

2022 National Fraternity (NAFRA) Chapter

Purpose of Preparatory Resources 1-6

What is the purpose of these materials?

1. Summary of Conclusive Document from XIV General Chapter
2. Franciscan Centenaries 2023 – 2026
3. A Franciscan Spirituality of Discernment
4. Quinquennial Keynote Presentations
5. Guidelines for OFS Council Members - CIOFS
6. Charitable Giving Proposal

Items 1 thru 4 are related:

These resources may help us as we choose national priorities and a theme for the coming three years. *Where is God calling us? What should our focus be?*

Here is a brief description of 1-4.

Please take the time to review these prior to Chapter.

1. Summary of Conclusive Document from XVI General Chapter (3 pages)

As each General Chapter comes to a close, a “Conclusive Document” is written, presented, and voted on. These “conclusions” are the decisions made during the Chapter, and they are binding on the entire Order. This document is a summary of those conclusions. Of particular importance in this summary is the list of CIOFS’s priorities for the coming years. We suggest you have these in mind as you consider our own national priorities - *how does this impact our priorities for 2023-2026?* A link to the full Conclusive Document is included in the summary.

2. Franciscan Centenaries 2023 – 2026 (21-page booklet)

What do the Later Rule, Christmas at Greccio, the gift of the Stigmata, the Canticle of Creatures and the Easter of St. Francis all have in common? These events all turn 800 years old during the next four years. Throughout 2023-2026, all branches of the Franciscan family are encouraged to come together in various ways to celebrate these Franciscan Centenaries.

The Conference of the Franciscan Family created this inspirational and formative 21-page booklet to provide a common foundation as we plan formation events and gatherings to celebrate these centenaries. *Does this affect our priorities for 2023-2026?*

3. “A Franciscan Spirituality of Discernment” *(45-minute video)*

What is unique about Franciscan Discernment? In his talk, Dr. Thomas Nairn OFM describes a particularly Franciscan way to listen to the Spirit’s leading. *His insights into communal discernment will help us as we seek a direction for our Order going forward.*

4. Quinquennial Keynote Presentations *(1-hour videos)*

The 2022 Quinquennial gave us an opportunity to celebrate, share, laugh, learn, pray, and sing together. It also presented us with a challenge that is resonating in our hearts. The Holy Spirit is calling us – we heard it throughout the Q, and *most clearly in the three keynote presentations* – and we need to listen. *Listen again to these keynote presentations and ask yourself, “where is God calling the OFS?”*

5. CIOFS Guidelines for OFS Council Members *(14 pages)*

The International OFS Council (CIOFS) has issued these NEW guidelines for OFS Council members to impress upon us the vital role and the serious responsibility that is ours as servant leaders. *This important document will form the basis of our ongoing formation at Chapter.*

Please read it, reflect on it, and bring your comments and questions for discussion. This document is particularly directed to local fraternity councils. Let’s discuss how we can transmit it effectively.

6. Charitable Giving Proposal *(1-page)*

This is a report and a proposal from our Charitable Giving Task Force. We will discuss at Chapter. *This proposal will be brought to the floor for discussion, and we will vote on whether to accept it.*