



Studying the Rule of the OFS



Chapter 3 Life in Fraternity

23. Requests to join the Secular Franciscan Order must be presented to the local fraternity and this Council will decide on the matter of accepting a new member. *36 Admission into the Order takes place through a time of initiation, a period of formation lasting at least one year, and Profession of the Rule. *37 This process of personal development is a shared responsibility for the whole fraternity which is also concerned with their way of life. Details about the age for Profession and the distinctive signs of being a Franciscan are both regulated by the Statutes. *38

Profession by its very nature is perpetual. *39

Members who might find themselves in any particular difficulty may discuss their problems in fraternal dialogue with the Council.

Withdrawal or, if necessary, definitive dismissal from the Order, is an act of the fraternity Council according to the norms of the Constitutions. *40

Footnotes:

*36 Code of Canon Law 694 (307)

*37 Memoriale propositi 29-30

*38 1 C 22 1 FA:ED (p 201)

*39 Memoriale propositi 31

*40 Code of Canon Law 696 (308)

Cf. General Constitutions:

Art 37; 38; 39; 40; 41; 42.2; 43; 56

ENDNOTES:



Q. According to the Statutes, how long is the time of Initiation, the period of Formation, Profession?

Q. Ideally, what should happen when someone temporarily withdraws from the Order?



Q. For what reason/s might someone be dismissed from the Order?

