



**SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER
FIVE FRANCISCAN MARTYRS REGION**

www.ffmr-ofs.org

March 1, 2026

Dear Fellow Franciscans and Guests,

Our Annual Regional Fraternity Meeting this year will be May 15-17 at the San Pedro Retreat Center in Winter Park, Florida (directions may be found at www.sanpedrocenter.org). This is an election year so this is a **mandatory meeting** for all local ministers and the regional board. If you cannot attend, please send a delegate to represent your fraternity. Official delegate means: the elected vice minister or another member who was specifically selected by the fraternity Council for this purpose. This official delegate must bring a letter stating that they were officially delegated by the Fraternity Council, so they may vote. If you have a local meeting scheduled for that weekend, under the advice of Father Jerome, please cancel it. This is your Region and it is important that you all are part of the election process. Be sure to arrive by 9 am on Saturday morning because role will be taken at that time. We need to have a quorum for the election to be valid. The Presider of the election will be Christine Blood, OFS area councilor from NAFRA and the Ecclesiastical witness will be Father John DelaRiva, OFM Cap from CNSA. This will be a great opportunity for you to meet them, hear their voice, and begin to build a relationship. It will also give you an opportunity to meet the new executive board and others that have volunteered for a three-year commitment to this ministry.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for allowing me the privilege of serving you these past 12 years. I will not be running again because this is best for the growth of the region. You have continued to inspire and encourage me and because of this I grew spiritually throughout these years. I would like to also thank my regional board for their enthusiasm and dedication as I was going through this journey. There were many challenges and times I could easily have gotten discouraged but you all had a part in helping me through this. Thank you to those that said "yes" to the challenge of becoming a part of the regional team. Without this response, the election would not be possible.

We will also honor those celebrating their 25th and 50th Jubilees* as Secular Franciscans and the JPIC Award winner! Come meet and greet the Ministers and Jubilarians from your neighboring fraternities in the region. The registration form for the annual meeting follows. It may be duplicated, for others in your fraternity. Please register and pay in full by April 25th. Please note that paid registrations canceled after May 5th are non-refundable. We'd appreciate you making your checks payable to FFMR-OFS. Please refer to the end of the Annual Meeting Agenda for a list of the items you need to bring with you. Registration and check-in will begin at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, May 15th. Dinner will be served at San Pedro on Friday at 6:00 pm. Drinks will be provided. The weekend begins formally with Friday Evening Prayer at 7:00 pm in the Chapel. The meeting will conclude with a Mass at 10 am Sunday morning with the San Pedro community

Jeane Swaynos, OFS

Jeane Swaynos, OFS, FFMR Regional Minister

**To ensure that Jubilarians receive their Certificates, Ministers must submit names ASAP to Jeane Swaynos swaynos@cfl.rr.com FIVE FRANCISCAN MARTYRS REGION*

Regional Shirts will be available. Sizes are limited and price is \$15. This will be the last of our shirts.

SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER
FIVE FRANCISCAN MARTYRS REGION
Annual Regional Fraternity Meeting *AGENDA*
May 15-17, 2026

Theme: "Go out unto the world and proclaim the good news"

San Pedro Center, Winter Park, Florida

Please Note that All Times, Except Meals, are Subject to Change

Friday, May 15th

		Building/Room
4:00 pm	Arrival and Check-In	300, Lobby
6:00 pm	Dinner at San Pedro	300, Dining
7:00 pm	Introduction of Christine Blood, OFS Area Councilor and Father John DelaRiva OFM Cap from CNSA	300, Dining
8:00 pm	Introduction of the Nominees – Sheila Solomon	300, Dining
8:30 pm	Evening Prayer including: (Marcia and Margie)	Chapel
	<i>Annual Commemoration of all Deceased Members since May, 2025</i>	
9:30-?	Social immediately follows conference	300, Dining
10:00 pm	<i>Optional Night Prayer; Please use your own Breviary</i>	Chapel

Saturday, May 16th

7:30 am	Morning Prayer – Kelly Otero	Chapel
8:00 am	Breakfast	300, Dining
9:00 -11:00	Annual Regional Fraternity Business Meeting	300, Conference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open with Prayer from the Ritual – Jeane Swaynos • Roll Call to establish quorum – Marcia Stamboulian – Hand in Delegate Letter • Welcome/Overview of Weekend – Jeane Swaynos • Spiritual Assistant Introduction – Rev. Alberto Bueno, TOR • Approval of Minutes (They will NOT be read, only corrections, etc. taken) - Marcia • Approval of the guideline changes – Larry Bleau • Approval of Treasurer’s Report and Budget – Karen Rooney • Introduction of election nominees – Sheila Solomon • Arrange Seating for election – Jeane and Sheila 	
11:15-12:15pm	Mass - Father John DelaRiva OFM Cap.	
12:15-1:15pm	Lunch and Break - Honor Jubilarians	300, Dining
1:15- 4:15pm	Election: Christine Blood and Father John DelaRiva	300, Conference
4:30 - 6:00	Family Meeting	Locations TBA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Elizabeth of Hungary – Larry Bleau, Kelly Otero, Margie Sweeney • St. Margaret of Cortona – Jeane Swaynos, Sheila Solomon • St. Thomas More – Rachel Ahern, Janice Novello • Spiritual Assistant Meeting – Mark Banschbach, Willie Guadelupe, Fr. Alberto Bueno TOR 	
6:00 pm	Dinner – Blessing by Fr. John DelaRiva, OFM Cap.	300, Dining
7:00 pm	Evening Prayer – Larry Bleau	300, Conference
7:15 pm	Regional JPIC Award – Janice Novello	300, Conference
	Making packages for the homeless. These will be given to shelter in the local area. Social to follow.	
10:00 pm	<i>Optional Night Prayer; Please use your own Breviary</i>	Chapel

Sunday, May 17th

7:00 am	Morning Prayer – Mark Banschbach	Chapel
8:00 am	Breakfast	300, Dining
8:30-9:30am	Final Remarks – Introduction of the new Regional Board	300, Conference
10:00 am	Mass Celebrated with the local San Pedro Community	Chapel
11:30-12:00pm	Regional Meeting for the new board	Library

Other Items to Remember:

On Friday:

1. Remember to bring a snack of your choosing to share for socials.
2. Place your fraternity **banner** and stand in the Chapel BEFORE evening prayer 7:30 pm.
3. Bring your list of **deceased members** from last year to Evening Prayer in the Chapel for the Commemoration of All Deceased Members.
4. Bring items for the poor
5. Bring a list of medicines you are presently taking and any allergies you have. Leave this list in your room.

On Saturday during the Annual Regional Fraternity Business meeting:

6. Remember to bring your OFS Ritual and your Liturgy of the Hours or Christian Prayer book
7. **Annual Meeting Minutes** will be sent in advance, so bring your copy if you'd like. (*They will **not** be available nor will they be read; just corrections, etc. taken.*)
8. Bring your most **Current Roster** and give it to Marcia Stambouljian, Secretary.
(Be sure it has the name, address, phone # and email of each member along with BIRTHDAY - AT LEAST THE YEAR OF BIRTH.)
9. If the Minister is sending a **Delegate**, he/she must bring letter of authorization and submit before roll call.

***Emergency Cell: (727) 492-5666



The Five Franciscan Martyrs of La Florida: Servants of God, † 1597

Bro. Antonio de Badajoz, OFM,

Fr. Miguel de Auñón, OFM,

Fr. Pedro de Corpa, OFM,

Fr. Blas Rodríguez, OFM,

Fr. Francisco de Beráscola, OFM

The following short prayer is recommended for invoking the intercession of the Five Franciscan Martyrs.

O Lord Jesus Christ, reward the apostolic zeal of Fray Pedro de Corpa and his four Companion friars, Blas, Miguel, Antonio, and Francisco, who labored for the spiritual well-being of the Natives of Georgia and gave their lives in witness to the Christian faith. Through their merits and intercession graciously grant the favor I humbly ask of You, so that, for the glory of Your Name, their heroic sacrifice may be officially recognized by the Church. Amen.

(Permissu Ordinarii Dioec. Savannensis)

Election Changes to Regional Guidelines

Our National Area Councilor has identified several places in our Guidelines that are inconsistent with National's election procedures. She clarified that she cannot proceed with our Regional Election in May unless we first amend our Guidelines. Below are the three items that she has identified as requiring change.

Please familiarize yourself with these and be ready to vote to amend the Guidelines in this respect before the Presider conducts our elections.

1. Clarify that Formation Director is always elected

Article 12, section 11, first paragraph, sentence 2, change

“... Formation Director's position, if it is an elected position.”

To

“... Formation Director's position.”

Article 12, section 11, paragraph f, change

“... Formation Director, if an elected position, ...”

To

“... Formation Director, ...”

2. Remove single vote on multiple offices

Article 12, section 11, delete entire second paragraph

“The Councilors are each voted on separately unless the number of Councilor positions equals the number of nominees for those positions, in which case, at the option of the Presider, a single vote may be taken. This shall apply to both the Regional Chapter of Elections and the Local Fraternity Chapter of Elections.”