



Regional JPIC Animator/Coordinator Report

March 2025

Action Taken

- I met with JPIC representatives from Rufino Portion on Thursday evening, March 20, 2025, by Zoom. **Four of the five fraternities were represented at this Zoom meeting.**
- Liz Conces, JPIC Rep from St. Anthony of Padua (Corpus Christi), had a family obligation to tend to, and was unable to be present; however, she sent a written report, which is included in this report.
- I touched upon an immigration enforcement Senate Bill, which I encouraged members to take action. I also included a flyer about two Texas Senate Bills in English and followed up with Spanish translations.

Fraternity Reporting

- **San Jose Obrero Fraternity (McAllen):** Fraternity JPIC coordinator Gerry Obnial, OFS, updated us on his fraternity's activities. The fraternity will be using the ***Prayer Service for Migrants***, which was distributed last month, and will be praying for migrants every day throughout April.
Gerry also says that he knows a person who is not a Franciscan, but wants to help with our JPIC activities. Gerry said that he would provide me with his contact info.
- **San Felipe de Jesus Fraternity (Laredo):** Minister Bertha Serna, OFS represented the Fraternity at this Zoom meeting. The Fraternity plans to visit the elderly. They provided rosaries and helped with baths at a nursing home. They also collected canned goods and other food and helped with other charitable acts like registering people for food. They helped the homeless by making bags which contained toothpaste, a brush, a \$5 bill and T-shirt, socks and other clothing.
- **San Pascual Baylon Fraternity (Edinberg):** Fraternity Secretary Marian Velasquez, represented the Fraternity and spoke of the Fraternity's JPIC issues. She said that her Fraternity has been collecting canned goods for the local food pantry.
- **St. Anthony of Padua Fraternity (Hebbronville):** JPIC Coordinator (and Rufino Portion Councilor) Azalia Perez, OFS, reported on the fraternity's JPIC activities. She reported that the Fraternity has just held elections, and the new Council wants to place more emphasis around planting plants in the garden around their church. The community is composed of more elderly. She wants to have more opportunities to visit the sick at home because of COVID. She has been talking to the Judge to ask for distribution of food to cars by drive thru. Also, Rosary is being prayed every day for rain.



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- **St. Anthony of Padua Fraternity (Corpus Christi):** JPIC Coordinator Liz Conces, OFS, reported by email on the Fraternity's JPIC activities. The Fraternity donated gently used linens to a new shelter in Corpus Christi.
They continue to attend Mass with the students and provide lunch afterwards at the Newman Center at Texas A&M Corpus Christi, generally once a month. They will also provide a dinner during finals week in May; in the past, several members have also stayed for Adoration in their Chapel.
The fraternity plans to participate in a Mission Trip to the San Antonio Missions with Newman Center students on March 29th. This will include a Mass at Mission Concepcion with Archbishop Gustavo and then visit Mission San Jose, San Juan and Espada. Most of the students are from TAMUCC but will also include Kingsville students. This is in preparation for their trip to Rome this summer.
They are still trying to plan something for Earth Day with the Newman Center students. Possible suggestions to the students were to adopt a park in Corpus Christi to pick up trash, with the possibility of doing this on a routine basis (monthly or bimonthly.)
The fraternity is also participating in the H2O project during Lent.

Goals for Future

- I will be participating in the Texas Advocacy events at the Texas Capitol on April 1, 2025.
- I am planning a JPIC Zoom meeting with Leo Portion on April 10, 2025, the second Thursday evening of the month, because the third Thursday is Holy Thursday.
- I am planning a JPIC Zoom meeting with Angelo Portion on the fourth Thursday evening in May, which is May 22, 2025. However, this is very tentative at this point.
- I am monitoring Texas legislation through June 2, 2025 and will advise fraternities of any pending matters concerning JPIC.

Respectfully Submitted

Paz y bien,

Chris Kolb, OFS

Regional JPIC Animator/Coordinator

Los Tres Compañeros Region (Texas)