



Studying the Rule of the OFS



Chapter 3 Life in Fraternity

22. The local fraternity has to be canonically erected. In this way it becomes the primary cell of the whole Order and a visible sign of the Church, a community of love. It should be the privileged place for developing a sense of Church and Franciscan vocation, and not least the place where new life is given to the members' commitment to apostolic life. *35

Footnotes:

*35 Pius XII 1 July 1956, Discorso ai Terziari, 3

Cf. General Constitutions:

Art 46.1; 47.1

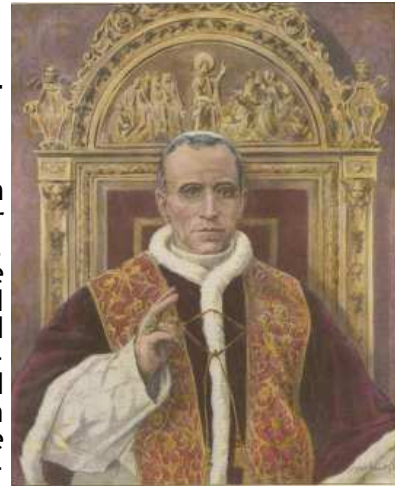
ENDNOTES:

Q. What does it mean to say that the local fraternity has been ‘**canonically erected**’?

Pius XII, *Discoorso ai Terziari* 1st July 1956

3. School of action daring and ready for the building up of the Body of Christ

...Observe the times present. They are not dissimilar in some respects from those who saw the Franciscan Order come into being. We have repeatedly warned the world, so that it stops in time on the edge of the precipice; we have invited men to reflect that there is no genuine and lasting salvation except in Jesus; we have made repeated appeals to all true Christians, because—set aside what divides—they work boldly in harmony to vivify and expand the Church. Many have answered, many—we have firm confidence—they will answer again: the men are aware that, far from Christ, there is only discomfort and damage. In many parts of the world the works are under the guidance of the sacred Pastors.



So you too, beloved children, are at work. Jesus tells you through the mouth of his, though unworthy, Vicar. Come on everyone, bring help to the world. Support the Church, where, if there are unfortunately, in some of its members, error and evil, there is still so much heroism, so much holiness!

With these sentiments and as we thank you for the many and most important gifts with which you have accompanied your coming, let us wholeheartedly give to you all, your families and all your work, a pledge of the most abundant heavenly favours, Our Apostolic Blessing.

Q. What should we understand by:
developing a sense of Church
Franciscan vocation
apostolic life?