



**OUR LADY
OF THE
ANGELS
REGIONAL
FRATERNITY

2008-2011
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OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS REGIONAL FRATERNITY SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

A few months ago, I was asked by the Council to speak to the ministers of our region at the OLTAR Regional Chapter of Ministers of November 14, regarding Justice, Peace & Integrity of Creation (JPIC).

I started by reading an excerpt of the SFO Priorities established at the General Chapter which took place in Hungary last November.

“The moment has come to be courageous and visible for the service to and the witnessing of the Franciscan charism. For this reason, at all levels, the Order must take up its own responsibilities to be actively present in all the qualified social events and in the promotion of human rights, as well as Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation.” “For too long, the Order has not fully entered into its active mission in the world. The moment has come, and it can no longer be deferred, to “enter the city” to exercise with determination and full visibility its own responsibilities to witness, and to promote justice, peace, human rights and the integrity of creation.”

This is not a new challenge.

Our Rule calls us to promote justice by the testimony of our lives and by our courageous initiatives.

**The Secular Franciscan Order is the largest Order in the Catholic Church
and we can be a force for good in the world.**

So How Do WE BEGIN?

The Council would like each fraternity to name a JPIC coordinator to organize your JPIC apostolate. The JPIC coordinator may be a current fraternity council member such as the vice-minister or any other professed member whom the fraternity minister and council wishes to designate.

The next step is to have an open dialogue with members of your fraternity. What are their individual ministries? Which JPIC ministries would inspire and challenge them? Do you have a fraternity apostolate? What would be a good regional apostolate?

A list of possible apostolates for your consideration was sent to all the Ministers, and is also available on our website. Some are obvious, such as Franciscan Action Network and Franciscans International. You may already be involved with many on the list.

Please send me the name and contact information for your JPIC coordinator so that we can have a regional JPIC meeting. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Let us accept the challenge of the General Chapter and as St. Francis said,
“Begin, at last my brethren, to serve the Lord.”

Pax et bonum,

Jean Haddad

JEAN HADDAD, SFO

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