES</u>}; If so, list the name of the Provincial who made the assignment and the obedience to which you are bonded. Fr. Cidouane Joseph, OFM, formerly Most Holy Name of Jesus Province, now Our Lady of Guadalupe Province.
- How many of your local fraternity gatherings has your Spiritual Assistant attended this past year? 7
 attended (absenses were due to illness)
- How many local Council meetings has your Spiritual Assistant attended this past year? 7 attended
 (absences were due to illness)

FORMATION INFORMATION

- List all the books and other materials used for initial and ongoing formation:
 - INITIAL Franciscan Journey, Catechism of the Catholic Church, Church Documents, FUN Manual, The Holy Bible.
 - ONGOING To Set Themselves Free, An SFO Statement of Commitment, The FUN Manual, The Rule of the SFO, Formation Friday materials, The Holy Bible, Spiritual Gifts Inventory, 2023-2026 Centenary Document.
- What topics in the *FUN Manual* or *Franciscan Journey* have been used and are useful for Ongoing Formation? **Formation, The Rule, Prayer.**
- How often has your fraternity discussed the status of Instrumentum Laboris? Once
- What initial goals has your fraternity set as a result of *Instrumentum Laboris*?
 Establishing our relationship with LifeChoices Medical Clinic as our apostolate.

Starting a formation team.

Starting a newsletter.

Starting JPIC and YouFra.

Having Council Days of Reflection.

Having Advent and Lent Days of Reflection or Retreats.

What goals has your fraternity reached as a result of Instrumentum Laboris?

We have established our relationship with LifeChoices Medical Clinic and now adding an additional apostolate with Cristos de la Calle that we will participate in 2025.

We have started a formation team.

We will be starting a newsletter in 2025.

We are starting a JPIC project on Human Trafficking.

We hope to do something in the area of YouFra in 2025.

We had our first Council Day of Reflection in August.

We had our first Advent Retreat in 2024.

- Do you have a local fraternity Newsletter? {NO} {YES} We hope to have a newsletter in 2025.
 - If so, how often is it published? n/a
 - How is it distributed? n/a
- With whom do you share your newsletter (bishop, Regional Executive Council, your Family Councilor, etc.)? n/a
- What Apostolic work does your fraternity do as a whole fraternity? What percentages of the fraternity participate?

Our current apostolate is LifeChoices Medical Clinic. We participate 100% financially and about 14% in-person. We pray for the apostolate and moms in need 50% and also by text. Mass participation once a month, yearly retreat. We provide items for clientelle use. Also participated in Candle-light vigil as part of 40 days for life.

We also offer Gregorian Masses for our deceased members as a spiritual work of mercy with 100% financial particiption of the fraternity.

Individual members are involved in additional prolife endeavors - spiritual adoption of the unborn, baby showers for moms in the 9th month of pregnancy, March for Life in St. Augustine, attending prolife Masses. Respect for Life Ministry and 40 Days for Life.

• Describe the activities (Mass, prayer services, etc.) your fraternity attends outside the regular gathering times.

Two members currently offer videos on YouTube on Scripture/Apologetics topics. Our current topic is The Admonitions of St. Francis.

Rosary afer the Mass at Incarnation Catholic Church as a Franciscan group.

The fraternity attended the June Family Gathering in Apopka. Topics presented were Profession and the new Regional Guidelines.

We had a Council Day of Reflection in August at St. Francis of Assisi in Apopka on the topics of Spiritual Gifts and Servant Leadership.

Our first fraternity Advent retreat was in December with Fr. Tobias Wirmum, OFM Cap at St. James Cathedral. The topic was "A Change of Heart."

JPIC, YOUFRA, ECUMENCIAL OUTREACH, VOCATIONS

- Describe the personal contact you have had with the youth in your area this past year. None.
- Who is the current contact for your Youth/Young Adults/YouFra Animator for your fraternity? Currently
 not active. We hope to begin work in this area in 2025.
- How many in your fraternity, including the Minister or Youth Animator, attended any National or Regional Youth/YouFra Zoom or in-person workshops/meetings?

- List your Fraternity "JPIC" projects and activities for 2024. We are just beginning in this area and are learing more about Human Trafficking which is our fraternity project.
- Describe your participation in any Ecumenical outreach activities in 2024. We offer Scripture/
 Apologetics videos on YouTube.
- Describe the activities you have done to increase vocations to the Secular Franciscans in your fraternity.
 Prayers with the Wandering Cross, prayer for vocations at our monthly gatherings, and individuals praying for vocations in all 3 branches of the Franciscan family. We also have a fraternity brochure and post our gatherings on the church bulletin board and in the church bulletin at Incarnation Catholic Church. We also reach out on social media Facebook, X, and YouTube.

GENERAL QUESTIONS

• What programs has your Fraternity participated in during 2024 (Retreats, Days of Recollections, special celebrations)?

We celebrated the Crowning of Mary at our fraternity gathering in May. We celebrated the Transitus at our fraternity gathering in October. We had our first fraternity Advent Retreat in December.

What programs/events has your Fraternity Council planned for 2025?

We hope to have a Council Day of Reflection.

We hope to have a Day of Reflection for Lent and Advent.

We hope to have a Transitus Service.

We hope to have a Greccio celebration.

- Is there anything you wish to share with the Regional Executive Council?
 We are beginning our second year as an established fraternity and know that there is much yet to be done. We are grateful for the opportunity to be an established fraternity and look forward to what the Lord will have us to do. We realize that we must "begin again for up until now we have done little or nothing."
- Describe any difficulties you have had connecting with the Region when scheduling elections, visitations or when having problems within your fraternity.

We are blessed to have a responsive Regional Council and even more blessed that we now have a Regional Spiritual Assistant, Fr. Tobias Wirumum, OFM Cap.

Our Family Councilor, Larry Bleau, OFS attended our Mass of Profession for our 3 newest professed members in May. He presided over our Chapter of Elections in September and also provided us with a workshop on "The Nuts and Bolts of A Council" in November.

We look forward to meeting our Provincial Spiritual Assistant, Fr. Jerome Wolbert, OFM in May, 2025!

- What has been your fraternity's greatest challenge this past year? Having enough time to organize and accomplish the many facets of fraternity life that are on our bucket list such as JPIC, YouFra, newsletter, apostolates, retreats, etc. The church was destroyed by fire in 2023 which has made our meeting space a challenge and we had another fire of our temporary church space in 2024 but we have managed to persevere through these challenges. Our pastor remains very supportive of our presence at Incarnation Catholic Church. Our SA's temporary illness caused her absence from fraternity gatherings but she keeps in touch when absent and we have been managing to make progress in our identified areas of Instrumentum Laboris.
- What are your fraternity's strongest asset(s)?
 A willingness to serve and to learn what is needed. Our strong family bond and working well together. We address challenges as they occur.
- How many in person gatherings have you had this past year? 12
 - About how many members attend in person? 95+ % on average.
 - How many attend through some electronic means? None. All are in-person.
- During the past year, how often have you been in touch with your Family Councilor? Many times. How
 was this done (personal contact, zoom, email, or phone conversations)? All of these means of contact
 occurred.
- How often have you or your delegate attended your family gatherings this past year? Most of our fraternity has attended all the family gatherings, not just the Minister or delegate.
- How are you keeping in touch with your shut-in members? In-person, mail, email, phone calls, text, social media, as well as providing fraternity gathering minutes.
- How are you keeping in touch with your Active-Excused, Lapsed, or Temporary Withdrawn members?
 In-person, mail, email, phone calls, text, social media, as well as providing fraternity gathering minutes.
- When was your last profession? May 4, 2024
 How many were professed? 3
- Is your Come and See brochure available in another language? No.
 Do you need the Essential Documents in another language? No.
- How many members received and read the one printed copy of the TAU-USA, the National Fraternity's newsletter? All.

- How many members received and read the 3 electronic copies of the TAU-USA? All.
 Do you provide a printed copy for those members without email? n/a
- 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)? The electronic edition is a more Franciscan use of resources.

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			
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	1st choice	2nd choice	3rd choice
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

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