



Regional JPIC Animator/Coordinator Report

For the Fourth Quarter of 2025

Action Taken

- † I met with JPIC representatives from all three portions on the evening of Thursday, November 20, 2025. Many fraternities were represented at this meeting.
- † Brother Tim Unser began and closed the meeting with a prayer, and I briefed the fraternities on some of the resources, which were sent by the National Animator, Joe Makely, OFS.
- † JPIC Rep Lynn Freeman, OFS of St. Padre Pio Fraternity (Georgetown) was unable to join the Zoom meeting, as she was working with the Williamson County Homeless Coalition, planning for the upcoming PIT (Point in Time) Count of the Homeless in January 2026, and requested to be excused ahead of the meeting.
- † Arms of St. Francis Fraternity was unable to send a representative to the Zoom meeting because of a scheduling conflict, but Regional Secretary and Fraternity Minister Gail Peterson, OFS, submitted a Fraternity JPIC report and photo on behalf of her fraternity.
- † Also, San Antonio de Padua Fraternity was unable to send a representative to the Zoom meeting, but Fraternity JPIC Rep Azalia Perez, OFS, emailed the JPIC report on behalf her fraternity.
- † I have sent an email to those fraternities not represented at the meeting asking them for a written report so that their ideas may be shared.
- † I pointed out that the *12 Weeks of Franciscan Peace* had begun and encouraged JPIC Reps to use this resource, which was sent in English and Spanish, through Christmas.
- † Also, I reminded the JPIC Reps that the *Immigration Toolkit* had a lot of resources that many fraternities could use and was available on the National Franciscan website for which a link exists on the Los Tres Compañeros Region's website. There is a good resource on how to write effective letters to an editor of a local newspaper.

Six fraternities did not attend this meeting nor send a report in their absence: Immaculata Fraternity (Fort Worth); Sacred Heart (Austin); Fraternidad de San Damiano (Dallas); San Jose Obero (McAllen); San Jose (San Antonio); and San Bonaventura Fraternity (Fort Worth).

Fraternity Reporting (over the past 90 days)

St. Pio Fraternity (Huntsville):

- † Regional Formation Director and Fraternity Minister Lore Payne, OFS, reported on the Fraternity's JPIC activities.



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- † In her reporting, Lore focused on her Fraternity's prison ministry, led by a Fraternity member (who is a deacon) and his wife. He spoke on the "Value of Men in Prison Ministry." Lore described it as "very uplifting."
- † She is also extremely excited about the Fraternity's new candidates.

St. Clare Fraternity (Crowley):

- † Fraternity JPIC Rep Stan Urbanek, OFS, reported for St. Clare Fraternity.
- † Two to three Fraternity members work with Catholic Charities.
- † The Fraternity has about 20 active members of the 33 on the roster.
- † In the next two months five more will be starting formation and they tend to be younger.
- † There will be new elections in January.
- † **Editor's note:** St. Clare Fraternity regularly posts JPIC information to its members through its monthly newsletter, *The Clarion*.

San Felipe de Jesús Fraternity (Laredo):

- † Regional Vice Minister and Fraternity member Dolores Boswell, OFS, reported for San Felipe de Jesus Fraternity.
- † The Fraternity participated in a week-long medical and spiritual mission at one of our local churches, in collaboration with Catholic Charities and the Medical Missionaries of Divine Mercy out of St. Lawrence Parish of Sugarland, Texas. There was some concern about ICE agents showing up, but that did not happen.
- † Construction on a portion of the Wall nearby has been approved.
- † There was pressure from the Governor's Office to repaint a portion of a street, which read: "**DEFUND THE WALL — FUND OUR FUTURE.**" The city was threatened with a lot of State funding, if they had not complied.
- † The Fraternity plans to participate with the Franciscan Friars of Hebbronville's Jubilee events which are still taking place.
- † The Fraternity is supporting and practicing a *Pastorela*, a Christmas play, that will take place at its parish in Laredo, along with a Posada.
- † The Fraternity is also organizing the showing of the movie, Nativity Story, which will be a fundraiser for missions in Mexico.

San Pascal Baylon Fraternity (Edinburg):

- † Fraternity Minister Josefina Guzman, OFS, reported on behalf of San Pascal Baylon Fraternity.



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- † Holy Family Catholic Church in Edinburgh is planning a posada, and the members of the San Pascal Baylon Fraternity and San Jose Obrero are planning to participate in it.
- † The Fraternity also participated in a Retreat for Youth with the Friars at Holy Family Church.

Fraternidad de Monte Alvernia (Austin)

- † Fraternity JPIC Rep Toni Castro, OFS, reported for Fraternidad de Monte Alvernia.
- † Fraternity members supported the Latin Festival at Cristo Rey Catholic Church in Austin and prayed the St. Michael Novena and the Novena of St. Francis of Assisi which included the “Little Crown.” On the ninth day was the Triduum.
- † We had the Transitus including a Mass with a procession. The Fraternity hosted the event and showed up for the Mass. Then the whole parish ate with us and the Fraternity fed 300-350 people.
- † Fraternity members also prayed the Rosary at a nearby abortion clinic. We also conducted spiritual adoptions for unborn babies in danger of abortion. At the end of nine months there is a baby shower, and the Fraternity gathers baby clothes and diapers for Texas Pro-Life.
- † The Fraternity celebrated the Feast of St. Elizabeth of Hungary.
- † Fraternity members prayed the Rosary for deceased persons until the end of the year for 21 people.
- † The Fraternity now has an official Facebook page.
- † The Fraternity is gearing up for their annual retreat at the Marian Shrine of Our Lady of Schoenstatt in Austin, Texas, and is inviting its members to attend.

St. Anthony of Padua Fraternity (Corpus Christi):

- † Denise Hyde, OFS, the new Fraternity JPIC Rep, reported on JPIC issues at the meeting.
- † The Fraternity will feed students at the Newman Center at Texas A&M, Corpus Christi.
- † The Fraternity will support and man a booth at the Christmas Bazaar at St. Patrick Catholic Church.
- † The Fraternity is looking for a good and reliable resource for immigration policy. Some of the Secular Franciscans at the Zoom meeting suggested the local office of Catholic Charities.
- † There was a member who said she hears it suggested not putting anything that is “discoverable “in email related to dealing with immigration policy.



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- † Patsy Phillips. OFS is the new Fraternity Minister of St. Anthony of Padua Fraternity (Corpus Christi).

St. Francis of Assisi of San Antonio Fraternity (San Antonio):

- † Fraternity Minister Shirley Atwood, OFS gave the JPIC report for St. Francis Assisi of San Antonio Fraternity (San Antonio).
- † The Fraternity had a number of people at its Transitus, including family and friends.
- † The Fraternity is continuing feeding the hungry, especially with a Thanksgiving meal.
- † Fraternity members are continuing their support for Saint Francis nursing home and scriptural reading.
- † In December, instead of singing Christmas carols the Fraternity will have an Advent Day of Reflection.
- † In January, the Fraternity will be celebrating the Epiphany of Our Lord.
- † Sister Shirley reported some bad news in that they had lost two more members. That is three members passing away over the last five months.
- † The Fraternity watched the presentation of Father Don's presentation on *St. Francis the Soldier*.
- † The Fraternity is also continuing to assist Guadalupe Home (a home for unwed mothers) by providing food, hygiene supplies, baby formula, diapers and clothes throughout the year, but especially with an upcoming big gala in February.

St. Francis of Assisi of Dallas Fraternity (Dallas):

- † Fraternity JPIC Rep Delia Banchs, OFS, was feeling unwell; therefore, Fraternity Minister Cathy Pierce, OFS reported on behalf of St. Francis of Assisi of Dallas Fraternity. Cathy has asked for prayers for Sister Delia.
- † The Fraternity sponsored a youth essay contest from two Catholic schools on St. Francis and St. Clare last month. The Fraternity honored four student winners.
- † The Fraternity held its Transitus at Our Lady of Lourdes but only a few made it.
- † In December the Fraternity will have a Christmas Gathering.
- † Additionally, we are sending donations to H2O project and the Pontifical Mission Society,
- † The Fraternity's prayers continue for prisoners especially in death row, and awareness of political actions in our country and abroad, ex. Charles Thompson, Jan. 28, 2026

St. Padre Pio Fraternity (Georgetown):

- † Regional Animator/Coordinator Chris Kolb, OFS, reported that St. Padre Pio Fraternity is continuing its support of an Apostolate to the Homeless along Route I-35 in North



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Austin. We bring clothes, food and toiletries monthly to the homeless for North Austin. We usually bring hot soup during cold months and ice cream during hot days.

- † Three Fraternity members visited one of the excused but not active members for fellowship.
- † Williamson County Homeless Coalition has sent out a request for volunteers to help count the County's homeless in mid-January. Some Fraternity members plan to assist in this effort.

Señor Santo Niño Fraternity (Dallas):

- † Angelo Portion Counselor and Fraternity Minister Mary Byers reported that Señor Santo Niño Fraternity prepares meals for AIDS patients. She said it is very rewarding.
- † Mary reported that the Fraternity participates in third Sunday of the month Filipino Masses where Filipinos from all over the Dallas area come together for fellowship and serve different types of food. These Masses are devotional Masses celebrated by a Filipino priest.
- † The "Big One" of the third Sunday Devotional Masses occurs in January as it is the Feast of Señor Santo Niño, where there are 500-1000 attendees at Mass and a bishop from El Paso reaches out to the Filipinos in community at St. Pius X catholic Church in Dallas.
- † Fraternity members are also involved with their parishes and in Oktoberfest.

Arms of Saint Francis Fraternity (Bryan/College Station) [Submitted by email]:

- † Regional Secretary and Fraternity Minister Gail Peterson, OFS, was unable to attend our Zoom meeting, so she emailed the JPIC report. on behalf of Arms of Saint Francis Fraternity.
- † Here is what the Arms of St Francis Fraternity has been doing:
 - **Table @** St. Mary's Church, Texas A&M, College Station, to inform students about St. Francis and seculars.
 - **Habitat for Humanity Lunch** - fed the workers.
 - **JDC Ministry** - 2 Saturdays per month for incarcerated girls
 - **St. Anthony Youth** meeting - taught lesson on St Francis and provided craft
 - **Transitus Service** - Friday, October 3 - in Adoration Chapel
 - **Attended Fiesta Franciscana** – San Antonio
- † **We have the following plans for December:**
 - **Christmas Party/Gathering** - St. Elizabeth Maternity House donations will be collected.



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- **Live Nativity** project with local youth in December
- **Christmas Caroling** at the Hospital with youth

San Antonio de Padua Fraternity JPIC (Hebbronville, Texas) [Submitted by email]:

- ✚ Fraternity JPIC Rep Azalia Perez, OFS, was unable to attend our Zoom meeting, so she emailed the JPIC report. on behalf of San Antonio de Padua Fraternity.
- ✚ Fraternity members celebrated the Transitus with a procession around the Jim Hogg County Plaza. Immediately after, a Mass was celebrated honoring St Francis. The Fraternity hosted a fraternal gathering in the Parish Hall.
- ✚ Fraternity continues to support the residents at the Nursing Home by praying the rosary followed by Mass.
- ✚ The Fraternity sponsored the Our Lady of Guadalupe Silent Auction.
- ✚ Fraternity members pray the rosary for deceased members of the community.
- ✚ The Fraternity will take part at the Parish Ministry Fair at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish with members of different ministries and apostolates of our parish. We will distribute the pamphlet “Come and See” with our information about the Franciscan Seculars.
- ✚ The Fraternity continues to join in the Parish’s celebration of the Franciscan presence in Hebbronville with the guest speaker series of Franciscan history in Texas.
- ✚ Planning a Christmas Posada
- ✚ Immaculate Conception Feast on December 8th
- ✚ Our Lady of Guadalupe Feast on December 12th
- ✚ Advent Retreat (tentative)
- ✚ San Antonio de Padua Holy bread distributed every Tuesday of the month.
- ✚ Members give an hour of their time for Adoration.
- ✚ Donations to Catholic Charities in Laredo, Texas

Challenges

- ✚ We have 18 Fraternities in the Region; however, only 11 reported on their JPIC activities. 2 Fraternity’s representative were excused but each had a report of its activities included in this report. Another fraternity was absent, but its JPIC rep submitted a report. And, 6 fraternities did not participate.



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Immediate Future Plans

- † Our next JPIC meeting will be in-person and is tentatively planned with the **Rufino Portion in the Southern area of our Region**. It is scheduled for January 10, 2026. **PLEASE NOTE THIS CORRECTION.**
- † I will put this report on the Los Tres Compañeros Region website.

Respectfully Submitted

Paz y bien,

Chris Kolb. OFS

Regional JPIC Animator/Coordinator

Los Tres Compañeros Region (Texas)

“Go into the world and proclaim the good news.” (Mk 16:15)
“Vayan por todo el mundo y anuncien la Buena Nueva.” (Mc 16:15)
(OFS-USA 2025 - 2028 Theme)

Fraternity Photos

All fraternities were given the opportunity to submit photos of their JPIC activities. Three fraternities chose to share their activities.



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Arms of St. Francis Fraternity (Bryan/College Station)



Fraternity members at a table set up at St. Mary's Church at Texas A&M at College Station, set up to inform students about St. Francis Assisi and the Secular Franciscan Order.



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San Felipe de Jesús Fraternity (Laredo)

Below are photos from when the Fraternity participated in a week-long medical and spiritual mission.



With our Bishop the Most Reverend James Tamayo



Everything free to all--This is our dental team.



Free durable medical equipment



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San Felipe de Jesús Fraternity (Laredo)--Continued



Nurses



People waiting for free vision services and free glasses



Bertha, Fraternity Minister evangelizing. Knocking on doors.



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St. Padre Pio Fraternity (Georgetown):

Below are photos from St. Padre Pio Fraternity's Apostolate to the Homeless along Route I-35 in North Austin this quarter:



ST PADRE PIO OFS
HOMELESS APOSTOLATE
OCTOBER 2025



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St. Padre Pio Fraternity (Georgetown)--Continued



ST PADRE PIO OFS
HOMELESS APOSTOLATE
NOVEMBER 2025

