



— the CHIMES —

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P.O. BOX 90366

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20090-0366

OCT Vol. LVII, No. 10

October 20, 2013

Schedule

- 9:30am Inquiry Session – Sacred Heart Room – downstairs in the Friary
- 9:30am Candidate Session – St. Bonaventure Room downstairs
- 9:30am Open House – Meet in Tour Lobby
- 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

Fraternity Meeting Agenda

- Opening prayer
- Housekeeping
- Handouts
- Short Teaching
- Closing Evening prayer. If you have the “Shorter Christian” Prayer Book, please bring it with you.

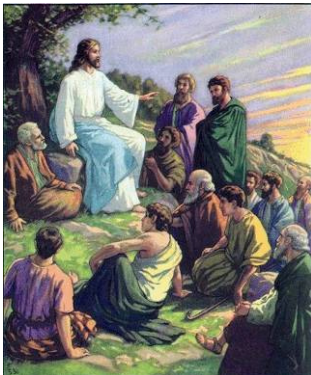
DON'T FORGET YOUR BINDERS!

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: **ST. FRANCIS** ◆

Bible Quote of the Month

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” (*Matthew 5:3*)



Prayer of the Month

“My God and my All!”



Contact Information

Fraternity Council

Please call before 9pm.



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ADMONITION OF ST. FRANCIS

7. Good Works should follow knowledge ¹

The Apostle says: "The letter kills, but the spirit gives life." (2 Cor 3:6). Those have died by the letter who desire to know only the words, so as to be esteemed as wiser among others and be able to acquire great riches to be given to relatives and friends. And those religious have died by the letter, who do not want to follow the spirit of Divine, but rather desire only to know the words and to explain them to others. And those have been vivified by the Divine Letter, who do not attribute every letter, which they know and desire to know, to the body, but in word and example render them to the Most High Lord God, of whom every good belongs.

¹ *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 15 of The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order.

Let them individually and collectively be in the forefront in promoting justice by the testimony of their human lives and their courageous initiatives. Especially in the field of public life, they should make definite choices in harmony with their faith.

The Information Corner

Disciplines of St. Francis ²

FAST from judging others,

FEAST on Christ dwelling in them

FAST from emphasis on differences,

FEAST on the Unity of Life

FAST from apparent darkness,

FEAST on the reality of all light

FAST from thoughts of illness,

FEAST on the healing power of God

FAST from words that pollute,

FEAST on Phrases that purify

FAST from discontent,

FEAST on gratitude

FAST from anger,

FEAST on patience

FAST from pessimism,

FEAST on Optimism

FAST from worry,

FEAST on God's Providence

FAST from complaining,

FEAST on appreciation

FAST from negatives,

FEAST on affirmatives

FAST from unrelenting pressures,

FEAST on unceasing prayer

FAST from hostility,

FEAST on non-resistance

FAST from bitterness,

FEAST on forgiveness



² Copied from handout obtained from Julia Stratchko, OFS. Text attributed to William Arthur Ward.

FAST from self-concern,
 FEAST on compassion for others
 FAST from personal anxiety,
 FEAST on eternal faith
 FAST from discouragement,
 FEAST on hope
 FAST from facts that depress,
 FEAST on verities that uplift
 FAST from lethargy,
 FEAST on enthusiasm
 FAST from suspicion,
 FEAST on truth
 FAST from thoughts that weaken,
 FEAST on promises that inspire
 FAST from shadows of sorrow,
 FEAST on the sunlight of serenity
 FAST from idle gossip,
 FEAST on purposeful silence
 FAST from problems that overwhelm,
 FEAST on prayer that sustains



From the Mailbox: News of our Family

- **Helen Walls** says hello to our members.
- **Ryan Pineda**, our seminarian, sent us a thank-you note, dated October 1:



Pax et bonum! Thank you again for the check that you sent me. I hope to visit you next month and just say hello to everybody. This is really a busy year for me because aside from the hospital ministry that I do every Friday, I still continue to teach CCD at St. Anthony's. But everything is well. I'm looking forward to my institution of acolyte ministry in 2 weeks. I will tell you more about it after the event. Thanks again, Ryan.

Fraternity Finances

\$ Last month we received \$417 in donations and disbursed \$279 in expenses.

Please Pray For Our Sick

Pat Allnutt; Rita Braddock; Dorothy Clayton; Maria Louisa Correra and and her family; Lourdes Corso; Sarah Faizi and her family; Roy Foster; Marianne Hughes and her family; Jay Lynagh; Nancy McCleary; Ron McElligot and his family; Mary Okumu and her family; George Ramsey and his mother, Margareta Ramsey; Joe Rende's friend, Eleni Kasakeris, and her family; Apollonia Sergi; Gene Sides and his family; Julia Stratchko and her family; Cecilia Thieman and her family; and Theresa Wilson.



November Birthdays

November 4 – George Bond and Charlotte Markoe, 6 – Mary Brown and Fred Scharf, 11 – Josephine Awich, 26 – Rosemary Bordley, 28 – Vera Mendoza, and 29 – Deborah McNeilly-Williams.



Franciscan Feastdays and Memorials

November 4 – Saint Charles Borromeo, bishop of III Order (memorial); 6 – Commemoration of all the Deceased of the Franciscan Orders (memorial); 7 – Saint Didacus of Alcala, religious of I Order (optional memorial); 13 – Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, virgin of III Order, Founder (memorial in the U.S.); 14 – Saint Nicholas Tavelic, priest and companions, martyrs of I Order (memorial); 17 – Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, widow, member and patron of the III Order (feast); 18 – Blessed Salome, virgin of II Order (optional memorial for II and III Order nuns); 19 – Saint Agnes of Assisi, virgin of II Order (memorial for II and III Order nuns); 26 – Saint Leonard of Port Maurice, priest of the I Order (memorial); 27 – Blessed Francis Anthony Fasani, priest of I Order (optional memorial); 28 – Saint James of the March, priest of I Order (memorial); and 29 – All Saints of the Franciscan Orders (feast).

October Reflection

*Canticle of the Creatures*³

By St. Francis

Francis composed The Canticle of the Creatures, known also as The Canticle of Brother Sun, during the spring of 1225, when he was sick at San Damiano, and was cared for by Clare and the Poor Sisters. The Canticle was composed in the Umbrian dialect and contains three sections: a praise of God for the creatures (sun, moon, stars, wind, water, fire, earth), a praise for those who forgive for the love of God, and a praise for sister bodily death. Only the first section of the Canticle was composed at San Damiano, whereas the section on forgiveness was composed in the episcopal palace in Assisi where the sick Francis resided for some weeks in September 1226, and the section on sister death was composed at the Portiuncula, some time before Francis died on October 3, 1226.

Most High, all-powerful, good Lord, Yours are the praises, the glory, and the honor, and all blessing,

To You alone, Most High, do they belong, and no human is worthy to mention Your name.

Praised be You, my Lord, with all Your creatures, especially Sir Brother Sun, Who is the day and through whom You give us light.

And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendor; and bears a likeness of You, Most High One.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars, in heaven You formed them clear and precious and beautiful.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Wind, and through the air, cloudy and serene, and every kind of weather, through whom You give sustenance to Your creatures.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Water, who is very useful and humble and precious and chaste.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Fire, through whom You light the night, and he is beautiful and playful and robust and strong.

Praised be You, my Lord, through our Sister Mother Earth, who sustains and governs us, and who produces various fruit with colored flowers and herbs.

Praised be You, my Lord, through those who give pardon for Your love, and bear infirmity and tribulation.

Blessed are those who endure in peace for by You, Most High, shall they be crowned.

Praised be You, my Lord, through our Sister Bodily Death, from whom no one living can escape.

Woe to those who die in mortal sin.

Blessed are those whom death will find in Your most holy will, for the second death shall do them no harm.

Praise and bless my Lord and give Him thanks and serve Him with great humility.



³ Armstrong et al (editors), *Francis of Assisi – The Saint, Early Documents Vol. I* (1998), 113-114. Introduction from Custodia Terrae Sanctae, accessed Oct 11, 2013, URL <http://www.custodia.org/default.asp?id=1454>