

# Parish Charter and Chapter Registry Guide

This guide will aid in moving through the process of chartering a parish chapter of the Fraternity of St. Joseph (FSJ).

The mission of our relational Fraternity is to build up a band of brothers, journeymen of all ages, in the just model of St. Joseph, who strengthen each other through fellowship, prayer, the Holy Mass, and the sacraments. Successfully handing on the deposit of faith to future generations of Catholics is our focus.

Choose from one of the two options below for initial contact with the FSJ Guiding Council. Upon submission of the appropriate form, the Guiding Council will share all of the support and resources needed to successfully create a parish chapter of the Fraternity over the one-year chartering period.

- 1) **FSJ Chapter Pastor Consent Form** - *A first step for parishes with a limited number of men interested in chartering a chapter.* With the pastor's approval, the submission of this form provides an official notice of intent for the Guiding Council and will prompt access to the resources needed to encourage men of the parish to get involved.

The Pastor Consent Form, is a one-sheet form created for men wanting to start a parish chapter, to be used in the initial conversation with the parish pastor. It provides a first look at what a chapter offers to the life of the parish (relational, resources, tools of reach).

- 2) **FSJ Chapter Registry Application** - *If your parish already has a sufficient number of men to assume officer positions, use this form as the initial contact with the Guiding Council.* This one-sheet form is created for parishes that have enough men in place to start a chapter. Please note, officer vacancies are expected in the start-up year.

The Chapter Registry Application is used when a parish has assembled a group of men, known to the pastor to be in good standing with the Catholic Church, and who want to petition to start a chapter.

On this form, submit the total number of men involved into two categories:

1. Consecrated Members (CM): Men consecrated to Mary first, then Joseph.

(Note: Consecration is not required to start a chapter but is strongly encouraged.)

2. Members in Good Standing (MGS): Men not yet consecrated

With the pastor's approval, the chapter registry request will be submitted to the Guiding Council. The Fraternity registry will then be updated to reflect that this parish has now become a chapter of the Fraternity of St. Joseph.

Any questions or comments/suggestions can be directed to the FSJ Guiding Council through email at:

[fsjjourneymen@gmail.com](mailto:fsjjourneymen@gmail.com)

**Fraternity of St. Joseph Chapter - Pastor Consent Form**      Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Submission of this form expresses an official notice of intent to the FSJ Guiding Council to explore the possibility of establishing an FSJ chapter within your parish.*

The mission of our relational Fraternity is to build up a band of brothers, journeymen of all ages, in the just model of St. Joseph, who strengthen each other through fellowship, prayer, the Holy Mass, and the sacraments. Successfully handing on the deposit of faith to future generations of Catholic men, while transforming our families, parishes, and communities in the process, is our vision. Key works of the Fraternity include consecration to the Holy Family, upholding the authority of the priesthood, and developing "tools of reach" (accessible web resources, printed documents, etc.) that foster community building within the parish.

By signing this consent, the pastor indicates that he has been introduced to the FSJ mission, vision, and resource documents and has a clear understanding of the clergy's role in supporting the work of the mission. All men listed on this form are encouraged to read the FSJ code of conduct, mission and vision statements.

With the pastor's consent, the individual shown below as the parish contact can send this form to the Guiding Council as official notice of chapter intent. Your parish will then receive all of the resources needed to start the process of encouraging the men of the parish to get involved and to support your chapter's charter year.

Pastor Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Men in attendance:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**We can't do this journey alone...** Your chapter's success is found in community. You will be receiving access to resources and contact information for other parishes who have successfully started chapters. We strongly encourage your asking questions and sending comments to the Guiding Council, as well as other parish councils, as you shoulder up in your efforts.

**NOTE:** Please email this form to the Guiding Council ([fsjjourneymen@gmail.com](mailto:fsjjourneymen@gmail.com)) with the subject line of **(Parish Name) - FSJ Pastor Consent Form**. You will receive information to support your decision to explore starting a chapter in your parish. Retain a copy of this form for your parish records.

Fraternally, FSJ Guiding Council  
St. Thomas Aquinas Chapter  
Charlotte, NC  
Guiding Council Email: [fsjjourneymen@gmail.com](mailto:fsjjourneymen@gmail.com)

**Fraternity of St. Joseph Chapter - Registry Application  
(Pastor Consent Form)**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Submission of this form expresses to the FSJ Guiding Council that the parish has a sufficient number of men in place to assume officer positions and to establish a chapter with the pastor's consent.*

The Fraternity Parish Charter will be conducted over a one-year period. This time is allotted for the officer positions of the parish chapter to be filled and for the men of the parish to come together in the just model of St. Joseph as Journeymen of Joseph. All prospective journeymen are encouraged to read at a minimum the FSJ code of conduct, mission and vision statements.

This form includes the names of the officers in place and indicates the number of journeymen in the following categories: those in Good Standing with the Church (as deemed by the pastor) and those Consecrated to Mary first, then Joseph.

It is the work of the Fraternity to move its journeymen from "In Good Standing" to "Consecrated" in an effort to expose fellow journeymen to the richness of the Catholic faith experienced first hand in the process of consecration. As Catholic men, we are taught to place our families first. In this awareness, and through the just model of St. Joseph, all Journeymen of Joseph are encouraged to first consecrate themselves to Mother Mary, then to St. Joseph, as they both lead us to Jesus in our consecration to the Holy Family.

Names of FSJ Parish Chapter Officers\*:

(Refer to the FSJ Parish Chapter Governance document for detailed information on officer roles and responsibilities.)

President (Can Be Parish Pastor, Priest, or Deacon) \_\_\_\_\_

Vice President (Aids President in Carrying Out Fraternity Objectives) \_\_\_\_\_

Recorder (Takes Meeting Minutes, Maintains Chapter Records) \_\_\_\_\_

Social Media Coordinator (Handles Social Media Accounts, Liaison w/Parish Ministries) \_\_\_\_\_

Vicenarian (Must be 20-30 Years of Age, Communicates Needs/Interests of Peers) \_\_\_\_\_

Chaplain (Can Be Parish Pastor, Priest, Deacon or Lay Person Appointed by Pastor) \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Please note, some officer vacancies are expected in the start-up year. The President cannot serve in two roles (e.g., Chaplain).*

Number of Journeymen, including officers, in the following two categories:

No. of Journeymen in Good Standing \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Consecrated Journeymen (to Mary first, then Joseph) \_\_\_\_\_

Comments and suggestions for the FSJ Guiding Council: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Parish Pastor Signature (required) \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Parish Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** Please email this form to the Guiding Council ([fsjjourneymen@gmail.com](mailto:fsjjourneymen@gmail.com)) with the subject line of **(Parish Name) - FSJ Chapter Registry Application**. You will receive contact information to support your chapter's charter year. Retain a copy of this form for your parish chapter records.

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