



— the CHIMES —

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SEP Vol. LXII, No. 9

September 16, 2018

Schedule

- 9:30am Inquiry Session – St. Bonaventure Room downstairs
9:30am Candidate Session (2019) – St. Clare Room – upstairs in the Friary
9:30am Candidate Session (2018) – Sacred Heart Room downstairs
11:15am 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
2:30pm Initial meeting for new Council

Fraternity Meeting Agenda

- Opening prayer
- Housekeeping and news
- Elections
- Installation of new Council
- Closing Evening prayer. If you have the book “Shorter Christian Prayer”, please bring it with you.

DON'T FORGET YOUR BINDERS!

Reminder: If you are unable to attend the fraternity meetings for more than one month, please notify one of the Council members. The criteria for Active-excused and Lapsed member status is explained in the Fraternity guidelines. Thank you.

◆ Theme: **SERVANT LEADERSHIP** ◆

Bible Quote of the Month

And Jesus called them to him and said to them, “You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” (Mk 10:42-45)



Prayer of the Month

Almighty, most high and supreme God, Father, holy and just, Lord, King of heaven and earth: We trust in you and we ask for your light so that we may choose those who will properly serve our fraternity through their leadership. Help us to select those who are able to animate and guide us by their example, their virtues and prudent decisions so that the gospel of Jesus in the spirit of St. Francis may come alive in our community. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen. (Extracted from: *Ritual for the Secular Franciscan Order, Celebration of the Fraternity's Chapter of Elections*)

Contact Information

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Please call before 9pm.



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ADMONITION OF ST. FRANCIS

21. On the inane and loquacious religious ¹

Blessed (is) the servant, who when he speaks, does not reveal all his own (thoughts) in view of (some) reward, and is not swift to speak (cf. Prov. 29:20), but wisely weighs what he ought to speak and answer. Woe to him religious, who does not retain in his heart (Lk 2:19.51) the good things, which the Lord shows him, and does not show them to others through work, but who in view of (some) gain desires rather to show them to men with words. He himself receives “his wage” (cf. Mt 6:2; 6:16) and (his) hearers bring back little fruit.

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 12 of The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order.

Witnessing to the good yet to come and obliged to acquire purity of heart because of the vocation they have embraced, they should set themselves free to love God and their brothers and sisters.

The Information Corner – Pope Quote



“To pray is the first missionary task of every Christian. It is also the most effective.” “True peace is a gift of God that springs from healed and reconciled hearts and reaches out to embrace the entire world.”²

Papal Intention for the Month

Universal Prayer Intention – Young People in Africa. That young people in Africa may have access to education and work in their own countries. ³

Feastday of St. Francis, Transitus

Join the friars next month, on Oct 3 at 7pm, as they celebrate the passing (“Transitus”) of St. Francis from his earthly life to his heavenly reward.



Council Elections This Month

This month, in place of our usual agenda, our DC Metro Area Councilor, Mary Cate Bibro, will conduct elections for our next Council. In case you are considering serving on Council, nominations will be accepted from the floor. Please make every effort to attend the meeting this month. See additional handout.



² Aug 31 and Sep 3, 2018. URL

<http://twitter.com/pontifex>

³ Pope’s Worldwide Prayer Network. Accessed Aug 27, 2018, URL <http://popesprayerusa.net/popese-intentions/>

The Information Corner

The following words of our Holy father are an excerpt from *Believe in Love: Inspiring Words from Pope Francis*, a [new book](#) published by Franciscan Media.

To do good without counting the cost, even when unasked, even when you gain nothing thereby, even if it is unpleasant. That is what God wants. He, who became small for our sake, asks us to offer something for the least of his brothers and sisters. Who are they? They are those who have nothing to give in return, the needy, the hungry, the stranger, the prisoner, the poor (cf. Mt 25:31–46). We give a gift pleasing to Jesus when we care for a sick person, spend time with a difficult person, help someone for the sake of helping, or forgive someone who has hurt us. These are gifts freely given, and they cannot be lacking in the lives of Christians. Jesus reminds us that if we only love those who love us, we do as the pagans do (cf. Mt 5:46–47). Today let us look at our hands, so often empty of love, and let us try to think of some free gift that we can give without expecting anything in return.



Please Pray For Our Sick

Joe Gigliotti; Rosemary Bordley, her sister Trudy Walsh, and her brother Charles Walsh; Mary Anne Corr's niece, Patricia Corr; Maria Louisa Correa; Lourdes Corso and her family; Sarah Faizi's mother and a friend of Sarah's; John Hewitt; Nancy McCleary; Margaret Murphy and her husband Jim; Fritz Nicholas and his family; Carol Petro; Bill Richardson; Cecilia Thieman and her family; John and Dineen Whipple; Donna Wilkes and her family.

Feastdays of Franciscan Friars

Keep in your prayers friar Thomas Courtney, whose feast day (Oct 25) is this coming month.

From the Mailbox: News of our Family

- **Donna Wilkes** asks for prayers and would appreciate phone calls or visits. You can reach her at 202-239-9683.
- Belatedly we received a hand-written letter from the family in India whom the Fraternity supports through the Franciscan Family Apostolate program. Here is an extract from the letter. Please keep them in your prayers.



Dear friend,



May the Almighty God bless us abundantly during this Holy Season of Lent. I am happy to inform you that I have received your timely help which you sent for my family. I take this opportunity to thank you very specially for all that you have been doing for my family. We utilized the money for our daily necessities.

My husband Sebastian is taking regular medicine for thyroid. He goes for fishing. Nowadays he is getting nothing from the sea. I am going for prawn peeling work. Our daughters Laya and Lidhiya are continuing their studies. Now Laya is preparing for her entrance examination. Please keep her in your prayers.

We wish you a very happy Easter with many blessings of peace, joy, and prosperity throughout your life. Please extend our Easter greetings to all your dear and near ones.

Yours affectionately, Mary Sebastian

October Birthdays

October 6 – Margaret Murphy; 17 – Cornelia Hart; and 22 – Gerda Biglin.



Fraternity Finances

\$ Last month we received \$255 in donations and disbursed \$604.15 in expenses, \$565 of which includes the second half of our fair share payment.

September Reflection

By Larry Bleau, OFS

“If anyone wants to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all.” (Mk 9:35) “The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who have authority over them are called ‘Benefactors.’ But it is not this way with you, but the one who is the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like the servant.” (Lk 22:25-26) “Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet.” (Jn 13:14)

All these are examples of how to serve while leading, and how to lead by serving. Jesus came and showed us a different kind of leadership, one where the needs, wants, desires, hopes and welfare of others come before our own.

As Secular Franciscans this is something we already know, for we have learned it during our period of formation. It is good to remind ourselves of this, however, especially when it comes time to elect a new Council, and to decide how we shall serve one another in our fraternal life.

Common responses include, “I can’t do that,” “I’m not ready,” or “I’m not worthy.” Who, however, is truly able, ready, or worthy? Was Peter ready? The Lord called to him to walk on the water; Peter tried, at first succeeded because he believed, but then sank when he wavered. With God’s help, all things are possible. Did Jesus not send forth his disciples to heal the sick and proclaim the good news? They went out, unprepared for their journey, yet found shelter and nourishment where they went, and performed miracles in His name. They rejoiced, for they believed, and the Lord gave them what was needed. You, too will be given the grace to serve, if you only say “yes.”



Franciscan Feastdays and Memorials

October 3 – St. John of Dukla, priest, I Order; 4 – Our Holy Father Francis, deacon, Founder of the Three Orders; 5 – St. Anna Schäffer, OFS (on cfofs website, she died on Oct 5th); 6 – St. Mary Frances of the Five Wounds, virgin, III Order; 10 – St. Daniel, priest, and companions, martyrs [Angelus, Samuel, Donulus, Leo, Hugolinus and Nicholas], I Order; Bl. Mother Mary Angela Truszkowska, III Order; 11 – Bl. John XIII, pope, III Order; 12 – St. Seraphin of Montegrano, religious, I Order; 13 – Bl. Honorat Kozminski, priest, I Order, founder; 16 – The Servant of the Lord—James of the Rosary; 20 – Bl. James of Strepar, bishop, I Order; Bl. Contardo Ferrini, III Order; 21 – Bl. Josephine Leroux, virgin, martyr, II Order; 22 – St. Peter of Alcantara, priest, I Order; 23 – St. John of Capestrano, priest, I Order; 25 – Saint Antonio de Santa Ana (Frei Galvao); Bl. Maria Jesus Ferragut, virgin, and companions, martyrs of Valencia (Maria Veronica Masiá, Maria Felicity Masiá Ferragut, Isabel Claduch Rovira, Milagros Ortells Gimeno), II Order; 26 – Bl. Bonaventure of Potenza, priest, I Order; 31 – Bl. Angelo of Acri, priest, I Order.

