



ORDO FRANCISCANUS SAECULARIS

Consilium Internationale

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Feast of All the Saints

To all National Ministers
all International Councillors
all National Councils

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

May the Lord give you his peace!

November is the month when we think more about the Saints. We celebrate all the saints, also those of the great Seraphic Family, who are shining lanterns ahead of us putting light on our ways when we are seeking God and are trying to live our vocation. We remember those beloved ones of ours, family members, brothers, sisters, colleagues, neighbors, who cannot be with us anymore and whom we wish to meet again. Let us pray for those, who have left us this year, so I invite all of you to dedicate a special moment to pray for our sisters, brothers, family members, who have left us this year, specially for those who have been called away because they were infected by the Covid-19.

Our life is still very much impacted by the pandemic, and we need the Holy Spirit who can comfort us, more than before. Fraternities usually still cannot meet, and the lack of personal contacts makes fraternal life more difficult than ever. It has already been lasting for more than six months, and I know how difficult it is for each one of you to cope with this situation. I pray for each one of you, asking the Lord of times that he may deliver us from this difficulty, and strengthen us until we can get back to a more ordinary way of life.

The CIOFS presidency has the same difficulties, but we try to do our best to bring forward the fraternal life and to respond to the current needs of the International Fraternity and of the National Fraternities. Having recognized the greatest needs, I am sending you three documents that we hope to help you at least in the practical matters of the fraternal life. I thank to the Juridical Commission and the entire Presidency for these documents.

One document is a short guideline that intends to help you facing the questions regarding the chapters, admissions and professions during this period of pandemic, when fraternities cannot come together.

The second one is the updated supporting document for the National Statutes. This updated version has been improved according to the most recent experiences.

The third document is a guideline for the recourses. Based upon the experiences of the Presidency, we have found it that it is useful to put a light on some points and to clarify the procedure.

I hope that these documents can help you in this situation, though I know that they cannot replace the personal love and smiles, the common Holy Masses, the good discussions, the common dinners, the fraternal life at its fullness.

May the Lord enlighten us, so that we see in this richness and variety of holiness we remember specially in this month, that we too have this same vocation to be saints! There is no single way to be a saint, God invites us, each of us, to be holy in his own way and life. I pray for you that you find your proper way to become a saint!

I keep on praying for all of you, and on return, I also ask you to pray for me and for the Presidency, so that we can serve you, the International Fraternity day by day better and better.

Your minister and your minor brother



Tibor Kauser
CIOFS Minister General

