



- *the Chimes* -

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P.O. BOX 90366

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20090-0366

JAN Vol. LXIII, No. 1

January 20, 2019

Schedule

- 9:30am Candidate Session (2019&2020) – Sacred Heart Room downstairs
11:15am Franciscan Crown Rosary in Sacred Heart 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

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.

Fraternity Meeting Agenda

- Opening prayer
- Rite of Admission for new Candidate – We welcome back into our family **Constance (Connie) Ramseth**, who previously completed Inquiry and now feels called to continue her path towards profession in the Order. Please welcome and greet her with joy.
- Welcome and housekeeping
- Treasurer's annual report
- Future plans and changes
- The OFS Rule – Prologue – Bring your Little Red Book
- Closing Evening prayer. If you have the book "Shorter Christian Prayer", please bring it with you. Week II, pp122, p504.

◆ Theme: PENITENTS ◆

Bible Quote of the Month

Peter [said] to them, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the holy Spirit. (Acts 2:38)



Prayer of the Month

"All who love the Lord with their whole heart, with their whole soul and mind, with all their strength, and love their neighbors as themselves and hate their bodies with their vices and sins, and receive the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, and produce worthy fruits of penance."¹

¹ Closing paragraph from *Exhortation of St. Francis to the Brothers and Sisters of Penance*

Contact Information

Fraternity Council

Please call before 9pm.



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ADMONITION OF ST. FRANCIS

25. That the servants of God should honor clerics²

Blessed (is) the servant, who puts faith in the clerics who live rightly according to the manner of the Roman Church. And woe to those who despise them; for though they may be sinners, no one however ought to judge them, since God Himself reserves to Himself alone their judgement. For as much as their administration is greater, which they have because of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ, which they themselves receive and which they themselves alone minister to others, so much greater a sin have they, who sin against them, than against all the other men of this world.

² *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

Prologue of The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order.³

Oh holy Father, protect them with your name whom you gave me out of the world. I entrusted to them the message you entrusted to me and they received it. They have known that in truth I came from you, they have believed that it was you who sent me. For these I pray, not for the world. Bless and consecrate them, and I consecrate myself for their sakes. I do not pray for them alone; I pray also for those who will believe in me through their word that they may be holy by being one as we are. And I desire, Father, to have them in my company where I am to see this glory of mine in your kingdom.

The Information Corner – Pope Quote



“If we live as Jesus taught us, and in harmony with what we proclaim, our witness will bear fruit.” “The Church grows in silence, in prayer, and with the good works that

give witness.”⁴

Papal Intention for the Month

Pope’s Intention – Young People and the Example of Mary. That young people, especially in Latin America, follow the example of Mary and respond to the call of the Lord to communicate the joy of the Gospel to the world.⁵



³ Opening paragraph of the Prologue; see Rule Book, handout at meeting or [Rule online](http://www.dcsfo.org/) for the rest.

⁴ Jan 3 and 5, 2019. URL <http://twitter.com/pontifex>

⁵ Pope’s Worldwide Prayer Network. Accessed Jan 9, 2019, URL <http://popesprayerusa.net/popese-intentions/>

The Information Corner

Jan 7th – Feast of Blessed Angela of Foligno⁶

Angela was born at Foligno in Umbria in 1248 of a rich family. She married at an early age, and loved the world and its pleasures. Worse still, forgetful of her dignity and duties as wife and mother, she fell into sin and led a disorderly life. But



God, having in His mercy inspired her with a deep sorrow for her sins, led her little by little to the height of perfection and to the understanding of the deepest mysteries. Angela recorded the history of her conversion in her admirable “Book of Visions and Instructions”.

Some time after her conversion Angela placed herself under the direction of Father Arnold, her Confessor, and took the habit of the Third Order of St. Francis. In the course of time the fame of her sanctity gathered around her a number of Tertiaries, men and women, who strove under her direction to advance in holiness. Later she established at Foligno a community of sisters, who to the Rule of the Third Order added the three vows of religion, without binding themselves to enclosure, so that they might devote their time to works of charity.

Angela passed away, surrounded by her spiritual children, on Jan 4, 1309. Her remains repose in the church of St. Francis at Foligno. Numerous miracles were worked at her tomb, and Innocent XII approved the immemorial veneration paid to her. Bl. Angela is highly regarded as a spiritual teacher; Maximilian Sandaeus, S.J., calls her the “Mistress of Theologians.”

⁶ Extracted from Robinson, P. (1907). Bl. Angela of Foligno. In The Catholic Encyclopedia. Accessed Jan 13, 2019, from New Advent, URL <http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/01482a.htm>

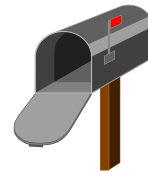
Fair Share – What Is It?

Article 25 of the Rule asks us to “*contribute toward the expenses of the higher fraternity councils.*” The St. Margaret of Cortona Regional Fraternity’s suggested Fair Share donation is \$30 per active member (\$20 for active-excused). If you have not already done so, please include a Fair Share contribution in this month’s envelope, and write “Fair Share” on the envelope or check.


► Please note that this special donation does not go towards the support of our fraternity; your regular, separate monthly donation does this.

From the Mailbox: News of our Family

- **Helen Walls** has a new phone number: 484-877-7977; she would appreciate calls.
- **Donna Wilkes** asks for special prayers; she is in pain due to her serious medical problems. In an email she writes, “I’m glad I was called to make a vow to be a Victim Soul for the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.... I will have more to offer Him as a sacrifice in reparation for offenses ... So I will not ‘waste’ untreatable pain.... pray that I am always open to pleasing Our Lord and doing His Holy Will.” She would love to receive calls; phone is 202-239-9683.
- **Vicky Spalding** has a new email address: vspalding@atlanticbb.net



Burial Shroud

 If you plan to be buried in the OFS Burial Shroud, be sure to order it from Franciscan Resources ahead of time to avoid expensive overnight shipping costs (<http://franciscanresources.com/>, click on Store Page).

Please Pray For Our Sick

Donna Wilkes and her family, especially her father, Roland Wilkes; Joe Gigliotti; Jean Xavier Fleurival; Rosemary Bordley and her family; Mary Anne Corr and her family; Maria Louisa Correa; Lourdes Corso and her family; Sarah Faizi, her family, and her friend Rich Gilgallon; Roy Foster; John Hewitt; Nancy McCleary; Margaret Murphy and her husband Jim; Fritz Nicholas and his family; Carol Petro; Bill Richardson; Cecilia Thieman and her family; Helen Walls; and John and Dineen Whipple.

February Birthdays

February 1 – Ronald McMahon, Cecelia Thieman; 4 – Alan Blevins, Mary Gamez; 8 – Polly Howard, James (Jay) Lynagh III, Donna Wilkes; 21 – Joseph Rende; and 26 – Joan Adundo.

Franciscan Feastdays and Memorials

February 1 – St. Veridiana, virgin, III Order, Bl. Andrew of Segni, religious, I Order; 4 – St. Joseph of Leonessa, priest, I Order; 6 – Sts. Peter Baptist, priest, Paul Miki and companions, martyrs (Martin of the Ascension, Francis Blanco, priests; Philip of Jesus, cleric; Francis of St. Michael, Gonsalvo Garcia, religious; seventeen tertiaries), I and III Order; 7 – St. Colette of Corbie, virgin, II Order; 8 – St. Giles Mary of St. Joseph, religious, I Order; 15 – Transfer of the Body of St. Anthony of Padua; 17 – Bl. Luke Belludi, religious, I Order; 19 – St. Conrad of Piacenza, hermit, III Order; 27 – Bl. Sebastian of Aparicio, religious, I Order.

Pray For Our Deceased Matthew Sutton, nephew of member **Bill Richardson**, who died Nov 5, 2018. 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.

January Reflection

By Larry Bleau, OFS

“Let us begin again, for up to now we have done nothing.”

This phrase was spoken by St. Francis to indicate that we must continually seek conversion, that it is an ongoing process; it is not a “done” type of thing. He also realized his failings, and the need to strive to do better.

In the context of our fraternity, we, too are called to do better, to start again. Not just once, but every day. It is in that sense that I write to you this month: We will begin again. What better place to begin again than the source: our Rule.

This month we will embark on a discussion of the 1978 Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order, starting with the Prologue. Some of the Prologue, also known as the *Exhortation of St. Francis to the Brothers and Sisters of Penance*, is in the Chimes this month; there will be a full handout at our meeting. I urge each of you to locate your Rule book (aka the “Little Red Book”) and bring it each month for the next several years. If you do not have one, you should obtain one, or its equivalent. Read the Prologue and be prepared to discuss what it means to you and how you follow it.



We will also begin anew in other ways. We are going to reestablish a well staffed and functioning committee structure. Council has decided on an initial five committees to serve the fraternity’s needs: Hospitality, Outreach, Formation, Communication and Apostolate; see our web site for a fuller description. A sign-up sheet will be distributed at the meeting; please volunteer for two committees or as a committee co-chair. If you cannot attend this meeting, please contact someone on Council and indicate how you wish to help. Franciscans are a “doing” people, dedicated to service, and this is one way to get into that “habit” in our fraternity.