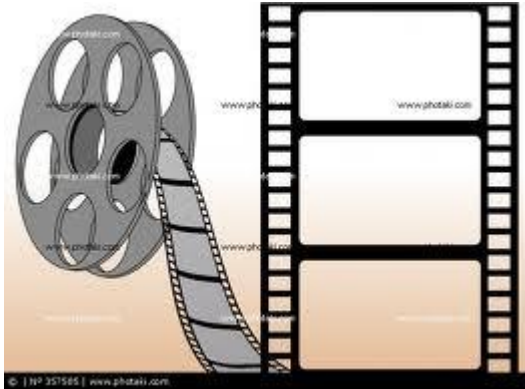


Survey on the OFS Active Presence in the World

OFS National Fraternity of Mexico

CATHOLIC CINEMA Project

1. Description of the Project



The goal of this project is to organize free cinema sessions projecting movies with moral values, about the lives of saints, blessed, or heroic acts. The sessions run every other week, on Sundays, at 4:00 p.m. in the Crypt Chapel of the Saint Lawrence Sanctuary, in order to introduce a style of cinema that leads to reflection and is different from the commercial one.

2. Historical Background

A sister from the Fraternity has a large collection of movies with a positive content, that we thought would be worthy of diffusion to a larger audience than the one at our Fraternity. Counting on the support of the Spiritual Assistant and Rector of Saint Lawrence Sanctuary, Rev. Alfredo Abdo, the initiative took off in November 2007.

The first film projected was about Saint Elizabeth of Hungary – the only one produced by our local Fraternity – and was shown at the INCA (Saint Lawrence Catholic Institute). Since then and until now, with a few exceptions, we have presented a different movie every show.

On time, Rev. Alfredo thought that it would be more positive to show the movies at the Crypt Chapel of the Sanctuary, an environment more conducive to introspection and devotion.



3. Coordination of the Project

The Project is coordinated by Saint Clare of Assisi Fraternity, at Saint Lawrence Sanctuary in Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua.

4. Social Impact

In these times of violence in the city, this project offers an option for spending Sunday evening, free of cost, plus with some spiritual gain. The majority of the people attending the shows testify to this in a very emotional way. The attendance goes from 20 to 80 people, depending on the movie shown and the weather, the average being 35-40. This activity has been extended to other parishes that have asked us to lend them the films for them to project them, too. Several priests have said that the service that we are providing is valuable to all.



5. What we have learned

Above all, we have learned much from the saints and the people who give us an example of how to live out the moral values. There are also those people who live alone and look forward to watching these good movies. In spite of some suggestions about charging a low entrance fee, we continue to do it for free, because it is a service that we offer to the community.



6. Media Support/ Available documentation

We count on the advertisement on the diocesan weekly newspaper *Presencia*, posters and the enthusiastic invitation done by the priests during the Masses at Saint Lawrence parish.

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