

Chapter 2023

Capuchin Province of Saint Joseph Regarding Pastoral Planning

WHEREAS, the Province engaged during this triennium in discussion and reflection on the topic of secularization, and

WHEREAS, the Secularization Project elicited several proposals from those engaged in the discussion for possible consideration by the Province as a whole, and

WHEREAS, there was strong unqualified support for two proposals offered for consideration (83.9% from those who participated), and

WHEREAS, the Provincial Minister & Council have chosen to combine these two proposals and submit to the Province as a proposal for consideration at our 2023 Provincial Chapter, be it

RESOLVED, that the following statement be included in our Provincial Pastoral Plan:

“As the Province adds, hands over, abandons, sustains, or changes ministries in the future, it will give preference to ministries that offer additional opportunities to Catholics, Christians, and others which are not typically available in parishes.

“Among our first efforts to implement this principle, the Province will develop programming, events and displays at our St. Francis Church and Capuchin Center in Milwaukee to create a pilgrimage/destination site for the region. An open-door policy for the church and center will enhance hospitality to St. Francis Parish, and for visiting groups and individuals, and offer opportunities for private and group prayer, and celebration of appropriate sacraments. We will develop displays that tell the story of this place and the Calvary Province within the world-wide Capuchin Order. Suitable Capuchin and other personnel will be assigned to this new ministry.”

ACTION REQUESTED: that the friars gathered at the June, 2023 Provincial Chapter approve this proposal and that it be added to the Provincial Pastoral Plan for implementation to begin during the 2023-2026 triennium.

Respectfully submitted by:
Mark Joseph Costello, Provincial Minister
Steven Kropp, Provincial Vicar
William Hugo, Provincial Councilor
Zoilo Garibay, Provincial Councilor
Tien Dinh, Provincial Councilor

Chapter 2023

Capuchin Province of Saint Joseph Regarding “Fraternal Collaboration”

WHEREAS, the Province began the Fraternal Collaboration Program in 2015, with the desire to welcome friars from outside of the United States

WHEREAS, the program and the welcoming of our fraternal collaborating brothers has the purpose of reinvigorating and enhancing our fraternal life, as well as collaborating in all aspects of the Province, and

WHEREAS, since approving the Fraternal Collaboration Program, the Province has welcomed several friars, predominantly from India and Africa, and

WHEREAS, the Fraternal Collaboration Program has become an integral part of the Province, as demonstrated by its inclusion in the Provincial Pastoral Plan, and

WHEREAS, the fraternal collaboration brothers have immersed themselves in our friaries and ministries, including some completing or continuing their theological studies, and

WHEREAS, we have experienced and seen some of the fraternal collaboration brothers thrive in our communities and ministries and some have struggled, and

WHEREAS, the brothers of the Province have also experienced joyful moments, as well as some struggles with the program, and

WHEREAS, as with any other ministry, the program has probably undergone some internal evaluation by its office; however, no report has officially been made public to the friars

WHEREAS, given the experiences with the fraternal collaboration for the seven years, it seems beneficial for the Province's administration and transparency efforts to have an official Provincial evaluation or assessment of the program, and

WHEREAS, the Fraternal Collaboration Program and the Province might find great benefit in conducting said evaluation/assessment with some fresh eyes and minds from around the Province with the contribution of the program's office, and

WHEREAS, an evaluation of said program seems merited, we submit to the Province as a proposal for consideration at our 2023 Provincial Chapter, be it

RESOLVED, that the Fraternal Collaboration Program undergoes a formal and official review by the Province. This independent review is to be conducted during the 2023-2026 triennium, by an ad hoc task force, to be known as Task Force on Fraternal Collaboration, appointed by the Provincial Minister, with the counsel of the Provincial Council. This task force is to seek the collaboration and cooperation of the program's office and coordinator/director. However, friars who have ministered with and/or are currently ministering in the office of the program will serve as consultants of the task force, not as members of it. This evaluation is to include, but is not limited to, the benefits of the program, its financial impact on the Province, commendations, recommendations, and any other matter the task force sees fit. At the conclusion of this evaluation, the task force is to submit its

90 findings to the Provincial Minister, who will review and approve it, with the counsel of the
91 Provincial Council. After its approval from the Provincial Minister, the results are to be published to
92 the members of the Province for evaluation and discussion during the 2026 Provincial Chapter.
93 ACTION REQUESTED: that the friars gathered at the June 2023 Provincial Chapter approve this
94 proposal and the evaluation herein requested takes place during the 2023-2026 triennium and that
95 this assessment, its task force and its procedure be added to the Provincial Pastoral Plan.

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97 Respectfully submitted by:

98 *Br. Francisco Javier Rodriguez*

99 *Br. James Antoine*

100 *Br. Michael Joseph Groark*

101 *Br. Carl Schafer*

102 *Br. Tom Nguyen*

103 *Br. Randolph Graczyk*

104 *Br. Thomas Zelinski*

105 *Br. Paul Koenig*

106

Br. Truyen Nguyen

Br. Jose Vera

Br. Lawrence Webber

Br. John Celichowski

Br. Michael Dorn

Br. Nathan Linton

Br. Neal Plale

Br. David Schwab

Br. Thomas Skowron

Br. Michael Bertram

Br. Truong Dinh

Br. Robert Roemer

Br. Zoilo Garibay

Br. Jerome Campbell

Br. Michael Zuelke

Br. Oliver Bambenek

Chapter 2023

Capuchin Province of Saint Joseph

Regarding “Chapter Venue”

WHEREAS, the number of Chapter participants has dropped significantly because of the aging and health of the friars, and

WHEREAS, St. Xavier University is becoming an increasing burden for many friars in terms of walking and stair climbing, and

WHEREAS, the recent renovations at St. Lawrence Seminary has made more individual spaces available for friars housing, as well as air conditioned facilities, and

WHEREAS, the number of individual rooms for friars and guests at Mt Calvary and surrounding area number 92 bedrooms, and

WHEREAS, some of the senior friars at St Lawrence and St Fidelis could more easily attend and participate in the Chapter, and

WHEREAS, the areas needed for the Chapter are handicap accessible and in relatively close proximity, be it

RESOLVED, that the Provincial Chapter of 2026 be held at St. Lawrence Seminary.

ACTION REQUESTED: that the friars at the June 2023 Provincial Chapter approve this proposal and that the newly-elected provincial leadership facilitate this decision.

Respectfully Submitted by:

David Schwab *Zoilo Garibay* *Oliver Bambenek*
Michael Zuelke *Lawrence Abler* *Neal Plale*
Chrispin Shirima *Jerome Campbell* *Jim Leary*
Paul Craig