



# St. Padre Pio Secular Franciscan Fraternity

Election 2021

# Topics to be discussed

(1) Preparation for Elections

(2) General Constitutions 2000: Title IV -  
Election to and termination of Offices

# Preparation for Elections

- We need to fill the following Council Positions:
- Minister, Vice-Minister, Formation Director, Secretary, and Treasurer
- We will need at least two Professed members on the ballot for each of these positions.

# Preparation (cont.)

- We need some volunteers for an Election Committee that will ask Professed Members using email, text messages, In person announcements to request nominations for each Council position and (using arm twisting as a last resort) put together a slate having at least two Professed members per office.

# Preparation (cont.)

- Once we have a slate for all of the Council positions, we need to set a potential date for the Election and notify the Regional Office for their availability.
- However, the Region has requested that we gather at least two times in person prior to setting a potential Election date.

# General Constitutions 2000

## Title IV. Elections. Article 76

- (1) The elections at the various levels will take place according to the norms of the law of the Church and of the Constitutions
- The convocation (gathering) should be carried out at least one month in advance, indicating the place, the day, and the time of the election.

# Article 76. Elections (cont.)

(2) The elective assembly, or chapter, will be presided over by the minister of the immediate higher level (Region and/or Portion) or by his or her delegate, who confirms the election.

- The minister or the delegate cannot preside over the elections in his or her local fraternity, nor the elections of the council of a higher level, of whose council he or she is a member.

# Elections (cont.)

- The spiritual assistant of the immediately higher level or his or her delegate is to be present as a witness of the communion with the First Order and the TOR.
- The minister of the chapter and the spiritual assistant of the higher level do not have the right to vote.



# Elections. Article 76 (2. cont.)

- The minister of the chapter designates, among the members of that chapter, a secretary and two tellers.

# Election. Article 77

- (1) In the local fraternity, the perpetually professed of the same fraternity have active voice, that is can elect, and passive voice, that is can be elected.
- (2) The secular members of the outgoing council have active voice.
- (3) The presence of more than half of the number of those having the right to vote is required for the valid celebration of an elective chapter.

# Elections. Article 78

- (1) An absolute majority of the votes of those present, cast in secret, is required for the election of the minister. After two inconclusive ballots, the voting continues between the two candidates who have obtained the largest number of votes or, in case there are more than two, between the candidates who are oldest by profession. If there is still a tie after the third ballot, the older by profession will be considered elected.

# Elections. Article 78 (cont.)

- (2) The election of the vice-minister proceeds in the same manner.
- (3) For the election of the Formation Director, Secretary and Treasurer, after a first ballot without an absolute majority, a relative majority of the votes of those present, cast in secret, is sufficient, unless the particular statutes require a greater majority.

# Elections. Article 78 (cont.)

The secretary announces the result of the elections; the minister confirms the election according to the Ritual if all has been carried out properly and those elected have accepted their office



# Elections. Article 79

- (1) The minister and vice-minister may be elected for two consecutive terms of three years each. For a third and final successive election to the office of minister or vice-minister, a majority of two-thirds of the votes of those present, which must be obtained on the first ballot, will be necessary.
- (2) The out-going minister cannot be elected vice-minister.
- (3) The Formation Director, Secretary and Treasurer may be elected for additional successive terms of three years. Beginning with the third successive election, a majority of two-thirds of the votes of those present, which must be obtained on the first ballad, will be necessary.

# Elections. Article 79 (cont.)

- (4) The Council of the higher level has the right and duty to invalidate the elections and to call them anew in all cases of inobservance of the preceding norms.

(5)



# The Fraternity Council and its Offices - References

- The Essential Documents of the Secular Franciscan Order. General Constitutions 2000 –
  - (1) The Fraternity Council: Title III, Art. 49-52, pp. 33-37.
  - (2) Election to and termination of Offices: Title IV, Art. 76-84: pages 53-58 and Title III, Art. 49 -52: pages 33-37.
- Information on Servant Leadership can be found in the Franciscan Journey, Chapter 29, pages 310-318.