



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: Our Lady of Guadalupe

Gathering Place, Address, Phone: Good Shepherd Catholic Church, 4665 Thomasville Rd,
Tallahassee FL 32309, (850) 893-1837

Council Meeting Day(s), Time, Place: 3rd Saturday, 8:15-9:00am (above), plus "workshop" dates semiannually

Monthly Gathering Day(s), Time: 3rd Saturday, 9:30 – 11:30am (above), following 9:00am Mass

- Were there any changes in your Fraternity Council in 2024? **NO** 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. **No. Sr Guerda Julien LSST in formation with Fr Jerome Wolbert OFM since June 2024.**
- In what year did this assignment begin? **N/A**
- 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. **N/A**
- How many of your local fraternity gatherings has your Spiritual Assistant attended this past year? **All meetings last 7 months.**
- How many local Council meetings has your Spiritual Assistant attended this past year? **N/A**

FORMATION INFORMATION

- List all the books and other materials used for initial and ongoing formation:
 - INITIAL – **Franciscan Journey**
 - ONGOING – **Praying the Secular Franciscan Rule; Claire's letters to Agnes of Prague and letters of Francis; Life of St Francis of Assisi (Bonaventure)**
- What topics in the *FUN Manual* or *Franciscan Journey* have been used and are useful for Ongoing Formation? **JPIC (see below)**
- How often has your fraternity discussed the status of *Instrumentum Laboris*? **N/A**
- What initial goals has your fraternity set as a result of *Instrumentum Laboris*? **N/A**
- What goals has your fraternity reached as a result of *Instrumentum Laboris*? **N/A**
- Do you have a local fraternity Newsletter? **No; editor retired from this in April 2024.**
 - If so, how often is it published?
 - How is it distributed?
- 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?
 - ✓ **Monthly distribution of groceries to seniors in low-income housing: groceries provided by local food bank (Good News Outreach) and often supplemented by the fraternity with canned meat or other goods, and holiday cards 5-6X/year. 4-8 participants each month, 1/2 of our professed members.**
 - ✓ **Monthly collection for those in need: canned goods for Good News Outreach quarterly; industrial-sized cans for Kearney Center (homeless shelter) twice a year; other charities such as clothes and hygiene items for Grace Mission Episcopal (see below under Ecumenical Outreach), dog and cat food for St. Francis Wildlife, and hygiene items and bug spray for homeless (via regional meeting). About 10 participants each month. Most of our professed members.**
 - ✓ **Occasional monetary offerings: more than \$350 given to Catholic Relief Services for relief in Israel/Gaza; cash collections for blankets for local homeless veterans and for Paws of War (providing service animals for disabled veterans). Most of our professed members.**
 - ✓ **Monthly contributions from general fund to relief in an Amazon diocese (\$25) and clean water through Sisters of St. Francis (\$25), year-round.**
- Describe the activities (Mass, prayer services, etc.) your fraternity attends outside the regular gathering times. **Bag delivery and fraternity meeting follow Saturday morning Mass (2nd and 3rd Saturdays respectively) at the closest parish to each. We also gather for Mass and evening prayer on the Transitus or Feast of St. Francis and occasionally other times.**

JPIC, YOUFRA, ECUMENICAL 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? **None.**
- How many in your fraternity, including the Minister or Youth Animator, attended any National or Regional Youth/YouFra Zoom or in-person workshops/meetings? **None.**

- List your Fraternity “JPIC” projects and activities for 2024. Councilor Susan Trogdon emails monthly JPIC article to members and leads discussion at fraternity meeting (from Handbook for Animators of Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation, and other sources).
- Describe your participation in any Ecumenical outreach activities in 2024. One collection (clothes and hygiene items) was directed to homeless ministry run by Grace Mission (Episcopal).
- Describe the activities you have done to increase vocations to the Secular Franciscans in your fraternity. We advertise our apostolate and fraternity meetings in 6 Tallahassee parish bulletins roughly every 2-3 months and have fraternity brochures at those same parishes. We currently have 2 very active inquirers expected to move to candidacy in March 2025.

GENERAL QUESTIONS

- What programs has your Fraternity participated in during 2024 (Retreats, Days of Recollections, special celebrations)? Transitus service following daily Mass October 3 (10 attended). Regularly provided links to Franciscan podcasts and articles (notably OFM Lenten talks). “Fransgiving” with family/friends (25 attended).
- What programs/events has your Fraternity Council planned for 2025? January 2025 Day of Recollection was led by Minister and Formation Director.
- Is there anything you wish to share with the Regional Executive Council? No.
- Describe any difficulties you have had connecting with the Region when scheduling elections, visitations or when having problems within your fraternity. None.
- What has been your fraternity’s greatest challenge this past year? Aging, shut-in, and snowbird membership. Geographic distance—3 of 10 active professed members live an hour or more from center of Tallahassee. Losing our previous parish host due to construction.
- What are your fraternity’s strongest asset(s)? Active formation team. 1 candidate and 2 inquirers all enthusiastic.
- How many in person gatherings have you had this past year? 12 monthly fraternity meetings.
 - About how many members attend in person? 10.
 - How many attend through some electronic means? 1.
- 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)? 3-4 times, email and phone.
- How often have you or your delegate attended your family gatherings this past year? None – 4-hour drive.
- How are you keeping in touch with your shut-in members? Email and phone.
- How are you keeping in touch with your Active-Excused, Lapsed, or Temporary Withdrawn members? 3 members were just made Lapsed in the last month or so, but we maintain contact by email and phone.
- When was your last profession? How many were professed? November 22, 2023; 2 professions.
- 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? ~6

- How many members received and read the 3 electronic copies of the TAU-USA? ~3
Do you provide a printed copy for those members without email? **No.**
- 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)? **Printed.**

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	#3	#4	
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	#1	#2	
5-26	Sunday			

We know that we are 3-4 hours from the center of the region, but we would like to meet with Fr. Jerome. Evenings are not feasible. Weekends are best, but most of our active members are retired, and others can take time off, so a weekday morning or afternoon would be possible.