

— the CHIMES —

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P.O. BOX 90366 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20090-0366 APR Vol. LVII, No. 4 April 21, 2013

Schedule

9:30am Orientation Session – Sacred Heart Room – downstairs in the Friary

9:30am Candidate Session – St. Bonaventure Room downstairs

10:30am Franciscan Crown Rosary in Blessed Sacrament Chapel

11:15am Mass in Blessed Sacrament Chapel

12:00pm Fraternity Social Gathering – St. Francis Room – downstairs in the Friary. Refreshments will be

provided.

12:45pm Fraternity Meeting – St. Francis

Room

2:30pm Council Meeting - St. Bonaventure

Room

Fraternity Meeting Agenda

- Opening Prayer
- Words from Ryan Pineda, our seminarian
- Short Apologetics
- Handouts on Francis and Our Lady
- Closing prayer

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: **THE HOLY SPIRIT AND FIRE** ♦

Bible Quote of the Month



I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. (*Mt. 3:11*)

Prayer of the Month

Regina Caeli

Regina caeli, laetare. Alleluia.

Quia quem meruisti portare. Alleluia.

Resurrexit sicut dixit. Alleluia.

Ora pro nobis Deum. Alleluia.

Queen of Heaven, rejoice. Alleluia.

For He whom you did merit to bear. Alleluia.

Has risen as He said. Alleluia.

Pray for us to God. Alleluia.

Contact Information

Fraternity Council

Please call before 9pm.

Cornelia (Corky) Hart (Minister) 301-593-0955

minister@dcsfo.org

Bill Richardson (Vice Minister) 301-848-7390

vice-minister@dcsfo.org

Helene Hogan (Secretary) 301-481-0695

secretary@dcsfo.org

Brenda Nutt (Treasurer) 301-481-3009

treasurer@dcsfo.org

Larry Bleau (Formation Dir.) 301-474-1338

formation@dcsfo.org

Fr. Kevin Treston, OFM 202-526-6800 spiritual@dcsfo.org (Spiritual Assistant) Larry Bleau (Chimes Editor) 301-474-1338

chimes@dcsfo.org

Also visit our web site: http://dcsfo.org/

St. Margaret of Cortona Regional Council

Patrick Martin (Minister) jpmmartin@gmail.com Laura Hansen-Rainev (DC Metro Area

Councilor) lhr1018@gmail.com

National Fraternity

Dcn. Tom Bello (Minister) tbellosfo@gmail.com

ADMONITION OF ST. FRANCIS

11. That no one should be corrupted by the wickedness of another

No thing ought to displease the servant of God except sin. And in whatever manner another person would sin, even on account of this the servant of God, out of charity, would not be upset or grow angry, (as one who) hoards up fault for himself (cf. Rm 2:5). That servant of God, who does not grow angry nor disturbs himself on another's behalf, lives rightly without anything of his own. And blessed is he, who does not let anything remain for himself, rendering those things "which are Caesar's to Caesar, and those which are God's to God" (Mt 22:21).

The Rule

Chapter One, Article 9 of The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order.

The Virgin Mary, humble servant of the Lord, was open to his every word and call. She was embraced by Francis with indescribable love and declared the protectress and advocate of his family. The Secular Franciscans should express their ardent love for her by imitating her complete self-giving and by praying earnestly and confidently.



Welcome to New Council

At our March fraternity meeting members, guided by the Holy Spirit, elected new Council members, whose responsibility will be to guide our fraternity for the next three years.

Shown above, left to right, are: Laura Hansen-Rainey (DC Metro Area Regional Councillor, who conducted the elections); Corky Hart (Minister); Bill Richardson (Vice Minister); Helene Hogen (Secretary); Brenda Nutt (Treasurer); and Larry Bleau (Formation Director).

A generous thank-you to our outgoing Council for all their service: Vicky Spalding (Minister), Chris Cropper (Vice Minister), Larry Bleau (Secretary), Virginia Lyons (Treasurer), John Hewitt (Formation Director), and Corky Hart (Acting Formation Director).

Fraternity Finances



Last month we received \$490 in donations and disbursed \$230.30 in expenses.

¹ St. Francis of Assisi, The Words of Admonition, translated from the Critical Latin Edition, edited by Fr. Kajetan Esser, O.F.M, courtesy of Five Franciscan Martyrs Region, accessed April 19, 2010, URL http://www.franciscan-sfo.org/ap/Admonitions.html

News From Our Seminarian



Below is an extract of a letter from Ryan Pineda, the seminarian we support. He will visit us this month before he starts his summer assignment. Here he is shown with Bishop Knestout after his institution as Reader.

Pax et bonum! Thank you

again for the check that I got a few days ago. I wish I could visit you more often and join the fraternity meeting. Alas, I have to teach Sunday school at St. Anthony, and afterwards, either I have to go to another mass or go back to the seminary for some activities.

This is an important year for me because together with four other seminarians from the Archdiocese, we received our first ministry. We were instituted as Readers this past Sunday by Bishop Barry Knestout. The ministries are the counterpart of the minor orders that a seminarian receives before the Second Vatican Council. These ministries let us seminarians take more roles in the seminary.

Furthermore, the ministry of reader is a big step in my formation. Next year, I will receive the ministry of acolyte; then that of candidacy, where I will declare publicy my intentions to be ordained; then I will be ordained as deacon; to be followed by ordination to the priesthood. Of course, this depends on the will of God whether he wants me to be a priest or not.

Franciscan Feastdays and Memorials

May 9 – Saint Catherine of Bologna, virgin of II Order (optional memorial for II and III Order nuns); 11 – Saint Ignatius of Laconi, religious of I Order; 16 – Saint Margaret of Cortona, III Order (memorial); 17 – Saint Paschal Baylon, religious of I Order (memorial); 18 – Saint Felix of Cantalice, religious of I Order (feast); 20 – Saint Bernardine of Siena, priest of I Order (feast); 24 – Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Francis of Assisi (feast); 28 – Saint Mariana of Jesus de Paredes, virgin of III Order (optional memorial); 30 – Blessed Baptista Varano, virgin of II Order (optional memorial for II and III Order nuns), and 30 – Saint Ferdinand, King, member of the III Order.

From the Mailbox: News of our Family

- Helen Walls writes, "I am doing well, but have to have a knee replacement soon; please pray for me.

 I think of all of our fraternity members and send my wishes for your Easter joy with my love and prayers."
- Recently we received two handwritten letters 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 loving friends,

Thank you very much for the help you sent for my family. I will never forget this help and I remember you in our evening prayer. Please also pray for us.

My daughter and I are suffering from allergies and taking medicine regularly, and my husband is taking medications for cholestrol. The children are studying well. Please pray for their annual exams. The help you sent last time was used for children's school supplies, dresses, etc. May the risen Lord fulfill all your desires and we wish you all a Happy Easter.

Yours sincerely, Mary Sebastian

Please Pray For Our Sick

Pat Allnutt; Larry Bleau's aunt, Dorothy Bleau (stroke); Rita Braddock and her family; Maria Louisa Correa and and her family; Sarah Faizi and her family; Jean Fleurival; Roy Foster; Marianne Hughes and her family; Jay Lynagh (recent surgery); Nancy McCleary; George Ramsey's mother, Margareta Ramsey; Joe Rende's niece, Kim (she is expecting); Gene Sides and his family; Vicky Spalding's mother, Delores Lynch; Julia Stratchko and her husband, Edward; Cacilia Thieman and her grandson, Andrew; Donna Wilkes; and Theresa Wilson. Also pray for Rosemary Bordley's mother, Rosalie Walsh, who passed on April 7.

Information Corner

Fr. Matthew Palkowski, OFM Cap., a former Spiritual Assistant for this fraternity, has a website promoting the Franciscan way of life. He has written an informative article on the Franciscan Gardening Outreach, a way to help feed the poor by growing things. You'll find it at the Franciscan Institute of the Holy Family's website:

http://www.fihf.org/fihf-ministries-projects/fihf-sponsored-projects/fihf-gardening-project.html

May Birthdays

May 1 – Lawrence Bleau, 6 – Roy Foster, 8 – Mary Jo Fehr, 12 – Margaret (Peggy) Simoneau, 15 – Delphine Ben and J. Patrick Enderson, 20 – Mark Di Salvo, 27 – Sandra White, and 30 – Joseph Clemente and Jean-Paul Gauthier.

Pray For Our Deceased Jean White, who died on March 23, 2013. Her funeral Mass was on April 2 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Barnesville, MD. 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.



April Reflection

By Corky Hart, OFS

Jesus, as John the Baptist declares in Matthew 3:11, baptizes us with the Holy Spirit and with fire. There are deep and beautiful truths mined from this text by great theologians and saints, but what does it mean for us? How can this word, so sublime, have an impact on people like us – simple, ordinary Secular Franciscans?

By virtue of our baptism, dying with Christ, we enter into His eternal life, the life of the Holy Spirit. We are filled and infused with that power which raised Christ from the dead, at work even now in our mortal bodies (*Rom. 8:11*). In Confirmation we are sealed with the Holy Spirit, empowered for evangelism as the apostles were at Pentecost. We may not fully live in the Holy Spirit's life-changing power, but we have little trouble accepting that Christ baptizes (immerses) us in His Holy Spirit. But fire is another thing altogether.

As we live out our vocation, especially in the New Evangelism, we must live in the reality that Christ baptizes us with the Holy Spirit AND with fire. If we have the Holy Spirit, the fire of God's love accompanies Him. He cleanses, purifies and refines. Daily during the Easter Octave, the Church's morning prayer includes the song of the three young men in the furnace (Dan. 3: 57 ff), singing the praises of God in the midst of the fire, accompanied by one "like a son of man." They were safe in the presence of the Living Word of God, perfect Love. Like them, let us walk with Christ in the fire of Divine Love. The Holy Spirit and the fire of Love will cleanse, purify and refine us. We are safe. Jesus is with us.