



# — the CHIMES —

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December 15, 2013



## No Fraternity Meeting This Month



There will be no meeting this month. Formation classes (Candidate and the new Orientation) will start in January on regular schedule. Look for times and room locations in the January *Chimes*.

### ◆ Theme: ADVENT & CHRISTMAS ◆

#### Bible Quote of the Month

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent His son, born of a woman, born under the law, so that we might receive adoption. (*Gal. 4:4*)

#### Prayer of the Month<sup>1</sup>

The “O Antiphons,” said with the Magnificat at Vespers (evening prayer), this year from December 17-23:

**O** WISDOM, who came from the mouth of the Most High, reaching from end to end and ordering all things mightily and sweetly: Come, and teach us the way of prudence. *Sirach 24:2; Wisdom 8:1. Symbols: oil lamp, open book.*

**O** LORD AND RULER of the House of Israel, who appeared to Moses in the flame of the burning bush and gave him the law on Sinai: Come, and redeem us with outstretched arm. *Exodus 3:2, 20:1. Symbols: burning bush, stone tablets.*

**O** ROOT OF JESSE, who stands for an ensign of the people, before whom kings

shall keep silence and unto whom the Gentiles shall make supplication: Come to deliver us, and tarry not. *Isaiah 11:1-3. Symbol: vine or plant with flower (especially a rose).*

**O** KEY OF DAVID, and Scepter of the House of Israel, who opens and no man shuts, who shuts and no man opens: Come, and bring forth the captive from his prison, he who sits in darkness and in the shadow of death. *Isaiah 22:22. Symbols: key; broken chains.*

**O** DAWN OF THE EAST, brightness of the light eternal, and Sun of Justice: Come, and enlighten them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death. *Psalms 19:6-7. Symbol: rising sun.*



**O** KING OF THE GENTILES and their desired One, the Cornerstone that makes both one: Come, and deliver man, whom You formed out of the dust of the earth. *Psalms 2:7-8, Ephesians 2:14-20. Symbols, Crown, scepter.*

**O** EMMANUEL, God with us, our King and Lawgiver, the expected of the nations and their Savior: Come to save us, O Lord our God. *Isaiah 7:14; 33:22. Symbols: tablets of stone, Chalice and Host.*

<sup>1</sup> Source: Women for Faith & Family website, accessed Dec 9, 2013, URL <http://www.wf-f.org/OAntiphons.html>

## Contact Information

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Please call before 9pm.



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## ADMONITION OF ST. FRANCIS

### 9. On love<sup>2</sup>

The Lord says: "Love your enemies; [do good to those who hate you, and pray on behalf of those who are persecuting and calumniating you]" (Mt 5:44). For he truly loves his enemy, who does not grieve because of the injury, which he did to him, but, concerning the sin against his own soul, burns for the sake of the love of God. And he shows love for him by (his) deeds.



<sup>2</sup> *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 17 of The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order.

In their family they should cultivate the Franciscan spirit of peace, fidelity, and respect for life, striving to make of it a sign of a world already renewed in Christ.

## News From Our Seminarian

Ryan Pineda sent us a letter on November 11, an extract from which appears below.

Thank you again for the check that you sent; it really means a lot to me. It humbles me to know people are supporting me financially. I am also grateful for your prayers; I really need these to keep going.

Second Theology is great but challenging. By far, this is the busiest year I have ever had. My hospital ministry is probably the hardest I've ever had. I stay at Carroll Manor four hours each week visiting patients.



My classes are about to end; final examination week will be in early December.



The pictures were taken at the Institution of Acolyte Ministry, held at Redemptoris Mater Seminary on October 13. The Cardinal told us that being an acolyte, we are now called to be servers at the altar.

This is a big step in my formation.

Please pray for me as I continue to pray for your community. Thank you.

### **Papal Quotes**



“You are all-beautiful, O Mary! In you is the fullness of joy born of life with God.

Help us never to forget the meaning of our earthly journey: May the kindly light of faith illumine our days, the comforting power of hope direct our steps, the contagious warmth of love stir our hearts; and may our gaze be fixed on God, in whom true joy is found.

You are all-beautiful, O Mary! Hear our prayer, graciously hear our plea: May the beauty of God’s merciful love in Jesus abide in our hearts, and may this divine beauty save us, our city and the entire world. Amen.”<sup>3</sup>

### **Please Pray For Our Sick**

Pat Allnutt; Rita Braddock and her family; Lourdes Corso; Dorothy Clayton and her daughter, Kathy McCoy; Saturnino Camposano (recovery from knee surgery); Maria Louisa Corraera and her sister; Sarah Faizi, her family, and her friend Ron Harner; Jean Fleurival; Roy Foster; Jean-Paul Gauthier (severe injury); Marianne Hughes and her family; Nancy McCleary; George Ramsey and his mother, Margareta Ramsey (recent stroke); Apollonia Sergi and her family; Gene Sides and his wife Annagret; Fritz Nicolas and his daughter; Julia Stratchko and her husband, Eugene; Cecilia Thieman, her son, Michael, and her grandson, Andrew; Dineen Whipple; and Theresa Wilson.

### **Fraternity Finances**

**\$** Last month we received \$258 in donations and disbursed \$163.30 in expenses. Council approved \$850 in Christmas donations: Catholic Charities-Philippine Relief (\$500), Franciscan Monastery (\$200), Franciscan Family Apostolate (\$50), Spiritual Assistant (\$50), and our Seminarian, Ryan (\$50).

<sup>3</sup> Excerpt from the Holy Father’s prayer on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Rome, December 8, 2013. Accessed December 9, 2013, URL [http://www.vatican.va/holy\\_father/francesco/speeches/2013/december/documents/papa-francesco\\_20131208\\_immacolata\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/francesco/speeches/2013/december/documents/papa-francesco_20131208_immacolata_en.html).

### **Meet Our Newly Professed**

Congratulations to Patrick, Kady, and Oyoua, our newly professed members!



### **January Birthdays**

January 4 – Victoria Spalding, 15 – Dineen Whipple, 29 – John Hewitt, M.D., and 30 – Anthony Mazzucco and Julia Ann Stratchko

### **Franciscan Feastdays and Memorials**

January 1 – Solemnity of the Mother of God; 3 – Holy Name of Jesus (memorial); 7 – Blessed Angela of Foligno, religious of III Order (optional memorial) for III Order; 12 – Saint Bernard of Corleone, religious of I Order (optional memorial); 14 – Blessed Odoric of Pordenone, priest of I Order (optional memorial); 16 – Saints Berard, priest, and companions, protomartyrs of the I Order (memorial); 24 – Saint Francis de Sales, bishop, doctor, cord-bearer of Saint Francis (memorial); 27 – Saint Angela Merici, virgin of III Order, founder. (memorial); 30 – Saint Hyacinth of Mariscotti, virgin of III Order (optional memorial) for III Order; and 31 – Saint John Bosco, priest of III Order, founder (memorial).

### **Feastdays of Franciscan Friars**

Keep in your prayers the following friars, whose feast days are this coming month: January 3 – Manuel Ybarra, 11 – Garret Edmunds, 14 – Roger Petras, and 20 – John-Sebastian.



## **December Reflection**

*By Corky Hart, OFS*

Dear Brothers and Sisters,



For the remainder of Advent and into our celebrations of Christmas, let us reflect on the humility of God in the Incarnation, and on the tender joy of our Seraphic Father as he gazed upon the Christ Child in the manger.

May the Lord help us grow in charity, humility, joy, and peace.

Thomas of Celano beautifully recounts when St. Francis began what is now a world-wide tradition. When we gaze on the Creche in our parishes or our homes, let's remind ourselves of that episode in the life of our Founder<sup>4</sup>:

The saint of God was clothed with the vestments of the deacon, for he was a deacon, and he sang the holy Gospel in a sonorous voice. And his voice was a strong voice, a sweet voice, a clear voice, a sonorous voice, inviting all to the highest rewards. Then he



<sup>4</sup> Excerpt from Thomas of Celano, *Vita Prima*, URL [http://www.franciscanfriarstor.com/archive/stfrancis/stfrancis\\_christmas\\_crib.htm](http://www.franciscanfriarstor.com/archive/stfrancis/stfrancis_christmas_crib.htm), accessed December 9, 2013.

preached to the people standing about, and he spoke charming words concerning the nativity of the poor king and the little town of Bethlehem.



Frequently too, when he wished to call Christ Jesus, he would call him simply the Child of Bethlehem, aglow with overflowing love for him; and speaking the word Bethlehem, his voice was more like the bleating of a sheep, His mouth was filled more with sweet affection than with words. Besides, when he spoke the name Child of Bethlehem or Jesus, his tongue licked his lips, as it were, relishing and savoring with pleased palate the sweetness of the word.

The gifts of the Almighty were multiplied there, and a wonderful vision was seen by a certain virtuous man. For he saw a little child lying in the manger lifeless, and he saw the holy man of God go up to it and rouse the child as from a deep sleep. This vision was not unfitting, for the Child Jesus had been forgotten in the hearts of many; but, by the working of his grace, he was brought to life again through his servant St. Francis and stamped upon their fervent memory. At length the solemn night celebration was brought to a close, and each one returned to his home with holy joy.

May you and your families and friends be blessed with a joyful and peaceful Christmas. See you in the New Year!

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### **From the Mailbox: News of our Family**

- **Roy Foster** wrote that he is thankful for the *Chimes* and looks forward to receiving it each month.
- **Theresa Wilson** recently suffered congestive heart failure, was taken to Providence Hospital, and is recovering at Oak View Rehabilitation Center in Silver Spring. She asks for prayers and sends her love and daily prayers for the fraternity. She hopes to be home soon at her new address: 716 Monroe St., NE #429, Washington, DC 20017. Update your directory!

