

## **SOME SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES**

*[These random ideas are for purposes of inspiration only and are not mandatory in any way.]*

1. Invite members of the Regional or local fraternity to share in writing how they encounter God in their work. Be sure to emphasize that work is not only work for pay but all purposeful activity including volunteer efforts and homemaking.
2. Encourage Seculars to work with their parishes to have a special Eucharist for Labor Day. At parishes throughout the country, this special Mass is a time when members of various professions bring the tools of their trade to the altar at the offertory. If your diocese isn't doing something like this yet, you may want to contact the chancery and take the initiative.
3. Also encourage your fellow Franciscans to recognize the dignity of work by thanking those who serve them. One good example is at the checkout line in a supermarket. All the checkout people wear nametags but hardly anyone ever calls them by name. When your order is finished say, "Thanks, Cindy, for a job well done" and watch a smile light up a weary face.
4. Take the initiative to bring together people in the same profession (policemen, mothers, lawyers) to dialogue about where they find God's presence in their professions.
5. Encourage fraternities to spend some time having each member speak about the charitable volunteer activities they are engaged in. This exercise can be pretty amazing as you marvel at the good works that are being done.
6. Participate in letter writing campaigns for improved working conditions for those in Third World countries and for an end to sweatshops. These have worked and major corporations have changed their ways. You can make a difference!