

# Rite of Extraction Materials and Guidelines

As we plan for our annual Rite of Extraction, some might find it helpful to have prepared materials and guidelines. We are extremely grateful to our sister Joanita Nellenbach, OFS, who through the use of her gifts has created the majority of the materials.

1. Rite of Extraction Materials and Guidelines – documents in the process and guidelines to use
2. OFS Saints and Blesseds
3. Franciscan St – BLs – includes First, Second, and Third Orders
4. Scripture passages
5. Sayings of Saint Francis
6. Virtues
7. FranSpiritMaster
8. FranSpiritMasterMember
9. FranSpiritVisitor
10. Extraction List 2022 – tracking who has which Saint/Blessed and the month of their feast date. Can be used as a part of Ongoing Formation at the Fraternity Gatherings
11. SFH Ext Serv Epiph - rite used on the Feast of the Epiphany
12. Sample PowerPoint – Used at a Zoom Gathering for the Rite of Extraction

## Extraction of St. Francis's Spirit Guidelines

Each Fraternity is guided by the Holy Spirit, and we pray these guidelines help in your Rite of Extraction.

All in the fraternity — Orientees, Inquirers, Candidates, Professed — take part in the extraction. If visitors are present, after the fraternity has drawn, invite each visitor to draw a visitor card, a Virtue, a Scripture, and a Saying of St. Francis.

There are 3 templates included to help you in making cards for the Extraction:

- “FranSpiritMaster” – master from which the others are modified.
- “FranSpiritMember” – modified for members
- “FranSpiritVisitor” – modified for visitors

Make a card for each person in the fraternity. On each card put the name of a Franciscan saint or blessed, the saint's feast date, and the name of a fraternity member. On the inside of each card include the name of a deceased fraternity member with dates of profession and death.

Print and fold cards. The cards will fit into 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.

Print and cut apart the Virtues, Scriptures, and Sayings of Francis; fold in half. Be sure that you have many more of each than you have people participating. Passages are sized so that persons can paste them into their cards if they don't want to write the information in the card.

Prior to the Extraction service, place a table in the space where the service will be held. On the table place a candle (light the candle immediately before the service), and place four baskets, boxes, or other receptacles — one each for:

- Extraction cards
- Virtues
- Scriptures
- Sayings of St. Francis

If possible, have a DVD player ready with meditative music to be played softly during the Extraction (not during the service, since you'll be singing).

At the end of the Extraction Service, start the music. Each Professed, Candidate, Inquirer, and Orientee goes up individually, in silence, and draws one item from each basket. If they draw the card with their name, they put it back and draw another.

When all have drawn, have a brief period of meditation. Then, everyone takes turns announcing the saint whose name he or she drew and the person for whom they'll pray all year. Someone records the name of the person who drew the card, the name of their saint, and the month of the saint's feast.

An alternative method is to have each person announce their saint, Virtue, and Scripture passage as they draw them.

For members who are not present, there are several ways to include them in the Rite of Extraction:

1. At the next meeting the person attends, there is no need to go through the entire service again. Light a candle, say the prayer, and allow the person to choose one item from each of the receptacles.
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 the person can draw.
3. When a member requests that the Extraction be done for them during the Rite, have an assigned member prayerfully draw the card and other materials for them. Mail the extracted materials to them.

If the service is held around the time of the Epiphany, there is a sample script (Spit-ExtServEpiph).

Saints and blesseds from all three Orders can be used. However, at the 2012 Annual Regional Gathering, Father Steve Gross, OFM Conv., pastoral visitor, stressed that finding *our* OFS charism means finding out what motivated the original Order of Penitents. These are our models, he said; we need to learn about Secular Franciscan saints and blesseds, and we should name fraternities after them.

So, consider using only Secular Franciscan saints and blesseds in the Extraction. That is, use those who remained Secular Franciscans throughout their lives, just as we'll remain Secular Franciscans throughout our lives. In other words, if using only OFS saints and blesseds, don't include those who began as Secular Franciscans but later went on to found and become members of other orders.

Tell those gathered that we look at our choices of the 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 one will understand why the Holy Spirit guided you to this.

Look at the saint one chooses in the same way. The research you do on your saint is for you so that you can meditate on what the saint has to teach you, how that saint is a model for you. Do the research as soon as possible after the Extraction so that you can begin learning from your saint. There is something (or some things) the Holy Spirit wants you to learn through that person. It might be something totally unexpected. That's what you want to tell your fraternity in the month of the saint's feast date: What you've learned from the saint and how that's influencing your life.

Suggestion for members sharing information about their selected saint during Ongoing Formation:

- As a way to share about the saints/blesseds who have been chosen, each member is given the opportunity to share about their saint/blessed during the month of the saint's/blessed's feast date.
- Note that it is not about giving a biography of the person; it is about sharing the impact the saint/blessed is having on your life.
- When each member announces their saint and feast date, it is recorded. This is so it can be put in the agenda each month who's reporting on which saint.
- It's good to keep this record and add to it each year so that you don't always draw all the same saints or blesseds. There is a sample (Extraction List of 2022) attached that is used by the Franciscan Martyrs of Siroki Brijeg Fraternity.

Sample cards included for the Rite of Extraction are:

Master:

All cards are made from this one.

Member:

On the front of the card is the saint's name, feast date, and the name of the member of the Fraternity you will be praying for that year. On the inside of the card is the name of the deceased member you will be praying for.

Visitor:

On the front of the card is St. Clare, St. Francis, their feast dates, and the name of your Fraternity. On the inside of the card is a request to pray for all the fraternity's deceased members.