

FRATERNITE SACERDOTALE INTERNATIONALE POUR LE RESPECT DE L'ANIMAL (FSIRA)

(INTERNATIONAL SACERDOTAL FRATERNITY
FOR THE RESPECT OF ANIMALS)

ASSOCIATION DE RELIGIEUX(SES), PRETRE, DIOCESAINS
ET DIACRES, POUR PLUS DE RESPECT DU REGNE ANIMAL
AU SEIN DE L'EGLISE CATHOLIQUE

(ASSOCIATION OF RELIGIOUS, PREIESTS, DIOCESAN
AND DEACONS, FOR MORE RESPECT OF
THE ANIMAL KINGDOM IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH)

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THE FRATERNITY

The Fraternity is mainly composed of priests in the Catholic Church **that wish to promote the debate of animal's rights within the Church**. It starts with the recognition that, after industrialisation and globalisation, **animals are not playing the role God intended them to have**, as written in the sacred texts for Judaism and Christianity, books like Genesis and Isaiah.

Its action will be to build a network and call upon representatives of different jurisdiction to fight for animal rights inside the Catholic Church. It hopes to create dialogue and **mediation** in case of conflicts between Animal Protection Societies (APS) and the Catholic Church, particularly its hierarchy.

From this, the Fraternity encourages its own members **leave some space in their prayers for animals**. It also invites religious communities to actively pray, at least once a month, for Creation in general, **and animals specifically**. These communities promise, as much as possible, to pray for these objectives of the Fraternity :

OBJECTIVES

When possible and manageable :

- It supports, with concrete actions, projects that already exist, like APS, Animal Retreats and other associations **fighting against animal suffering**.
- It supports with a biannual contest, university projects, which use the theme Theology, History of Religions, that specifically raise the concern of animal rights with a **positive and original approach**.
- It finds newspaper clippings and documents to help the church's liturgy, like mass and blessings, **that can be held with animals**.
- It can offer a **specialised library to consult books** (on place in Montreux / Switzerland) **about animals and animal rights**.
- It can offer a biannual **weekend of reflection**. It can invite specialists on animal rights (ethicists, theologians, historians, veterinarians, politicians).
- It recommends its members to **an annual fast**, on August 16 for example, **Saint Roch's Day**, in **solidarity for animal suffering**.
- It encourages, although conscient of the difficulties, of gradually limiting the number of meals containing meat.
- **It promotes ethical and theological research on the creation of a new moral system** that includes animals. This **new moral** could be based on philosophers like Theodore Monod and Albert Schweitzer.
- It supports financially the "retreat homes for horses", because **it is unacceptable that they should be 'put down'** after having served humans for so many years.

ITS MEMBERS

- **Priests that don't accept what is intolerable**, those animals considered as merchandise. Humans can't just use them with disregard.
- **Nuns and religious** that recognise that animals have **dignity, independent of humans' and given by God**.
- **Laymen** involved in the Catholic Church, our supporters, **but also people from others churches and religions** that think **that modern humans** should change its view on Creation, and in particular, with the animal kingdom.

THE PRESIDENT FOUNDER



- Father JELEN, Olivier; France and Switzerland; initially a historian (licence in General History, Faculte des letters, Universite de Geneve 1996).
- Additionnal licence in German (1995); student at Universite de Fribourg (Faculte de Theologie et diplome de Maitrise Gymnasiale – DMG) and in Rome (Universite pontificale de l'Antoniamum et Instritut pontifical des sciences arabes et islamiques – PISAI).
- Ordained deacon in December 2001 (Geneve) : priest in June 2002 (Villeneuve): vicar of Montreux and Villeneuve parishes; chaplain of youth at school of Riviera vaudoise.
- Member of SES (Societe des etudiants suisses), of Kolping, of the Franciscan Fraternity, previous president of the JEC-Suisse, previous permanent cantonal of JEC-Genevoise, previous president of Helvetia Romana (SES0 and the Commission Foi et Vie (SES, active member of AKUT-Suisse and the Association Catholique pour le Respect de la Creation Animale.
- Since October 2005, for three years, Fidei donum as teacher at the Great Seminar of Bangui, Central Africa.

Notre Fraternité Sacerdotale recommande

**LES GEMISSEMENTS
DE LA CRÉATION**
édition Parole et Silence,
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vingt textes sur l'écologie, choisis par l'écrivain catholique Jean Bastaire, rédigés de 1979 à 2003 par Jean-Paul II, qui proclama François d'Assise saint patron des écologistes et dans lesquels les animaux sont régulièrement présents. Le saint-Père y exalte la dimension cosmique de l'eucharistie, et nous y découvrons la confiance et l'Amour du Créateur perçus et retransmis par le successeur de Saint Pierre.

