



## NEW UPDATED -- SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER

### Five Franciscan Martyrs Region

Florida, South Georgia, Lower Alabama

[www.ffmr-ofs.org](http://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:

OFS FFMR St Joseph Fraternity (SJF) – Fort Lauderdale, Florida

#### Gathering Place, Address, Phone:

Gathering Place: St Jerome Catholic Church in the Cafeteria – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of every month from 2 PM – 4 PM

Address: 2533 SW 9 Avenue - Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315

Phone: Jessie Chiccone, OFS Minister 754.900.3320

#### Council Meeting Day(s), Time, Place:

NOTE: Must phone first to confirm if ZOOM or face to face Council meeting-Date/Location subject to change

ZOOM Council Meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues or Wed evening before the Sunday General Meeting; start time 7:30 PM

NOTE: ZOOM to accommodate those who work during day or who have health issues -Phone first verify

Face to Face Council Meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues or Wed before the Sunday General Meeting at Our Lady Queen of

Martyrs Church in Rectory - address: 2731 SW 11 Court Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312 - start time 12:30 PM

Phone: Jessie Chiccone, OFS Minister 754.900.3320- Phone first to verify meeting place and date/time

#### Were there any changes in your Fraternity Council in 2024?

YES - Miguel Cruz, OFS appointed Councilor at Large (CAL) at Jan 2, 2024 St Joseph Fraternity Council Meeting

If not due to an official election, give reason for change:

Miguel Cruz, OFS appointed CAL to replace Irene Fitzgerald, OFS CAL at Jan 2, 2024 SJF Council Meeting because I. Fitzgerald, OFS CAL, died on Nov 13, 2023

#### SPIRITUAL ASSISTANT INFORMATION

Does your fraternity have a Spiritual Assistant? YES If so, please provide name, address, phone, and email if not already provided with Council contact information.

Name: Father Nicholas Mormando, OFM., Cap.

Address: St Padre Pio Friary 2411 NW 3 Street Miami, Florida 33125-5272

Phone: 954.5158618

Email: [capnick824@gmail.com](mailto:capnick824@gmail.com)

In what year did this assignment begin? 2019

Was he/she formally assigned by your Provincial? YES NOTE: See attachment letter

If so, list the name of the Provincial who made the assignment & the obedience to which you are bonded.

Name of Provincial: Fr. Remo DiSalvatore, OFM., Cap. Obedience: See attachment letter

How many of your local fraternity gatherings has your Spiritual Asst. attended this past year? 7 gatherings

How many local Council meetings has your Spiritual Assistant attended this past year? 9 Council Meetings

## FORMATION INFORMATION

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

INITIAL FORMATION MATERIALS — Bible; Catechism Catholic Church; Encyclicals and other Documents of Church Journey Book; OFS Rules and Constitutions; Writings of St Francis of Assisi and other Saints; OFS National/Regional Franciscan Information

ONGOING FORMATION MATERIALS - Bible; Catechism Catholic Church; Encyclicals and other Documents of Church; Journey Book; OFS Rules and Constitutions; Writings of St Francis of Assisi and other Saints; OFS National/Regional Franciscan Information; Life of St Francis- ie., Centenary Celebration of Creche of Our Lord-Nativity/Incarnation; Centenary Celebration: Rule of St Francis, including teaching and discussion during our monthly General Meetings; Instrumentum Laboris (IL): Franciscan Servant Leadership, several monthly teachings; Addendum to Franciscan Servant Leadership Booklet – designed by St Joseph Fraternity Servant Leadership Committee consisting of Father Nicholas Mormando, OFM., Cap., Jose Chaviano, OFS Formation Director; Antoinette Coffey, OFS assistant

- What topics in the *FUN Manual* or *Franciscan Journey* have been used and are useful for Ongoing Formation?

FUN MANUAL TOPICS USEFUL FOR ONGOING FORMATION – Most of topics

FRANCISCAN JOURNEY TOPICS USEFUL FOR ONGOING FORMATION- Most of topics

- How often has your fraternity discussed the status of *Instrumentum Laboris (IL)* ?

The Fraternity has discussed the status of IL in regards to Servant Leadership, either monthly or bimonthly, at the Fraternity General Meetings in Ongoing Formation, during Council Meetings or at the IL Servant Leadership (SL) SJF Committee Meetings. NOTE: The 2024 St Joseph Fraternity Instrumentum Laboris topic that SJF will focus on to teach Fraternity Family members in “Ongoing Formation” in 2024 focuses on Franciscan Servant Leadership, especially built upon the information in the official OFS document entitled “Handbook for Franciscan Servant Leadership” Revised 2010. The St Joseph Fraternity Committee has been working over a year to design and print a Booklet titled “An Addendum to the OFS Franciscan Servant Leadership Handbook.” This Booklet will be presented to the Fraternity at a special Seminar, probably lasting over several days, in early 2025.

- **What initial goals has your fraternity set as a result of *Instrumentum Laboris* (IL)?**

The 2024 Initial Goals of Instrumentum Laboris (IL) for SJF (St Joseph Fraternity) are:

To better implement into the spiritual life of the OFS Fraternity members, the OFS Servant Leadership holy information and skills, found in the official OFS document “Handbook for Franciscan Servant Leadership” Revised 2010 available from Smokey Valley Printing.

- 1) **First Initial Goal:-** The Fraternity studied the official OFS Document “Handbook for Fr Servant Leadership revised 2010” during several Ongoing Formation teachings during our 2024 SJF monthly meetings. However, the Fraternity soon realized it would like to more deeply understand the Servant Leadership (SL) information contained within the original official OFS SL Handbook.
- 2) **Second Initial Goal:** So next, the SJF Council formed a committee to study the IL Topic of Servant Leadership more thoroughly. The IL SL SJF Committee consisted of mainly 3 persons: Fr Nicholas Mormando, OFM., Cap., Spiritual Asst; Jose Chaviano, OFS Formation Director; and Antoinette Toni Coffey, OFS. This Committee spent over a year reviewing the SL information located in official OFS document “Handbook for Fr Servant Leadership revised 2010” available from Smokey Valley Printing.
- 3) **Third Initial Goal:** After a thorough review of the “Handbook for Franciscan Servant Leadership Revised 2010” by the IL SJF SL Committee, the IL SJF SL Committee decided to formulate and write a new Booklet based on the OFS SL Handbook named the “Addendum to the Franciscan Servant Leadership Handbook”. “The information contained in the new “Addendum to the Franciscan Servant Leadership Handbook” will be presented to St Joseph Fraternity Family Members at a special Seminar offered by the IL SJF SL Committee in early 2025.

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

The goals that the Fraternity has reached as a result of completing an Instrumentum Laboris regarding studying the official OFS SL document titled “Franciscan Servant Leadership Handbook revised 2010” are:

- 1) In 2024, the IL SL SJF Committee completed formulating and writing the “Addendum to the Franciscan Servant Leadership Handbook” Booklet. This Booklet is built upon the IL SL SJF Committee studying and contemplating on the official OFS document “Handbook for Franciscan Servant Leadership Revised 2010”. The Booklet is designed by the following SJF SL Committee members: Fr Nicholas Mormando OFM Cap. Jose Chaviano OFS Masters of Theology, Antoinette Toni Coffey, OFS.
- 2) The IL SL Committee will present the newly inspired Booklet on the “Addendum to the Franciscan Servant Leadership Handbook”, as well as, review the original official OFS document “The Handbook for Franciscan Servant Leadership Revised 2010” at a special Seminar offered to St Joseph Fraternity Family members. This Seminar is scheduled to occur in early 2025 over 1 or 2 days, or longer if needed.

- **Do you have a local fraternity Newsletter? YES**

- If so, how often is it published? 9 times a year – remainder months info in regular emails
- How is it distributed? Email mainly; Relayed by Phone Call or regular Mail sometimes to those members who do not have email or are ill

- **With whom do you share your newsletter (bishop, Regional with Executive Council, your Family Councilor, etc.)?**

Answer: St Joseph Fraternity Family Members ; Spiritual Assistant; Family Councilor (sometimes); Regional Minister (sometimes)

- **What Apostolic work does your fraternity do as a whole fraternity?**

- **What percentages of the fraternity participate?**

- 1) Donation to “Seafarers”; Goal: assist Seafarers in corporal or spiritual need who arrive at Port of Ft Lauderdale – About 60%
- 2) Donation to “Love on the Street” - a Catholic Charities associated charity organization- Goal: assist poor/homeless in Broward and Dade County, food, spiritual, clothing, toiletries- Blanket drive donations by Fraternity, and Nativity & St Boniface Catholic Church. given to Love on Streets to aid poor/homeless - about 60 %
- 3) Assist Schott Home for persons with disabilities – Catholic community – Goal: assist with fundraising, teach Catechism to members – about 40%
- 4) Bring plastic bags to General Meetings to aid food truck in Miami where Capuchin Friars volunteer – about 70 %
- 5) Donate socks, toiletries etc to homeless/needy in San Pedro area – about 80 %

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

The Fraternity is focusing on holy growth in its authentic Franciscan spirituality and identity, in Christ, at this time per Father Nick Mormando, OFM., Cap. Spiritual Asst for St Joseph Fraternity. Some of the various religious activities that various Fraternity members attend singularly or together with other Fraternity members, outside of regular gathering times are: attend daily Mass, Fraternity prays a Rosary once a week together on phone line, attend funeral for deceased member, Fraternity has Mass offered for various members as needed, ie., when ill; some members are Eucharistic Ministers to homebound Fraternity members; some members teach catechism or offer religious articles to homeless; some assist the parish priest with daily activities; two members have a family music ministry that provide music during Mass or other Catholic events; members of Women of Grace; attend Eucharistic Adoration; members of Magnificat; one member is taking advanced university courses in Franciscan Studies; attend retreats for entire Fraternity guided by Father Nicholas Mormando, OFM Cap., our Spiritual Assistant and Retreatmaster; attend San Pedro

Regional OFS Meeting in Orlando; pray with homeless as needed when volunteering at “Love on the Street” which is a JPIC apostolate to the homeless/need; distribute donated religious articles, such as, rosaries, prayer cards, St Benedict medals, Miraculous Medals, Crucifixes to homeless, as needed when volunteering at “Love on the Street” - a JPIC apostolate for homeless/need; attend OFS Profession of 5 new OFS FFMR St Joseph Fraternity members in 2024; two members prayed Liturgy of Hours over phone; some members attended Transitus of St Francis of Assisi; some members attend Bible study; some members have volunteered at Respect Life for years; Servant Leadership Committee from St Joseph Fraternity established in 2024, consisting of Fr Nicholas Mormando, OFM., Cap., Jose Chaviano, OFS – Formation Director and Masters in Theology special Franciscan Studies - Toni Coffey OFS met over a year in designing a new Booklet named “ The Addendum to the Franciscan Servant Leadership Handbook Revised 2010 .”

#### JPIC, YOUFRA, ECUMENCIAL OUTREACH, VOCATIONS

- Describe the personal contact you have had with the youth in your area this past year.

Miguel and Nanette Cruz, OFS both members of OFS St Joseph Fraternity, currently volunteer with a youth group at St Boniface Church, with the intention and permission of their pastor, to make it a Franciscan youth group.

- Who is the current contact for your Youth/Young Adults/YouFra Animator for your fraternity?

No YouFra Animator chosen at this time. Father Nicholas Mormando, OFM Cap., recommends that St Joseph Fraternity concentrate on strengthening its core identity before the Fraternity begins a significant outreach to the Youth.

- How many in your fraternity, including the Minister or Youth Animator, attended any National or Regional Youth/YouFra Zoom or in-person workshops/meetings?

Toni Coffey, OFS was the representative of SJF at the San Pedro 2024 OFS FFMR Regional Meeting in Orlando, FL. At this Regional Meeting, OFS information regarding YouFra was transmitted to members present.

- List your Fraternity “JPIC” projects and activities for 2024.

- 1) Donation to “Seafarers”: Goal: assist mariners in need of temporal and spiritual goods, who arrive at the Port in Ft Lauderdale, Florida
- 2) Donation to “Love on the Street”: Catholic Charities associated organization Goal: assist poor and homeless in Broward and Dade County, by donation food, clothes,blankets,religious goods,evangelization
- 3) Assist Schott Home for persons with disabilities – Catholic community

**Goal: assist with fundraising, teach Catechism to members**

- 4) Bring plastic bags to General Meetings to aid food truck in Miami where Capuchin Friars volunteer**
- 5) Donate socks, toiletries etc to homeless/needy in San Pedro area**

- **Describe your participation in any Ecumenical outreach activities in 2024.**

**No ecumenical outreach in 2024 by St Joseph Fraternity.**

- **Describe the activities you have done to increase vocations to the Secular Franciscans in your fraternity.**

**On August 11, 2024, OFS FFMR St Joseph Fraternity had 5 new members professed to St Joseph Fraternity. In Feb 2025, the Fraternity has 2 people who are looking into becoming a Secular Franciscan and 1 person who is already professed as an OFS but now would possibly like to Transfer to St Joseph Fraternity. This has all occurred without our seeking or advertising or reaching out to anyone. This is a sign to the Fraternity that the Holy Spirit is bringing vocations to St Joseph Fraternity in order to rebuild the fraternity.**

**Also, Fraternity prays for holy vocations during weekly Rosary.**

## **GENERAL QUESTIONS**

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

- 1) 2024 August 11 OFS FFMR St Joseph Fraternity Profession of 5 new members- Maria Teli Rishmawy, OFS; Lourdes Bathard; OFS; Celia Diaz, OFS; James Neeck, OFS; Daniel Waterfield, OFS**
- 2) 2024 San Pedro Regional Meeting – Antoinette Toni Coffey, OFS Representative for SJF**
- 3) 2024 Transitus St Francis of Assisi**
- 4) 2024 Centenary Celebration Stigmata of St Francis of Assisi**

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

- 1) Plan and execute the 2025 OFS FFMR Servant Leadership Seminar: Purpose: to review and study:  
A... Review the OFS Document “Franciscan Servant Leadership Handbook revised 2010” as need  
B...Introduce the new 2024 Booklet containing the “Addendum to the Franciscan Servant Leadership Handbook” formulated by the following SJF SL Committee members: Fr Nicholas Mormando OFM Cap. Jose Chaviano OFS Masters of Theology, Antoinette Toni Coffey, OFS.**
  - 2) Have a representative of SJF Fraternity attend the 2025 San Pedro OFS FFMR Regional Meeting**
  - 3) Celebrate the 2025 Centenary topic of St Francis of Assisi: Canticle of the Creatures**
  - 4) 2025 OFS FFMR Christmas Party at the home of OFS members Miguel and Nanette Cruz, OFS**
- Thanks be to God!**

- 5) Continue donating time, talent and treasure of SJF members to Schott Home; Seafarers; Love on Streets; Capuchin Charity;
- 6) 2025 OFS FFMR St Joseph Fraternity Council Election
- 7) 2025 Visitation of Father Jerome, OFM National Spiritual Assistant to St Joseph Fraternity
- 8) 2025 January 18 Day of Recollection for SJF led by Father Nicholas Mormando, OFM., Cap.

- Is there anything you wish to share with the Regional Executive Council? Yes

We see rebirth and a new enthusiasm occurring in the membership in regards to their Franciscan life.

- Describe any difficulties you have had connecting with the Region when scheduling elections, visitations or when having problems within your fraternity. No problems
- What has been your fraternity's greatest challenge this past year?

Making the transition from what the Fraternity was to what the Fraternity is becoming ...

- What are your fraternity's strongest asset(s)?
  - 1) On Aug 11, 2024, 5 new persons were professed as OFS of OFS FFMR St Joseph Fraternity. Our strongest assets are our new membership, for they bring a new infusion of life, and bring a new enthusiasm and freshness to our Secular Franciscan life.
  - 2) In thanksgiving to God for our St Joseph Fraternity Spiritual Assistant, Fr Nicholas Mormando, Jessie Chiccone, OFS Minister, Jose Chaviano, OFS Formation Director, and all Council members and Family Members, Visitors.
- How many in person gatherings have you had this past year?
  - 1) General Gatherings in person – 12 total in person
  - 2) Council Meetings- 11 total ZOOM/PHONE Council Meetings occurred in 2024  
NOTE: 3 of Zoom meetings were also available In Person
  - 3) NOTE: General Meeting Aug 2024 Profession of 5 newly professed OFS members and Dec 2024 Christmas Party both held during regular monthly General Meeting time
  - About how many members attend in person? General Meetings 10-15
  - How many attend through some electronic means? General Meetings 1-2 or 3
- During the past year, how often have you been in touch with your Family Councilor?

Answer: A few times by email or phone, as needed and Hilda Aguilera is always available with a prompt and thorough reply
- How was this done (personal contact, zoom, email, or phone conversations)?

Answer: Email, Phone



- How often have you or your delegate attended your family gatherings this past year?

1)...Toni Coffer, OFS represented Jessie Chiccone, OFS Minister at 2024 San Pedro Regional Meeting  
2)... Miguel and Nanette Cruz, OFS attended Transitus of St Francis at Miami gathering

- How are you keeping in touch with your shut-in members?

Phone, email, regular mail or in person visits, such as, to bring Holy Communion to homebound members, or visit or bring food or other assistance to homebound members; some members bring a shut-in SJF member in nursing home to monthly General Meetings

- How are you keeping in touch with your Active-Excused, Lapsed, or Temporary Withdrawn members? By phone, email, in person visits, regular mail, ZOOM

- When was your last profession? August 11, 2024

How many were professed? 5 Persons - Names of 2024 OFS FFMR SJF newly professed are: Maria Teli Rishmawy; Lourdes Bathard; Celia Diaz; James Neeck; Daniel Waterfield

- Is your *Come and See* brochure available in another language? No  
Do you need the *Essential Documents* in another language? Spanish

- How many members received and read the one printed copy of the TAU-USA, the National Fraternity's newsletter? About 70 %

- How many members received and read the electronic copies of the TAU-USA? About 20%

Do you provide a printed copy for those members without email? No

- Do you prefer the electronic or printed copy of the TAU-USA ?  
about 80 % prefer electronic and 20 % prefer printed copy (computer issues or prefer to read)

(the cost for each printed edition in Spanish and English is \$30,000)?

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](mailto: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](mailto: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 9<sup>th</sup> and flying back May 27<sup>th</sup>.

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.

**NOTE: St Joseph Fraternity has Sun 5/25/25 available 1 – 4 (1<sup>st</sup>) and 5 – 9 (2<sup>nd</sup>)**

**Note: No 3<sup>rd</sup> Choice was available to all**

**Note: Sunday is 5/25 not 5/26**

### Availability to Meet with Fr. Jerome for OFS FFMR St Joseph Fraternity

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			
5-26	<b>Sunday - Correct Date 5-25</b>		<b>YES - 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>YES - 2<sup>nd</sup></b>

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.xls)

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