



Juan de Padilla Region

# Canonical Elections



# Canonical Elections

The purpose of this presentation is:

- To review the organization of the Secular Franciscans
- The duties of the local fraternity council
- A call to encourage you to prayerfully consider service to your fraternity by serving on the Council





# Canonical Elections

The  
Franciscan  
Family is  
"formed by  
the organic  
union of all  
the Catholic  
fraternities



SECULAR  
FRANCISCAN  
ORDER



# Canonical Elections

Members  
moved by the

**Holy  
Spirit**

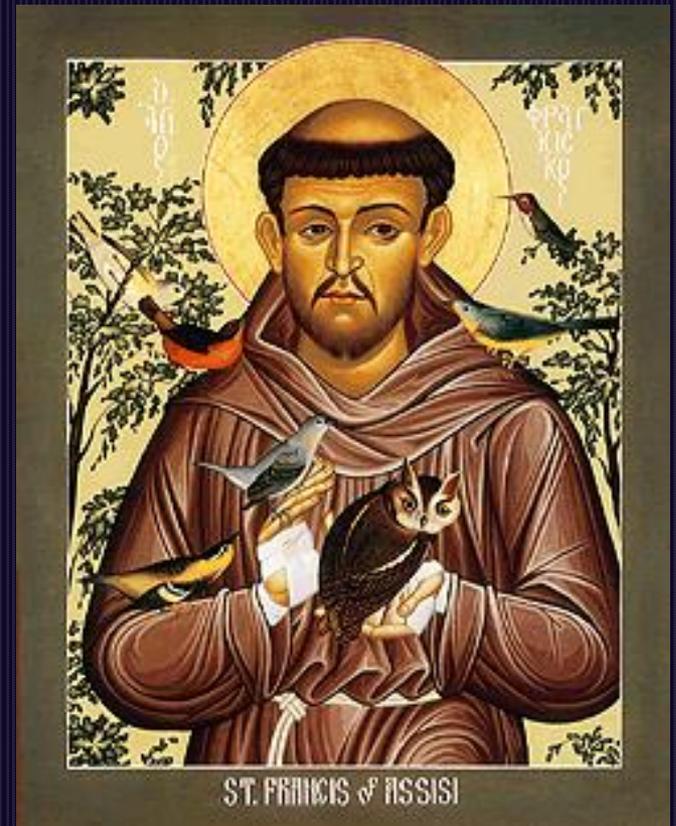




# Canonical Elections

Commit themselves through profession to **live the Gospel** after the manner of St. Francis

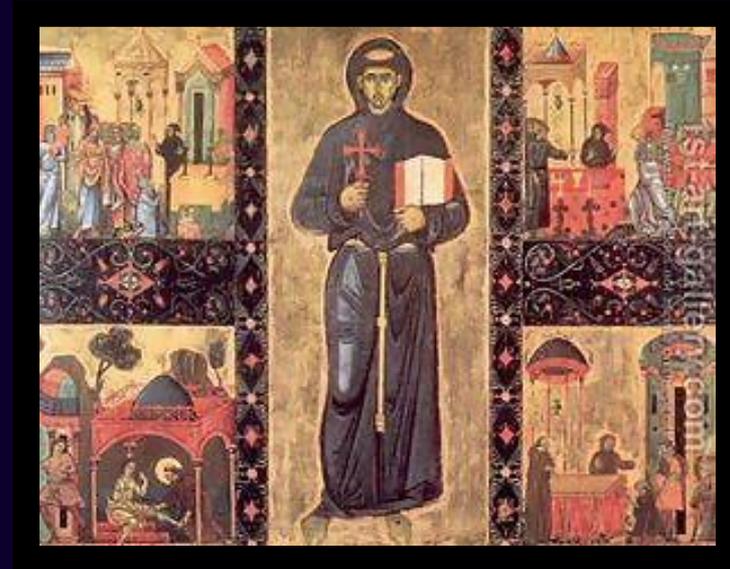
**Following the Rule** approved by the Church“  
(*Const. 1,3*).





# Canonical Elections

The rule and  
life of the  
Secular  
Franciscans  
is this:



1. Observe the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ by following the example of Saint Francis of Assisi

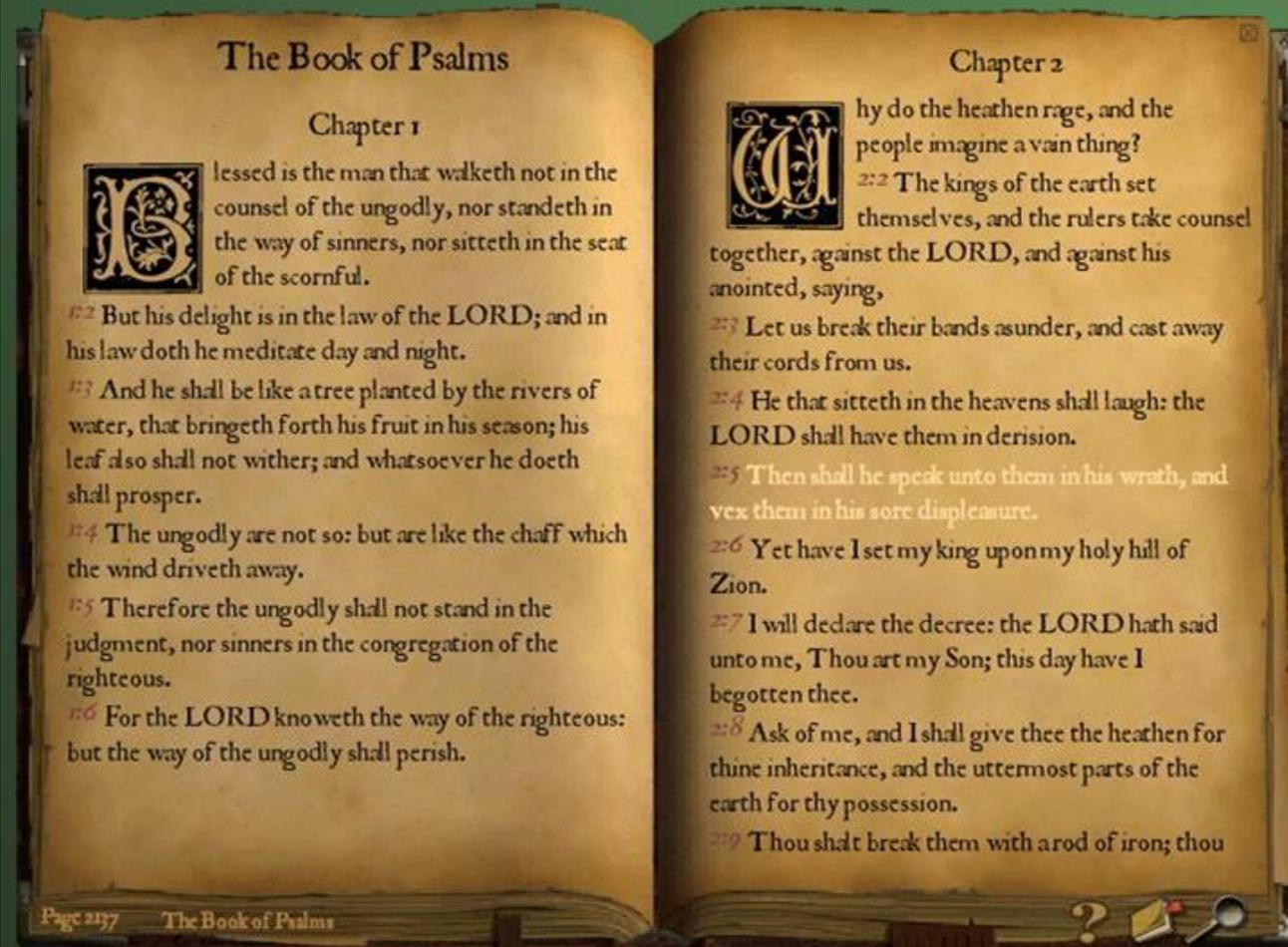
# Secular Franciscan Order



# Canonical Elections

1. They should devote themselves especially to careful reading of the gospel, going from **gospel to life and life to the gospel.**" (*Rule Article 4*).

According to the latest Statistics (31-12-2002), the SFO has about **400,000** professed members.





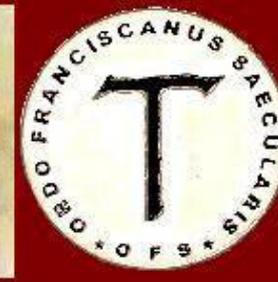
# Structure



- The Secular Franciscan Order is divided into Fraternities at various levels:
  - Local
  - Regional
  - National
  - International

Each of these Fraternities is animated and guided by its Council and a Minister or President.

# The International SFO Fraternity



"The International Fraternity is constituted by the organic union of all the Catholic Secular Franciscan Fraternities in the world. It is identical with the SFO (Constitutions 69,1).

 Kauser Tibor MIN  MINISTRO GENERALE	 Maria Consuelo D. Nuñez-Cheito MIN  VICE MINISTRO GEN.	 Fruk Ana CRO  COMS. EUROPA I ING-TEO	 Ana Maria Raffo Laos PER  COMS. SPAGN./AM.IAT.	 Galimberti Attilio ITA  COMS. EUROPA II ING-ITA
 Janian Michel LIE  COMS. FRANCESC	 Diana Silvia Noemi ARG  COMS. FOR-SP/S.AM.-AFR.	 Harrington Jenny SZA  COMS. ING/E.AM.-AFR.	 Young Hak Yoon Augustine KOR  COMS. ING/ASIA-OCEAN.	 Odak Andrea BHU  COMS. GS.FRA.
 XIV CAPITULO GENERALE VI CAPITULO ELETTIVO ORDO FRANCISCANUS SAECULARIS SANTA MARIA DEGLI ANGELI ASSISI - ITALIA 1-8 NOVEMBRE 2014				
 fr. José Antonio Cruz Duarte BRA  ASS. GEN. O.F.M.	 fr. Francis Bongajum CMR  ASS. GEN. O.F.M. CAP.	 fr. Martin Pablo Bitzer ARG  ASS. GEN. O.F.M. CONF.	 fr. Amando Trujillo Cano MEX  ASS. GEN. T.O.R.	

# The International SFO Fraternity



The National Fraternity of the  
Secular Franciscan Order - USA

"The National Fraternity... is animated and guided by a Minister or President and by a Council who are duly elected"

(Constitutions 65,3).



**National Gathering and Chapter of Elections  
October 2009  
Albuquerque, New Mexico**

# National Executive Council of the Secular Franciscan Order



# The National SFO Fraternity



The National Fraternity of the  
Secular Franciscan Order - USA



THE REGIONAL  
FRATERNITY

The Juan de Padilla Region  
of the Secular Franciscan Order

The regional  
Fraternity  
"assures the  
link between  
the local  
Fraternities  
and the  
national  
Fraternity"  
(Constitutions 61).



THE REGIONAL  
FRATERNITY

The Juan de Padilla Region  
of the Secular Franciscan Order

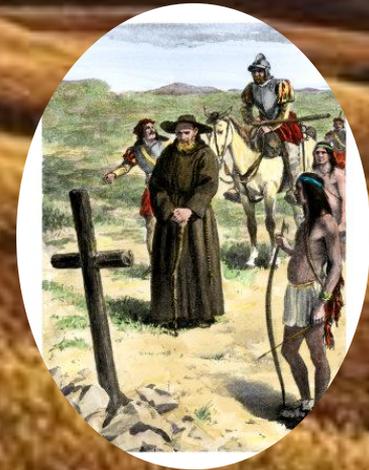
15 established  
or emerging  
fraternities

in

Kansas

Oklahoma

NW Missouri



**Father Juan de Padilla  
1<sup>st</sup> Christian Martyr of the  
United States,  
Regional Patron Saint**

The  
Regional  
SFO Fraternity

JUAN DE PADILLA REGION

Kansas ~ Missouri ~ Oklahoma

"The regional Fraternity is animated and guided by a Minister, or resident, and by a Council who are duly Elected"

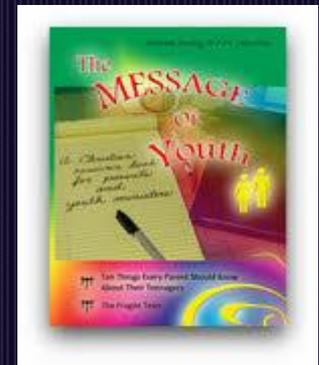
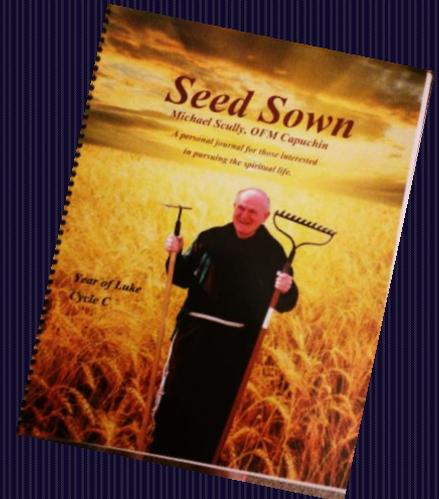
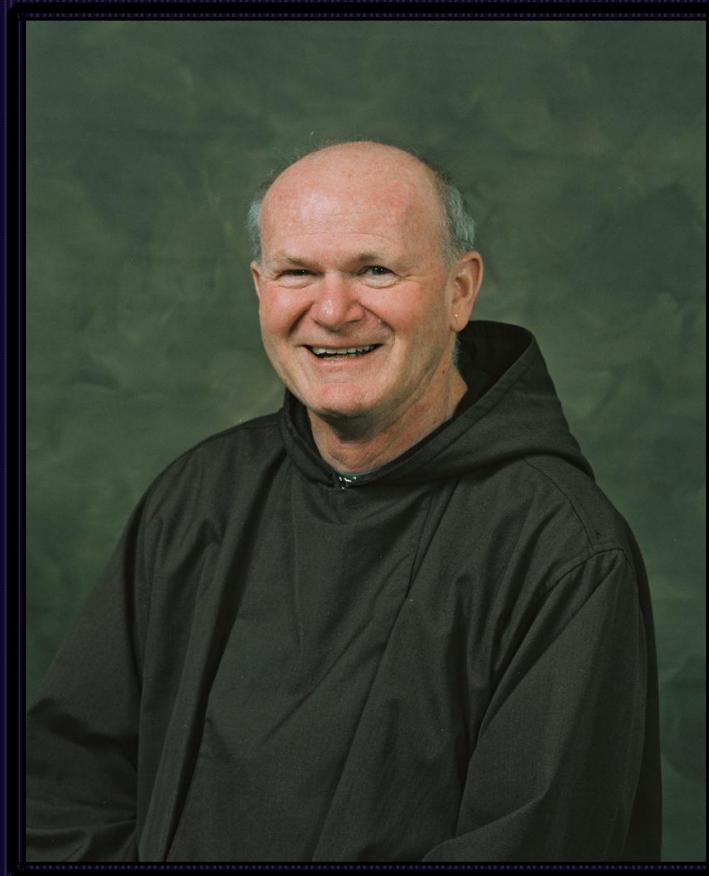
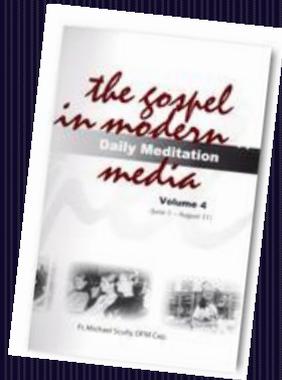
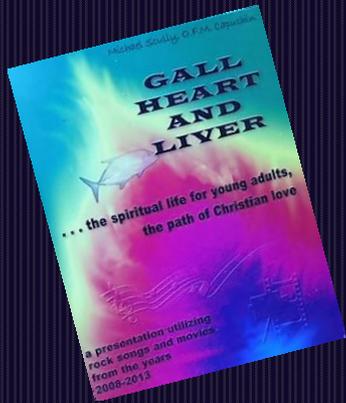
(Constitutions 61,3).



Regional Council

# THE REGIONAL FRATERNITY

# The Juan de Padilla Region of the Secular Franciscan Order



Father Mike Scully OFM, CAP  
Regional Spiritual Assistant

The  
Local  
Fraternity

Secular Franciscans of the Holy  
Eucharist

Basic Unit of  
the Whole  
Order

Visible Sign of  
the Church,  
the Community  
of Love



Bishop Robert Finn signs the Canonical Establishment documents of the Secular Franciscans of the Holy Eucharist 2010 KCMO

# The Local Fraternity

Privileged place  
for developing  
a sense of  
Church & the  
Franciscan  
vocation and  
for enlivening  
the apostolic  
life of its  
members"

(Rule Article 22).



# The Local Fraternity

## Annual Retreats

"The fraternity must offer to its members opportunities for coming together & collaborating through meetings held with as great a frequency as allowed by the situation, with the involvement of all its members"

(Constitutions 53,1)



# The Local Fraternity

## Article 53 GATHERING

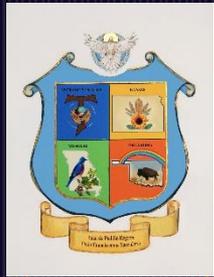
The fraternity must come together and collaborate through meetings to be held with as great a frequency as allowed by the situation and with the involvement of **ALL** members.



# Participation is Essential



- Appropriate initiatives should be adopted, to keep those brothers and sisters united to the fraternity who — for valid reasons of: **health, family, work, or distance** — cannot actively participate in community life.



Sister Dorothy, Spiritual Assistant, Monsignor Ralph Kaiser, sfo, Jeanette Harriman, former minister of Our Lady of Sorrow Fraternity, Sister Josephine, Spiritual Assistant of Our Lady of Sorrows and Holy Eucharist Fraternities, and guests.



Monsignor Kaiser's Birthday  
The only Secular Franciscan Monsignor in the Kansas City~St Joseph Diocese

# Celebrate the Eucharist



- *Rule 6; 8* The fraternity should come together periodically, also as an ecclesial community to celebrate the Eucharist in a climate which strengthens the fraternal bond and characterizes the identity of the Franciscan family.

Where, for whatever reason, this particular celebration may not be possible, they should participate in the celebration of the larger ecclesial community.



# Life in Prayer



- The fraternity remembers with gratitude its brothers and sisters who have passed away and continues its communion with them by prayer and in the **Eucharist**.



# Gospel to Life



- The national statutes can indicate special forms of association with the fraternity for those who, without becoming a member of the SFO, want to participate in its life and activities.



# Article 50



- Decide on acceptance of individuals into the fraternity
- Establish a fraternal dialogue with members in particular difficulties and to adopt consequent measures
- Receive the request for withdrawal / suspension of a member from the fraternity
- Decide on the establishment of sections or groups in conformity with the Constitutions and the statutes
- Decide on the destination of available funds and, in general, to deliberate on matters concerning financial management and the economic affairs of the fraternity
- Assign duties to the councilors and to the other professed members
- Request from the competent superiors of the First Order and the TOR suitable and prepared religious as assistants
- Perform other duties as required by these Constitutions
- Duties of Council
- Fraternity Life & Formation
- Make Concrete & Courageous Decisions



# Article 49

# The Fraternity Council

1. The council of the local fraternity is composed of the following offices: minister, vice minister, secretary, treasurer, and master of formation. Other offices may be added according to the needs of each fraternity. The spiritual assistant of the fraternity forms part of the council by right.

2. The fraternity, meeting in an assembly or chapter, discusses questions regarding its own life and organization. **Every three years**, in an elective assembly or chapter, the fraternity elects the minister and the council in the way established by the Constitutions and statutes.

- Fraternity Council
  - Minister
  - Vice Minister
  - Spiritual Director
  - Director of Formation
  - Treasurer
  - Councilor
  - Secretary

# Gospel Conventions



# Minister

## *Guide, Represent, Act*

- Guide
  - Upholding the co-responsibility of the council ~ Animate and guide the fraternity, Responsible for the direction & decisions of the fraternity are put into practice and will keep the council informed about what he or she is doing.
  - Call, preside, and direct the meetings of the fraternity and council; convoke, every three years, the elective chapter of the fraternity, having heard the council on the formalities of the convocation
- Represent
  - Prepare the annual report to be sent to the council of the higher level after it has been approved by the council of the fraternity;
  - Represent the fraternity in all its relations with ecclesiastical and civil authorities. When the fraternity acquires a juridical personality in the civil order, the minister becomes, when possible, its legal representative
- Act
  - Request, with the consent of the council, the pastoral and fraternal visits, at least once every three years.
  - Put into effect those acts which the Constitutions refer to his or her competence.



# Vice Minister

## *Collaborate, Support, Stand In*

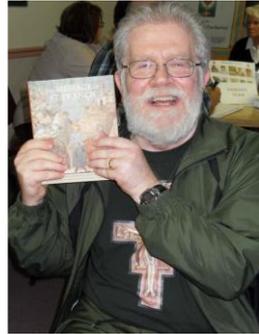
- Collaborate
  - Collaborate in a fraternal spirit and to support the minister in carrying out his or her specific duties
- Support
  - Exercise the functions entrusted by the council and/or by the assembly or chapter
- Stand In
  - Take the place of the minister in both duties and responsibilities in case of absence or temporary impediment;
  - Assume the functions of the minister when the office remains vacant. (See *Constitutions* 81,1.)



# Secretary

## *Record, Update, Communicate*

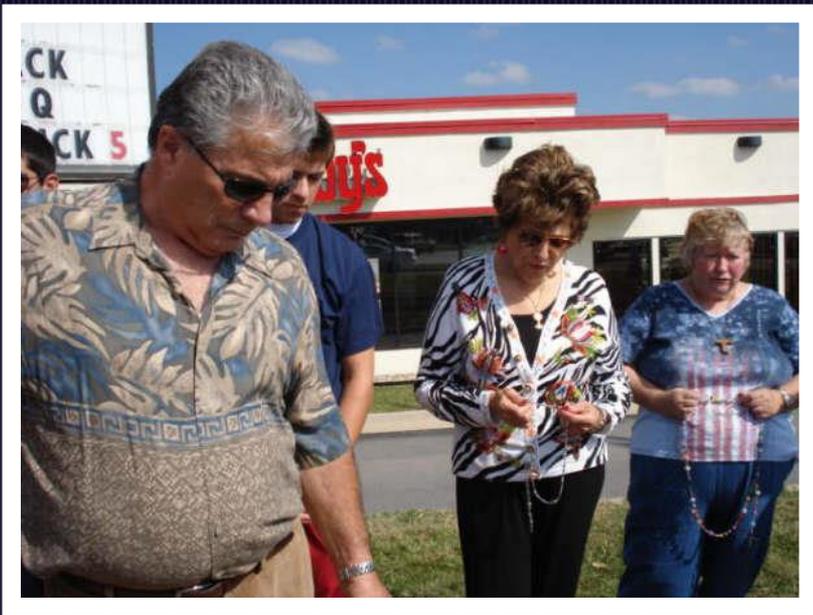
- Record
  - Compile the official acts of the fraternity and of the council and to assure that they are sent to their respective proper recipients;
- Update
  - See to the updating and preservation of the records and the registers, noting admissions, professions, deaths, withdrawals, and transfers from the fraternity;
- Communicate
  - Provide for the communication of the more important facts to the various levels and, if appropriate, to provide for their dissemination through the mass media.



# Treasurer

## *Guard, Record, Account*

- Guard
  - Guard diligently the contributions received, recording each receipt in the appropriate register, with the date on which it was given, the name of the contributor, or the one from whom it was collected;
  
- Record
  - Record in the same register the items of expense, specifying the date and the purpose, in conformity with the directions of the fraternity council;
  
- Account
  - Render an account of his or her administration to the assembly and to the council of the fraternity according to the norms of the national statutes.



# Master of Formation

## *Form, Instruct, Inspire*

- Form
  - Co-ordinate, with the help of the other members of the council, the formative activities of the fraternity
- Instruct
  - Instruct and enliven the inquirers during the time of initiation, the candidates during the period of initiation formation, and the newly professed;
- Inspire
  - Inform the council of the fraternity prior to profession, concerning the suitability of the candidate for a commitment to live according to the Rule.

FOLLOW ME

Take Up  
Your Cross  
&  
Follow Me.



# Follow ME

*John 21:15-17*

*“Simon son of John, do you truly love me more than these?”*

*“Yes, Lord,” he said, “you know that I love you.”*

*Jesus said, “Feed my lambs.”*

*Again Jesus said, “Simon son of John, do you truly love me?” He answered, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.”*

*Jesus said, “Take care of my sheep.”*

*The third time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, “Do you love me?” He said, “Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.”*

*Jesus said, “Feed my sheep”.*



# Follow ME

Are you  
called to  
follow Christ  
by serving  
your  
fraternity as  
a member of  
the council?



## Follow ME

Christ came as a Servant to All

“Have this mind in you that was also in Christ Jesus... who made himself nothing, taking the form of a **SERVANT**... he humbled himself...”  
(Phil. 2)



# We Are Called to Serve

Consider ~

Christ came as a servant to all.

Secular Franciscans are committed to be **servants**.

We are Christ's presence in the world.

We are called to **follow** HIM.



Father Angelo Bartulica



# Are You Willing to Serve?

Are you  
willing to  
follow  
Francis?



Giotto ~ Francis appears to monks at Arles

# We Are Called to Serve

Do you know someone who would serve the fraternity in one of the roles on the council?



Bernadine, would you nominate me?

They need to add a wine maker to the council!

I have always felt called to lead.

I prefer to just bring salads.

I wish someone would nominate me!

Do you want to run for Secretary?

I just prefer to Sit & Get!

They could use a mental health professional!

Do they have a nurse position on the council?

# Follow Him

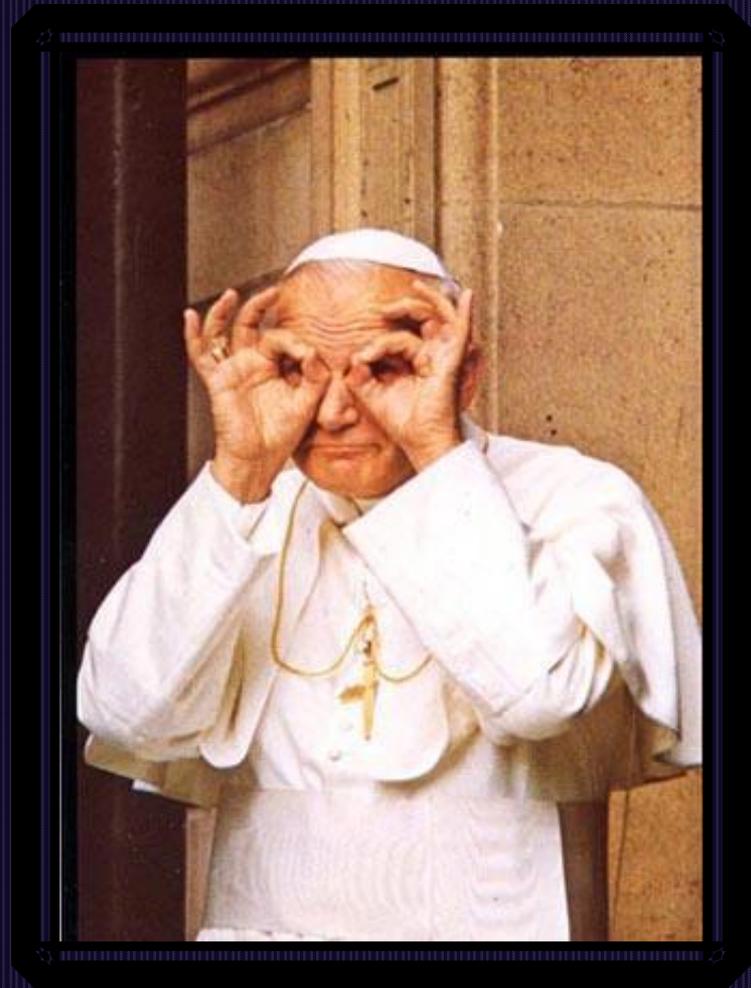


Pope Benedict XVI

# Follow Him



Pope John Paul II, the Great,



# Be Not Afraid



# Are You Willing to Serve?



With the help of Angels



This Bud's for You!

# Secular Franciscans of the Holy Eucharist ~ Juan de Padilla Region

Follow  
ME

