



# – the CHIMES –

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P.O. BOX 90366  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20090-0366  
FEB Vol. LXI, No. 2  
February 19, 2017

**NOTICE! Since the third Sunday in April is Easter, we will hold the April fraternity meeting on April 23, the fourth Sunday. Please adjust your plans.**

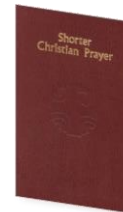
## Schedule

- 9:30am Orientation Session – St. Bonaventure Room downstairs
- 9:30am Candidate Session (2017) – St. Clare Room – upstairs in the Friary
- 9:30am Candidate Session (2016) – Sacred Heart Room downstairs
- 11:00am Franciscan Crown Rosary in Blessed Sacrament Chapel
- 12:00pm Mass in Monastery church
- 1:00pm Fraternity Social Gathering – St. Bonaventure Room – downstairs in the Friary. Bring your own lunch, light refreshments will be provided.
- 1:30pm Fraternity Meeting – St. Bonaventure Room

***DON'T FORGET YOUR BINDERS!***

## Fraternity Meeting Agenda

- Opening prayer
- Housekeeping
- Presentation - tbd
- Committee meetings
- Closing prayer – Office of the Dead – Bring your *Shorter Christian Prayer*.



## ◆ Theme: **SISTER DEATH** ◆

### Bible Quote of the Month

“If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.”  
(Rom 8:11)



### Prayer of the Month

“All praise be yours, my Lord, through Sister Death, from whose embrace no mortal can escape. Woe to those who die in mortal sin! Happy those she finds doing your will! The second death can do them no harm. Praise and bless my Lord, and give him thanks. And serve him with great humility.” – *St. Francis*



## **Contact Information**

### **Fraternity Council**

Please call before 9pm.



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## **ADMONITION OF ST. FRANCIS**

### **19. On the humble servant of God <sup>1</sup>**

Blessed (is) the servant, who does not consider himself better, when he is magnified and exalted by men, as when for example he is considered to be vile, simple, and despised, because as much as a man is before God, that much he is and nothing more. Woe to that religious, who has been placed on high by others and does not wish to descend by means of his own will. And “blessed (is) that servant” (Mt 24:46), who is placed on high not by means of his own will and desires always to be beneath the feet of others.

<sup>1</sup> *The Writings of St. Francis of Assisi*, tr. by Paschal Robinson (1905), accessed September 9, 2013, URL <http://www.sacred-texts.com/chr/wosf/wosf03.htm> .



## **The Rule**

Chapter One, Article 3 of The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order.

The present rule, succeeding *Memoriale Propositi* (1221) and the rules approved by the Supreme Pontiffs Nicholas IV and Leo XIII, adapts the Secular Franciscan Order to the needs and expectations of the Holy Church in the conditions of changing times. Its interpretation belongs to the Holy See and its application will be made by the General Constitutions and particular statutes.

## **The Information Corner – Pope Quote**



“Let us be close to our brothers and sisters who are going through illness and also their families.” “Let us never place conditions on God! Entrusting ourselves to the Lord means entering into his plans without demanding anything.” <sup>2</sup>

## **Papal Intentions for the Month**

### **Prayer Intention – Comfort for the Afflicted:**

That all those who are afflicted, especially the poor, refugees, and marginalized, may find welcome and comfort in our communities.



### **Urgent Intention – Sacredness of Life:** We

pray for the children who are in danger of the interruption of pregnancy, as well as for persons who are at the end of life — every life is sacred! — so that no one is left alone and that love may defend the meaning of life. <sup>3</sup>



<sup>2</sup> Posted on <https://twitter.com/pontifex> Feb 10 and Feb 13, 2017.

<sup>3</sup> Apostleship of Prayer (2015). Accessed February 10, 2016, URL <http://www.apostleshipofprayer.org/>

### **Thank You For Your Donations**

Below is an extract from the note of thanks Michele Dunne received from Michele Bowe, the administrator of the **Holy Family Hospital** in Bethlehem, who visited us last month:



I thank each of you for the opportunity you gave me on Sunday (Jan 15) to share the good news of Holy Family Hospital in Bethlehem. It is heartening to know of your interest and concern for the mothers and babies in the Holy Land.

I was delighted to have so many donations of onesies and cash. The onesies are darling and I know the mothers will be so very pleased to bring their babies home in a new outfit. Your thoughtfulness is touching and I can assure you of the gratitude from our hospital.

Thank you for giving me your time and attention. I will light a candle in the Church of the Nativity for you next week. Be assured of my prayers!

Pax, Michele Bowe

### **Franciscan Feastdays and Memorials**

March 2 – Bl. Agnes of Prague, virgin, II Order; 3 – Bls. Liberatus Weiss, Samuele Marzorati and Michele Pio Fasoli, priests and martyrs, I Order; 5 – St. John Joseph of the Cross, priest, I Order; 9 – St. Frances of Rome, religious, III Order; 12 – Bl. Angela Salawa, virgin, III Order; 18 – St. Salvator of Horta, religious I Order; 20 – Bl. John of Parma, priest, I Order; 22 – St. Benvenute of Osimo, priest, I Order; 23 – St. Catherine of Genoa, III Order; 24 – Bl. Ludovico of Casoria, priest, I Order; 30 – St. Peter Regaldo, priest, I Order.

### **Fraternity Finances**

**\$** Last month we received \$288 in donations and disbursed \$196.42 in expenses. This does not include undeposited checks. The annual report will be available shortly.

### **Please Pray For Our Sick**

Julia Stratchko; Frank Klem's wife, Dona Klem; Pat Allnutt; Larry Bleau's father, Raymond Bleau; Ernest Braddock; Dorothy Clayton and her family; Mary Anne Corr and her niece, Patricia Corr; Maria Louisa Correa and her sister, Maria Franco; Lourdes Corso and her family; Sarah Faizi's mother; Jean Fleurival; Roy Foster; John Hewitt, M.D.; Sheila Kelly; Marianne Hughes and her family; Nancy McCleary; Mary Okuna's family; Fritz Nicolas and his family; Joe Rende; Vicky Spalding's father, John Lynch; Cecilia Thieman and her family; Helen Walls; Dineen Whipple; Donna Wilkes and her brother Hollis; Theresa Wilson; Mildred Wray; and Susan Zell.

### **March Birthdays**

March 4 – Francis Kane, 5 – Vilma Camposano, 9 – Patricia Allnutt, 11 – Ling Guiron, 11 – Fritz Nicolas, 16 – John Whipple, 24 – Kady Konan, 25 – Mary Anne Corr, 30 – Rita Aughenbaugh.

### **Fair Share – What Is It?**

Article 25 of the Rule states, in part, "*Local fraternities should contribute toward the expenses of the higher fraternity councils.*" For us, that would be the St. Margaret of Cortona Regional Fraternity, which encompasses MD, DC, and parts of PA, DE, WV, and VA. At its Nov 12 meeting, the Region voted to increase the recommended annual Fair Share contribution to \$30 per active member, which includes those professed, Candidates and Inquirers, with a lesser amount (\$20) for those who are active-excused.

If you have not already done so, and if your needs allow, please include a contribution towards the Fair Share in this month's envelope. If you donate by cash or a single check, please indicate the amount towards Fair Share on the envelope.

**Pray For Our Deceased Helene Hogan,**



who died on Jan 20, 2017, at the age of 75. Her funeral Mass was on Feb 3 at Holy Face Church. Helene was professed in 1980, was elected Secretary in 2013, and was an active member in many other ways. May the souls of the faithful departed, especially those of our members and their families, rest in eternal peace in the presence of our Lord.

**February Reflection**

*By Larry Bleau, OFS*

This month I pause to celebrate the passing of our sister Helene Hogan into her eternal reward, as well as that of our brothers and sisters who have passed in this past year. I say “celebrate” because, as Christians, we view death, while the final stage of our Earthly life, to be just the beginning of an eternal reward in the Lord’s presence. St. Francis even referred to Sister Death in positive terms, welcoming her.

As Christians we see in Jesus the Way to eternal happiness: going to the Father. As Secular Franciscans we take our cue from St. Francis, our spiritual father: he had the Gospels read to him on his deathbed, blessed his brothers, and asked them to sing rather than lament.

Those who were closest to Helene may not be at this point yet, and still mourn over their loss; to them I send my embrace and comfort, and invite all our members to do so.

To all those in our fraternity, and for those who have gone before us, we offer a prayer of hope and thanks, as we keep in our hearts one of St. Francis’s last prayers, a blessing he left his brothers:



*“I bless you, my son, in all and through all, and just as the most High has increased my brothers and sons in your hands, so to, upon you and in you, I bless them all. May the king of all bless you in heaven and on earth. I bless you as I can, and more than I can, and what I cannot do may the One who can do all things do in you. May God remember your work and labors, and may a place be reserved for you among the rewards of the just. May you receive every blessing you desire and may your every worthy request be fulfilled.”*

