

Dears Sisters,

April 21, 2026

This spring's Local Chapter meeting that we are completing was the first step in preparing for our Summer Gathering. As part of that time together, we have invited Sr. Kelly Connors, PM, (Sister of the Presentation of Mary) a canon lawyer, to share some detailed information with us about the role of Appointed Canonical Leaders (commissaries). To help her tailor her presentation to OUR needs, she has asked for us all to reflect and answer a few questions before the summer. Our Local Chapter Conveners suggested that we gather in those groups to brainstorm about this, but then answer the questions individually after your LC meetings.

1. Please reflect on the questions below.
2. Conveners, please set a date to meet as a Local Chapter during May in order to share and discuss these questions. Take notes if you wish.
3. Then individually fill out the questionnaire and return it to René Simonelic. Your name is optional.

An optional fillable form to download and email will be on our website in the folder marked "Summer Gathering 2026" if you choose to respond electronically.

To: Sr. René Simonelic
1433 Essington Rd, Joliet, IL 60435
rsimonelic@jolietfranciscans.org

By: June 1, 2026, by mail or email


Jeanne Bessette, OSF
President


Peggy Quinn, OSF
Councilor


Susan M. Bruno, OSF
Councilor


René Simonelic, OSF
General Secretary


MJ Griffin, OSF
General Treasurer

Questions for discussion at your Local Chapter Meeting:

1. What are you hoping to learn about the role of an Appointed Canonical Leader?
What sparks your curiosity?
2. When it is time for us to seek an ACL (Appointed Canonical Leader) to provide canonical leadership for our congregation, what are your hopes, fears, concerns?
3. What do you think will be the challenges for us in adapting to an Appointed Canonical Leader? What will be the challenges for the ACL?

Questionnaire for Individual Responses:

1. What are you hoping to learn about the role of an Appointed Canonical Leader?
What sparks your curiosity?
2. When it is time for us to seek an ACL (Appointed Canonical Leader) to provide canonical leadership for our congregation, what are your hopes, fears, concerns?
3. What do you think will be the challenges for us in adapting to an Appointed Canonical Leader? What will be the challenges for the ACL?

Return to Sr. René by June 1, 2026, by mail, email or online

Sr. René Simonelic

1433 Essington Rd, Joliet, Il 60435

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