



OLOTA Virtual Meeting Highlights May 28-29, 2021

Spiritual Reflection

The two day Zoom meeting started with a Friday evening Spiritual Reflection with Spiritual Assistant Fr. Manoj Xalxo OFM

He invited each of us to have a personal encounter with Jesus. Allow Him to lead your life and to grow closer to Him. To be led by Jesus is the first step to be a Servant Leader. Father spoke about the three B's where we can encounter Jesus.

1. Breaking of the Word
2. Breaking of the Bread
3. Broken brothers and sisters

Minister's Report

National Correspondence.

The list of National documents was tabled at the meeting for record purposes. The Instrumentum Laboris on Servant Leadership is the newest document to be worked on. Each fraternity was to submit a response. A final summary will be prepared with input from fraternities and emailed to National. The deadline is June 30, 2021

- **OLOTA Statistic** showed a drop from 446 to 411 in memberships for various reasons.
- The OLOTA Region **Fraternity Elections** chart has been updated. Due to Covid some fraternity elections and pastoral visits were postponed. Some fraternities are waiting to set their dates when Covid restrictions are lifted. Coordination of elections, fraternal and pastoral visitations are to be initiated by Fraternity Ministers in consultation with Vice Minister. It is required under the General Constitution to submit a fraternal and pastoral report to the

OLOTA Minister every 3 years and cc to the Fraternity Minister. Fr. Manoj will be doing his pastoral visits through zoom until restrictions are lifted.

- The OLOTA council continues to prepare for the **May 5-8, 2022 Chapter of Elections**.
- Council agreed that the following proposed Resolutions will be sent to the **Resolutions Committee** for review and preparation for fraternities' decision at the 2022 Chapter of Elections:
 - 1) Five Vice-Minister in the OLOTA Region for the 2022-2025 term.
 - 2) Six Vice-Minister in the OLOTA Region adding an extra VM to look after 9 fraternities in the BC Coastal Region for the 2022-2025 term.
 - 3) JPIC's Director position be appointed
 - 4) Youth's Director position be appointed
 - 5) Communication's Director position be appointed
- On behalf of OLOTA a letter was sent to congratulate Fr. Louis Geelan OFM on his 60th priestly ordination anniversary.
- Br. Gerry will be moving to the East coast, but will continue to teach the online the Spiritual Assistant course.
- The Minister congratulated on the success of the online formators' course and the Youth poster contest.
- Another highlight are the stories on the pillars of the OFS. The stories will be published in the National Newsletter and OLOTA Messenger.

Treasurer's Report

- The Budget for the 2022 Chapter of Elections will be discussed at next meeting in Oct. 2021.

Motions passed:

- \$500 committed to defray travel costs of OFS Spiritual Assistants and Resource Persons travelling to fraternities.
- \$4,110.00 cheque be written to National as OLOTA Contribution
- \$150 committed to support a registration fee for a Young Adult attending the August 2021 Workshop.
- \$400 be paid to purchase the Tau Crosses to be given as Gifts to newly Professed Members of fraternities.
- \$287 be reimbursed for costs of subscription to Zoom, website and support expenses.
- A CHARITABLE Donation to Mt St. Francis was supported, the amount to be reviewed at the October meeting.

Spiritual Assistant's Report

- Fr. Manoj is planning to organise a **gathering** for Spiritual Assistant (SA) and Resource Person (RP) on Zoom in 2021.
- The OLOTA Region has only 8 friars who care for 28 Fraternities. Looking to the future OLOTA will have an increase of non-friars to be SA/ RP. OLOTA has agreed to initiate mileage compensation for SA/RP who are OFS, Religious, and Deacons at \$0.35/km. The total budget is \$500 per year.
- A request for approval for cost reimbursement be sent to the OLOTA council by the local minister and SA/RP.
- Fr. Manoj recommend the SA/RP to connect with the fraternity every month for Spiritual nourishment through reflections, (zoom) visits, phone calls, emails etc.

Director of Formation Report

- Nine members have completed the Online Formation Course this spring. A new course will start in September and the fall registration is open. OLOTA purchased Profession Franciscan

TAU Crosses from a supplier in Alberta. The Tau Crosses will be presented as a gift at Professions.

- The OLOTA Region continues to use Franciscan Journey as its primary Formation book. Franciscan Journey has some supplemental recommended reading on the OLOTA website under Formation materials. To access this section you have to log in the website.

Director of Youth Report

- The National Youth and Young Adult Team are preparing for the workshop at Mount St. Francis on Aug. 28-29, 2021. There will be a maximum of 15 participants. Several fraternities helped sponsor the event. OLOTA will pay for one young adult registration.
- Youth and Young Adult Poster contest with the theme "Fratelli Tutti" was a great success. The winning posters of the 2021 are on the OLOTA website.

Director of Communication Report

- Members are invited to join by (cell) phone or computer to pray and be together with their Franciscan family. Regular OLOTA Zoom gatherings are on the First Fridays with the Franciscan Crown rosary and every Wednesdays Bishop Barron series.

Director of JPIC Report

- The Minister General Tibor Krauser is encouraging everybody to be a JPIC animator. We as Franciscans are through Franciscan International the voice at the United Nations. Fraternities are encourage to embrace JPIC
- **A Zoom JPIC Workshop** "One God-One Mother Earth" is planned for Sat. Oct 9, 2021. "Theme: Love of Creator & His Creation". Guest Speaker: Sister John Mary Sullivan Friar Manoj officiating "Green Mass "St. Joseph the Worker (you tube)

Vice-Ministers' Reports:

Alberta North

- St. Clare Discerning Korean Group in Edmonton welcomed 3 newly professed members on May 28, 2021.
- A Chapter of Mats is being planned together with Alberta South Region.

BC Interior

- The emerging fraternity St. Pio Pietrelcina plans for Canonical Establishment in the fall 2021.
- A retreat is also being planned for the fall.

Manitoba & Saskatchewan

- Fraternities are keeping connected despite Covid restrictions.
- New Elections and pastoral visits are planned for St. Anthony's and Immaculate Conception Fraternities for Fall 2021

Alberta South

- St. Mary's Fraternity will have 2 permanent profession and 2 temporary profession on June 13, 2021 in St. Mary's church in Cochrane with Fr. Vavrek OFM.
- St. Maximillian Kolbe Fraternity plans to have elections on June 6, 2021.

BC Coastal

- All fraternities are meeting through Zoom right now.
- Due to Covid restrictions we have no annual meeting at the Abbey for the second year in a row.
