
NEWS UPDATE

From the National Chapter Meeting 26/2/22



Betsy opened the meeting with prayer for Ukraine & Russia and our members in those countries, especially Dina and Sergi. It followed with scripture readings from 1Kings 19 1:21 Listening to the voice of God in the midst of the storm and having hope in Him, trusting in him, and not running away when things get difficult.

Fraternities are starting to meet in person again and restrictions seem to be easing. Have we missed our fraternal meet ups? Have we missed the companionship and support from our fraternity meetings? Isn't it good to be getting back to normal again?

Br Donal has sent this attachment Newsletter [KOINONIA](#) from the General OFS Spiritual Assistants in Rome, for reading and distribution within

London held its
Regional Election on
6th March.

From left to right:
Jothi, Daphne,
Kathleen, Veronica,
Lesley, Anne, John &
Anna

our fraternities. It focusses on OFS in the world and how Leadership and Friendship can create a path for Evangelisation to take place.

FORMATION

There is now a Formation Team who meet up online to discuss how to better present formation. The idea is to have a more uniform approach with all Formation Ministers getting the support they need to feed their fraternities.

Terry has suggested printing off the website material for Visitors when they come to meetings. click [HERE](#) to see the material. He is also trying to organise a Formation Retreat for Formation Ministers in the next few months. We will keep you updated on dates and venues.

NATIONAL REGIONAL CHAPTER WEND RETREAT

There is going to be a Regional Chapter wend retreat from 17th - 19th June taking place at The Hayes. We will be reflecting over the last 2 yrs living with Covid and asking God how he wants us to proceed and building support for our Ministers. It is also an opportunity to address any issues you'd like to discuss.

SPIRITUAL ASSISTANTS!

The National Council are trying to get together a panel of Spiritual Assistants to help out in our Fraternity. If you have experience and are interested please tell your Regional Minister who will put your name forward. If you would like to be trained to do the job please also put your name forward as there will be a training program put in place for all Spiritual Assistants in the near future.

THE HANDBOOK

The handbook is currently being updated. It will more or less be the same as the old version with a couple of changes. Once completed it will be printed professionally and distributed to the Regions. They should be available in the next few months. We will keep you posted!

FINANCE

CIOFS identified Finance as one of the areas to be addressed from feedback to the 2014 document 'How an Order like the OFS be managed at all its levels'.

Areas for improvement included:

Formation on financial management and administration. Many fraternities experience difficulties because of the lack of awareness of the financial responsibilities of individual members and fraternities. A Formation module has been developed for education of members and fraternities on these issues.

Better management and administration of funds and assets of fraternities to be done at all levels to achieve improvements within the entire Order. For this, CIOFS has provided guidance on basic standard procedures for financial management to improve budgeting, accuracy, transparency, control, and efficiency.

The formation material and a Financial Management Manual were made available in January 2022 and are presently being assessed for possible use and application within OFS GB.

ELECTIONS

London recently held its Regional Election on March 6th. There is now a new Council! The Council members are:

Minister - Veronica Hughes
Vice Minister - Jothi Christian
Treasurer - John Sparks
Secretary - Lesley Bonzoni
Formation Minister - Anne North
JPIC Minister - Kathleen Goggin
Communications Minister - Anna Renner
Councillor without Portfolio - Daphne Lynch

East Anglia recently held its elections this year

East Anglian Regional Team is as follows:

Minister - Brigid Rawlinson
Vice Minister - Chris Whittam
Secretary - Chris Whittam
Treasurer - Edwin Edwards
Formation - David Gleave

Cambridge:Election held on 9th January 2022

Minister - Trudy Warner
Vice-Minister - Chris Whittam
Secretary - Jaci Matos Agarwala
Treasurer - Annette Hunt
Formation Minister - Chris Whittam

Ipswich:Election held on 6th March 2022

Minister - Anne Gleave
Vice-Minister - Edwin Edwards
Secretary - David Gleave
Treasurer - Peter Carr
Formation Minister - David Gleave
JPIC - Jane Robinson

North West: Elections in Flint back in October 2021

Minister - Beatrice Field
Vice Minister - Mary McCormick
Secretary - Margaret Cartwright
Treasurer - Margaret Woodward
Formation Minister - Mary McCormick

NEXT MEETING

The next National Chapter Meeting will be 30th April 2022.