



Studying the Rule of the OFS



Chapter 3 Life in Fraternity

26. As a concrete sign of fellowship and co-responsibility, the Councils at various levels shall, according to the Constitutions, ask the superiors of the four Franciscan religious families, for suitable and capable religious to assist them spiritually as they have been linked to the Secular Fraternity for centuries.

In order to strengthen fidelity to the charism and observance of the Rule and so as to have the best help in their fraternity life, the Minister or President, with the consent of the Council, should be attentive to the need to seek a periodic pastoral visitation from the competent religious superior. *43 They should also seek a fraternal visitation from those responsible in the higher levels of fraternity, according to the Constitutions.

And whoever observes these things
let him be blessed in heaven
with the blessing of the Most High Father,
and on earth
with the blessing of His Beloved Son
with the Most Holy Spirit the Paraclete
and with all the powers of heaven
and with all the saints. *44

Footnotes:

*43 Supra montem 16

*44 Blessing of Saint Francis Testament 40 1 FA:ED (p 127)

Cf. General Constitutions:

Art 92.1

ENDNOTES:

Q. What are the four Franciscan religious families and what are they there to do for OFS?



...and let them have a priest or visitor, who is a member of some approved religious institute, and who is to enjoin a salutary penance upon them for the excesses they have committed. Nor let any other execute the office of this kind of visitation for them. Since indeed the present form of living takes its institution from...Bl Francis...
(Supra Montem 16)

Q. What is the purpose of a periodic pastoral visit?