

Extraction Preparation and After

All in the fraternity — Orientees, Inquirers, Professed — take part in the Extraction. If visitors are present, we have visitor cards so that they can participate.

Pray to the Holy Spirit each day during the week prior to the Extraction that the Holy Spirit will guide you to the saint you most need. The fraternity member who is drawing for someone else prays to the Holy Spirit during the week prior to the Extraction that the Holy Spirit will guide them to draw the saint that person most needs.

Preparation

Be sure to update the year on the back of the member cards before you start making the cards.

1. Prepare the Extraction List page
2. Choose the saints and blesseds from the Franciscan Sts-Bls list.
3. As you choose each saint/blessed add them to the Extraction List.
4. Print the list. Take it to the Extraction.
5. Save the above list, labeling it Members List. Remove the lines.
6. Using the “FranSpiritMaster” make a card for each person in the fraternity. On the front of the card put the name of a Franciscan saint or blessed, the saint’s feast day, and the name of a fraternity member. If you have deceased members, on inside of each card include the name of a deceased fraternity member and dates of profession and death.
7. Print and fold cards. They fit in the person’s *Christian Prayer* or *Liturgy of the Hours*, though you’ll need to trim the long edges. To trim: after folding the card, lay on paper cutter with the back of the card showing so that you don’t inadvertently cut off any of the instructions.
8. Print and cut apart the Virtues, Scriptures, and Sayings of Francis; fold in half. Be sure that you have more of each than you have people participating. Virtues, Scriptures, and St. Francis Sayings are sized so they can be pasted into their cards if the person doesn’t want to write the information in the card.

The Extraction Service

1. Prior to the Extraction service, put a table in the space where the service will be held.
2. Place the Extraction cards face down in rows on the table. Place a candle on the table; (light the candle immediately before the service). Place three baskets, boxes, or some other type of receptacles near the rows — one each for: Virtues, Scriptures, and St. Francis sayings.
3. If possible, have meditative music to play softly during the Extraction (not during the service, since you’ll be singing).
4. At the end of the Extraction Service start the music. Each Professed, Inquirer, and Orientee goes up individually, in silence, and draws one of the cards, then looks at

the front to be sure they didn't draw their own name. If they did, they put that card face down and draw another one. They also draw one item from each basket.

5. If you've invited visitors to the service, after all fraternity members have drawn, place the visitor cards face down on the table and invite the visitors to draw a card, Scripture, Virtue, and Francis saying. I recommend that the visitor cards have the names of St. Francis, St. Clare, and if your fraternity is named for a saint, some cards with that saint's name. Having the visitors draw after the fraternity members allows the visitors to see how we do this rather than having to explain it to them.
6. When all have drawn, have a brief period of meditation. Then, the person with the list goes down the list, asking "Who has Saint (Name.) List person notes that on the list. The person who drew that saint tells what member they're praying for all year (and what deceased member, if applicable).
7. If someone knows they must be absent from the Extraction, they can ask someone to draw for them, announcing who they are drawing for. Good idea to have some envelopes handy so the person can put what they've drawn for someone else into an envelope so that the other person's Extraction draw doesn't get mixed up with theirs. They then take or send the Extraction materials to the person they drew for.

After the Extraction

1. The list person takes the Extraction list home and types the names of who will give the reports on the Members List. It's important for the minister to have a copy of this list. If members are going to give Extraction reports, the minister can include in the meeting agenda who will be reporting that month. But, it's good to email everyone a copy of the list.
2. If a fraternity member is housebound or in a nursing home, consider having the Extraction at the person's home or the nursing home, if possible, so that he or she can participate. Or several members might go to visit the person and do an abbreviated version of the Extraction so that person can draw. Someone from the fraternity can assist the person in looking up information about their saint and in giving the report. When it's the month for that person's report, consider having the fraternity meeting at the nursing home.
3. If you have the service around the time of the Epiphany, anyone who drew a January saint could give their report a month or two later.
4. We look at our Virtues, Scriptures, and Sayings of St. Francis as being guided by the Holy Spirit, which is why we don't decide "this doesn't apply to me," and put them back so we can draw again. If not on the day of the Extraction, at some point during the year we'll understand why the Holy Spirit guided us to what we drew.

