



— the *CFJMES* —

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P.O. BOX 90366

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20090-0366

MAY Vol. LVIII, No. 5

May 18, 2014

ALERT! There will be no June meeting. Formation classes will meet, however; see your instructor.

Schedule

- 9:30am Inquiry Session – St. Clare Room – upstairs 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. Bonaventure Room – downstairs in the Friary. Bring your own lunch, light refreshments will be provided.
- 12:45pm Fraternity Meeting – St. Bonaventure Room

Fraternity Meeting Agenda

- Welcoming Ceremony for new Inquirers – We welcome into our family those who have completed Orientation and feel called to further pursue their path towards profession in the Order. Please welcome and greet with joy our new Inquirers: **David Dewane, Michele Dunne, Wendy Anderson, and Frank Klem.**
- Opening prayer
- Housekeeping
- Handouts
- Short Teaching
- Closing Evening prayer. If you have the “Shorter Christian” Prayer Book, please bring it with you.

◆ Theme: **COME AND SEE; HEAR AND FOLLOW** ◆

Bible Quote of the Month

But you are “a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own, so that you may announce the praises” of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. (*1 Pt 2:9*).

Prayer of the Month

Catechist’s Prayer

Gracious and all-loving Father, out of love for all people you spoke your Word who became flesh for our salvation. May your Word transform me so that the message of your Son, our Lord, may be echoed through my teaching.

Allow me to guide the hearts of those whom I teach in such a way that they will enter more deeply into your way of truth and salvation. Grant me the insight needed to lead them to know, love, and serve you. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, may they become hearers and followers of your Word, so that they might help transform the world to follow the way of life to which your Son has called us all, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.¹

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Please call before 9pm.



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ADMONITION OF ST. FRANCIS

14. On poverty of spirit ²

“Blessed (are) the poor in spirit, since theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven” (*Mt 5:3*). There are many, who persisting in prayers and (liturgical) offices practice many abstinences and afflict their own bodies, but because of a single word, which seems to be injurious to their bodies or because of anything, which is brought against them, being scandalized, they are continually disturbed. These are not poor in spirit; since he who is truly poor in spirit, hates his very self and loves those who beat him in the face (cf. *Mt 5:39*).

² *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 Three, Article 22 of The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order.

The local fraternity is to be established canonically. It becomes the basic unit of the whole Order and a visible sign of the Church, the community of love. This should be the privileged place for developing a sense of Church and the Franciscan vocation and for enlivening the apostolic life of its members.

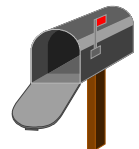
The Information Corner – Pope Quote



“Faith is not a light which scatters all our darkness, but a lamp which guides our steps in the night and suffices for the journey. To those who suffer, God does not provide arguments which explain everything; rather, his response is that of an accompanying presence, a history of goodness which touches every story of suffering and opens up a ray of light.”³

From the Mailbox: News of our Family

Recently we received a handwritten 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.



We received your generous aid. Special thanks for the extra gift you sent to us.

Our children are enjoying their summer vacation. My husband is busy fishing. I continue to take my medication for my allergy.

Wishing you a very Blessed Easter that brings you peace, joy and prosperity.

With love, Mary Sebastian

³ *Lumen Fidei*, June 29, 2013.

May Reflection

By Corky Hart, OFS

As my husband and I were waiting before his cataract surgery this week, the nurse presented him with the usual plethora of forms and paperwork to be read and signed. One of them contained a question that neither of us expected to see. It asked, "Why are you having this surgery? What outcome do you expect?" You have to wonder at a big efficient, medical establishment asking a patient why he's there. After we had a chuckle at how ridiculously obvious the answer would be, we looked at each other and, after 34 years of marriage, each of us knew exactly what the other was thinking. We had both remembered the episode in the Gospels when Jesus asks the blind man what he wants, and the blind man says, "I want to see." So Al and I talked it over.

Jesus didn't need to ask that blind man what he wanted. He didn't want to acquire information, He wanted to invite dialogue and ask consent. Dialogue requires relationship; consent requires an act of the will. Both these things are essential if we are to see and hear Jesus, and live our lives in dialogue with Him. Practicing this relationship in prayer and adoration, and the study of God's Word, and learning obedience through small, daily "dyings to self," we slowly grow in our ability to recognize Him, and hear the voice of our Good Shepherd.

With May being Mary's month, we can certainly look to her for example of someone who lived that relationship, and whose will was perfectly conformed to God's will. May her prayers gain us the desire in our deepest hearts to live in conformity with the Holy Will of God, and may her intimacy with Christ help us always to hear and respond to His gentle voice.


June Birthdays

June 3 – Philip Melore, 5 – Sheila Kelly and Anna Zaczynski, 9 – Mary Catherine Kohut and Carol Petro, 12 – Lee Ann Petta, 19 – Helen Walls, 22 – William Hayes Brown III and Joan Kane, and 6 – George Ramsey

Please Pray For Our Sick

Pat Allnutt; Rita Braddock; Dorothy Clayton; Maria Louisa Correra and her sister, Maria Franco; Lourdes Corso; Clotilda Crawley and her children; J. Patrick Enderson's father, Richard Enderson; Sarah Faizi and her family; Jean Fleurival; Roy Foster; Jean-Paul Gauthier (recovering from severe injury); John Hewitt; Marianne Hughes and her family; Joe Humphries' nephew, Richard Marshall; Nancy McCleary; Fritz Nicolas and his daughter; Mary Okumu's family; George Ramsey and his mother; Joe Rende (recent fall and injury); Eugene Sides and his wife Annagret; Julia Stratchko and her husband; Cecilia Thieman and her family; Helen Walls; Dineen Whipple; and Theresa Wilson.

Fraternity Finances

 Last month we received \$98 in donations and disbursed \$337.50 in expenses.

Feastdays of Franciscan Friars

Keep in your prayers these friars whose feast days are this coming month: June 3 – Kevin Treston, 19 – Romuald Green, and 29 – Simon McKay.

Franciscan Feastdays and Memorials

June 2 – St. Felix of Nicosia, religious, I Ord.; 8 – Bl. Nicholas of Gèsturi, religious, I Ord.; 12 – Bl. Florida Cevoli, virgin, I Ord.; Bl. Jolenta, religious, II Ord.; Bl. Antoninus Bajewski, priest, and companions, martyrs (Pius Bartosik, Innocent Guz, Achille Puchala, Herman Stepien, priests; Timothy Troianowski, Boniface Zukowski, religious), I Ord.; 13 – St. Anthony of Padua, priest, doctor, I Ord.; 16 – Bl. Anizet Koplín, priest, and companions, martyrs of Poland (Henry Krzystofik, Florian Stêpniak, Fidelis Chojnacki, Symforiam Ducki), I Ord.; Bl. Guy (Guido) Vignotelli, priest, I Ord.; 17 – St. Albert Chmielowski, religious, III Ord., founder; 22 – St. Thomas More, martyr, III Ord.; 23 – St. Joseph Cafasso, priest, III Ord.; 25 – Bl. Jutta of Thuringia, widow, III Ord.; 26 – Bl. Andrew Hyacinth Longhin, bishop, I Ord.; 30 – Bl. Raymond Lull, martyr, III Ord..