



— the *CFJMES* —

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20090-0366

MAY Vol. LXII, No. 5

May 20, 2018

REMINDER: There will be no June meeting. Formation classes will meet, however; see your instructor.

Schedule

- 9:00am Council meeting
- 9:30am Inquiry Session – Sacred Heart Room downstairs
- 9:30am Candidate Session (2019) – St. Clare Room – upstairs in the Friary
- 9:30am Candidate Session (2018) – St. Bonaventure Room downstairs
- 11:15am Franciscan Crown Rosary in **St. Bonaventure Room**
- 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

Fraternity Meeting Agenda

- Welcoming Ceremony for new Inquirers – **Christine Hinds-Noel** was unable to attend the Welcoming Ceremony last month, so please welcome and greet with joy our newest Inquirer.
- Opening prayer
- Housekeeping and news
- Presentation on Mary by Ouida Morrison
- Questions from those in formation
- Closing Evening prayer. If you have the book “Shorter Christian Prayer”, please bring it with you. We’ll use pp48, pp495.

◆ Theme: **MARY OUR MOTHER** ◆

Bible Quote of the Month

“Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled.” (Lk 2:42:45)

Prayer of the Month

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help or sought thy intercession, was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins my Mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful; O Mother of thy Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy clemency hear and answer me. Amen.

Contact Information

Fraternity Council

Please call before 9pm.



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ADMONITION OF ST. FRANCIS

17. On the humble servant of God ¹

“Blessed (is) that servant” (Mt 24:46), who does not exalt himself more because of the good, which the Lord says and works through him, than that which He says and works through another. A man sins, who wants rather to receive from his neighbor, what he does not want to give of himself to the Lord God.



¹ *The Writings of St. Francis of Assisi*, tr. by Paschal Robinson (1905), accessed September 9, 2017, URL <http://www.sacred-texts.com/chr/wosf/wosf03.htm> .



The Rule

Chapter Two, Article 8 of The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order.

As Jesus was the true worshipper of the Father, so let prayer and contemplation be the soul of all they are and do.

Let them participate in the sacramental life of the Church, above all the Eucharist. Let them join in liturgical prayer in one of the forms proposed by the Church, reliving the mysteries of the life of Christ.

The Information Corner – Pope Quote



“Our Lady Queen of the Rosary, pray that Jesus may have mercy on us sinners.”

“Today, at the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Divine Love, as we recite the Rosary, we pray

especially for peace in Syria and throughout the world. I invite you to pray the Rosary for peace during the entire month of May.” ²

Papal Intention for the Month

Prayer Intention – Evangelization: The Mission of the Laity. That the lay faithful may fulfil their specific mission, by responding with creativity to the challenges that face the world today. ³

Fraternity Finances

\$ Last month we received \$236 in donations and disbursed \$660.77 in expenses, of which \$565 was for Fair Share. Note: Only 19 of our 47 members have contributed their Fair Share for 2018. If you have not done so already, please bring yours to the meeting or send to treasurer Michele Dunne.

² May 8 and 1, 2018. URL <http://twitter.com/pontifex>

³ Pope’s Worldwide Prayer Network. Accessed May 2, 2018, URL <http://popesprayerusa.net/popese-intentions/>

The Information Corner

May 16th – Feastday of St. Margaret of Cortona ⁴

Margaret was born of farming parents in Laviano, Tuscany. Her mother died when Margaret was seven; life with her stepmother was so difficult that Margaret moved out. For nine years she lived with



St. Margaret of Cortona

Arsenio, though they were not married, and she bore him a son. In those years, she had doubts about her situation. Somewhat like St. Augustine she prayed for purity – but not just yet.

One day she was waiting for Arsenio and was instead met by his dog. The animal led Margaret into the forest where she found Arsenio murdered. This crime shocked Margaret into a life of penance. She and her son returned to Laviano, where she was not well received by her stepmother. They then went to Cortona, where her son eventually became a friar.

In 1277, three years after her conversion, Margaret became a Franciscan tertiary. Under the direction of her confessor, who sometimes had to order her to moderate her self-denial, she pursued a life of prayer and penance at Cortona. There she established a hospital and founded a congregation of tertiary sisters. The poor and humble Margaret was, like Francis, devoted to the Eucharist and to the passion of Jesus. These devotions fueled her great charity and drew sinners to her for advice and inspiration. She was canonized in 1728.

Margaret is the patron saint of single mothers and midwives. St. Margaret of Cortona, pray for us!

⁴ *Saint of the Day, Lives, Lessons and Feast*, revised 6th edition, by Leonard Foley, O.F.M.; revised by Pat McCloskey, O.F.M. Accessed on April 23, 2010, URL <http://www.americancatholic.org/features/saints/saint.aspx?id=1385>

New Memorial Feast:

Mary, Mother of the Church

Pope Francis recently decreed that the ancient devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, under the title of Mother of the Church, be added to the Roman Calendar. It will be celebrated each year on the Monday after Pentacost. This year that will be **May 21**, the day after our meeting. The title of “Mother of the Church” was given to the Blessed Mother by Pope Paul VI at the close of the Second Vatican Council and was later added to the Roman Missal. ⁵

Holy Land Festival

Please mark **Saturday, July 14** on your calendars for the Monastery’s 4th annual **Holy Land Festival**.



This will be a major service project to support the friars. We will have a table at which we hand out literature about the Secular Franciscan Order and serve Arabic coffee. We hope that all fraternity members can participate one way or another, with those that can do so working a two-hour shift at our table during the day. We will pass around a sign-up sheet this month. If you would like to volunteer, donate, or have any questions, contact Michele Dunne (micheleddunne@gmail.com or 202-412-1210).

Franciscan Feastdays and Memorials

June 12 – Blessed Jolenta, Religious of the III Order (optional memorial for II and III Order nuns); 13 – Saint Anthony of Padua, priest and doctor of I Order (feast); 22 – Saint Thomas More, martyr of the III Order, with Saint John Fisher (optional memorial); and 30 – Blessed Raymond Lull, martyr of III Order (optional memorial for III Order).

⁵ See Mar 3 news articles from Vatican News (URL <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2018-03/pope-institutes-new-celebration-of-mary--mother-of-church.html>) and Catholic News Agency (URL <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/memorial-of-mary-mother-of-the-church-added-to-liturgical-calendar-43501>).

From the Mailbox
Being Christ to Others

By Nancy McCleary, OFS

I think while being Christ to others can be challenging, seeing Christ is infinitely harder. Being Christ to others means you treat other as Christ would. You have an element of control because it's something that you decide to do and when you do it. Seeing Christ is much, much harder because it involves looking into a person's heart, soul, and mind to see Christ's Presence living in them. It's difficult because sometimes you have to dig through layers and layers of very un-Christlike behaviors to find the Christ in them. It's worth the effort, but can be extremely tiring.

This inspirational message was provided by Nancy McCleary, one of our remote members. Thank you, Nancy!

June Birthdays

June 5 – Sheila Kelly and Anna Zaczynski, 9 – Mary Catherine Kohut and Carol Petro, 12 – Lee Ann Petta, 19 – Helen Walls, 22 – William Hayes Brown III, and Joan Kane.

Feastdays of Franciscan Friars

Keep in your prayers the following friars, whose feast days are this coming month: June 3 – Kevin Treston, 19 – Romuald Green, and 29 – Simon McKay.

Please Pray For Our Sick

Christine Hinds-Noel's aunt, Rita Gonzales (†Apr 19); Mildred Wray; Pat Allnutt; Mary Anne Corr and her family; Maria Louisa Corraera and her sister Maria Franco; Lourdes Corso and her family; Sarah Faizi's mother; Jean Fleurival; Roy Foster; John Hewitt; Nancy McCleary; Ron McElligot and his wife, Mary; Margaret Murphy's husband, Jim Murphy; Fritz Nicholas and his family; Brenda Nutt; Joe Rende; Fred Scharf's father; Cecilia Thieman and her family; Dineen Whipple and her family; Dineen Whipple and her family; Donna Wilkes and her brother Hollis; Helen Walls.

May Reflection
A Mother's Love

By Helen Walls, OFS

A mother's love is truly a blessing from her womb and throughout life. A mother's love is never ending. She shows she cares in all that she says and does. Her love is God's gift to us. In following our Heavenly and Holy Mother Mary she instructs, guides, and loves us unconditionally. She prepares us for life's journey and never tires of leading us to follow its path along the way.

Her words of encouragement and wisdom will forever be in my heart. Neither time nor distance will ever separate us. A mother's love is a treasure daily shared and cannot be measured.

To my beloved mother I salute you for a task well done. To you my beloved mother I love you for showing a mother's love. I speak from my heart and soul. I give you my prayers and love.

This month's reflection comes from another of our remote members, Helen Walls. Thank you, Helen, for sharing your thoughts about our Heavenly Mother and your mother.

