

# **Fraternus FAQs**

Questions? Contact Steven Brooksher, Jr. or Blake May.

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

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

Learn more about Fraternus @

<https://fraternus.net/start-here/>

## **1. What is Fraternus?**

Fraternus is a brotherhood of men, pursuing God as sons, and maturing in virtue. Through Fraternus, men are taught and given the framework to recognize their Christian brotherhood amongst themselves and to live it more clearly and boldly. Only after a fraternal culture exists amongst the men can you then invite the boys into it so that they too can become men. United in this way, Fraternus is not for one generation or another, but for **ALL** generations of men. Catholic brotherhood is not a program – it's human nature elevated by grace. Many programs for youth are concerned with how to "reach youth," but Fraternus is concerned with how the youth reach a community of men, as adults. The goal is to raise up men by providing a pathway to mature Christian fraternity. To form boys you must form men as brothers and fathers.

## **2. Who started Fraternus? Where did it start?**

Fraternus was started by three lay men, Jason Craig, Justin Biance and Tommy Van Horn. Jason wrote and developed the training and curriculum used today around the country that has been operating for over a decade in NC, Tennessee and Alabama.

## **3. Is Fraternus a Catholic apostolate? Yes**

## **4. Is Fraternus under the supervision of a Bishop? Yes**

## **5. Is Fraternus ONLY a father-son program? No, but fathers and sons are welcome to join our chapter.**

## **6. Is Fraternus affiliated with the Scouts? No**

## **7. How is Fraternus different from the Scouts?**

Fraternus is a male only Catholic organization that focuses on male faith formation for both young and adult men through brotherhood, prayer, and studying the Word of God. Fraternus also incorporates outdoor excursions and a summer camp to foster its mission.

8. **Is Fraternus affiliated with the Knights of Columbus?** No

9. **How is Fraternus different from the Knights of Columbus?**

While the KCs are also a fraternal Catholic organization, their focus is on charitable service where as Fraternus' focus is on supporting the formation of virtuous catholic men.

10. **What is a frat night?**

Weekly meetings called Frat Night are the foundation of a Chapter where young men are presented a virtue to learn about with a short presentations, movie clips and most importantly mentoring. Meetings also include dinner, a team competition, and prayer. Small group discussion is an important component of the frat night where young men of similar ages are led by two adult "Captains." For adults that are not captains of a small group, they will participate in "adult only" small groups to share and discuss the weekly topic. We will meet most Wednesday evenings from 6-8p.

11. **What is a Fraternus excursion?**

This experience of the outdoors is needed in a world saturated with media and materialism, especially in the teen years. Excursions are trips taken into the wilderness where the young men are challenged on aspects of the spiritual life that are pertinent to male spirituality.

12. **What does a membership in Fraternus entail?**

As a Fraternus brother you will get access to all the digital content which includes the weekly frat night lesson plan. You will also receive a frat night book which includes the lesson plan, prayers, topics of conversation, and the Sunday Mass readings. You receive a sword and spade quarterly magazine subscription. Membership is \$50/yr. Sponsorships are available for those with financial need.

13. **Can I join as an adult without a child?** Yes

14. **Can my child join without me?** Yes

15. **Can I participate without being a small group leader (captain)?** Yes, ALL men are welcome to join. If you are not a small group leader you will join with other adult men in a small group to discuss the weekly topic.