



— the *CFJMES* —

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P.O. BOX 90366

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20090-0366

SEP Vol. LVIII, No. 9

September 22, 2014

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

- 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: **THE SPIRITUAL BATTLE** ◆

Bible Quote of the Month

Finally, draw your strength from the Lord and from his mighty power. Put on the armor of God so that you may be able to stand firm against the tactics of the devil. For our struggle is not with flesh and blood but with the principalities, with the powers, with the world rulers of this present darkness, with the evil spirits in the heavens. Therefore, put on the armor of God, that you may be able to resist on the evil day and, having done everything, to hold your ground. So stand fast with your loins girded in truth, clothed with righteousness as a breastplate, and your feet shod in readiness for the gospel of peace. In all circumstances, hold

faith as a shield, to quench all [the] flaming arrows of the evil one. And take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.. (*Ephesians 6: 10-17*)

Prayer of the Month

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle; be our defence against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the Divine Power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits that prowl around the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Contact Information

Fraternity Council

Please call before 9pm.



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ADMONITION OF ST. FRANCIS

18. On compassion for one's neighbor ¹



Blessed (is) the man, who supports his neighbor during his frailty to the extent that he would want to be supported by him, if he falls into an exactly similar situation. Blessed (is) the servant who renders all his goods to the Lord God, because he who has retained anything for himself “conceals” within himself “the money of his Lord” God (Mt 25:18) and “what” he thought he “had, shall be born away from” him (Lk 8:18).

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 Two, Article 26 of The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order.

As a concrete sign of communion and coresponsibility, the councils on various levels, in keeping with the constitutions, shall ask for suitable and well-prepared religious for spiritual assistance. They should make this request to the superiors of the four religious Franciscan families, to whom the Secular Fraternity has been united for centuries.

To promote fidelity to the charism as well as observance of the rule and to receive greater support in the life of the fraternity, the minister or president, with the consent of the council, should take care to ask for a regular pastoral visit by the competent religious superiors as well as for a fraternal visit from those of the higher fraternities, according to the norm of the constitutions.

Celebrate the Transitus!

Mark your calendar! Join with the other branches of the Franciscan Family to celebrate the Transitus of Holy Father Francis on **October 3** at **7:30pm** at the Franciscan Monastery.

The Information Corner

Aid to the Church in Need, an international organization to relieve the persecuted and suffering church, can receive donations to aid those who are persecuted for their faith in Iraq and all over the world. Their site is: www.churchinneed.org .

Fraternity Finances

\$ In July we received \$336 in donations and disbursed \$181.53 in expenses. In August we received \$532 in donations and disbursed \$255.26 in expenses. These do not include undeposited checks.

News From Our Seminarian

Ryan Pineda, the seminarian whom we support, sent us a letter, dated September 7, 2014. Below are extracts from that letter.



My brother and sisters in Christ,

Classes at Catholic University officially started 2 weeks ago. God willing and my Archbishop permitting, I will

declare my candidacy this October and be ordained into Diaconate in June 2015.

Aside from the formation nights in the seminary, my day revolves around prayer and studies. This year, the classes that I am taking include Preaching, Eucharist, Bio-medical Ethics and History of the Black Church. The last class is a class that I take at Howard University. Our class will be practicing how to assist at mass as deacons, practice the rite of baptism, marriage, funerals, lead the liturgy in the seminary etc. Indeed, it is going to be a year of preparation.

My parish assignment this year is at St. Joseph's on Capitol Hill. I have just started last week and so far, it has been great meeting the people especially the Young Adults who I will be helping with for the most part.

I also want to share my summer experience with you. I stayed for a few days at St. Michael Parish in Silver Spring, where I did my summer assignment last year. We had our Seminarian Days at the John Paul II seminary. The chapel, the library and the seminary itself are worth visiting. Praying at the relic of Saint JP II is something to cherish.

The seminarian gathering is an opportunity for the seminarians to gather in prayer and fraternity, and to welcome and get to know the new seminarians. We also had the chance to talk to Cardinal Wuerl individually. Then, we visited the White House and the FBI building and had dinner at the Rock Creek Council Lodge in Bethesda.

My first summer assignment was a parish assignment at Blessed Sacrament in Chevy Chase, followed by a Spanish Immersion experience in Puebla, Mexico. I spent 10 weeks in Omaha, Nebraska to attend the

Institute for Priestly Formation (IPF) in Creighton University, which I would describe as a 10-week summer camp for seminarians. There were 170 seminarians from different diocese throughout the country. We had an 8-day silent retreat, an opportunity to have 4 holy hours with the Lord, a daily spiritual direction and an evening conference. There were so many graces that I received. I also experienced some desolation but praying about it and talking to my spiritual director helped me. After our silent retreat, we had classes and other conferences. I especially enjoyed my class on the Spirituality of Diocesan Priesthood and the class on Liturgy. Then, on our last six weeks, every seminarian in the program was assigned to a certain apostolate; I was blessed to be at Boys Town. Please know that I prayed for the Secular Franciscan Order Mount St. Sepulchre Community at Fr. Flanagan's tomb.

Our weekends are "free". It is interesting that one of the things that I learned is how to take a contemplative leisure. I spent my weekends hanging out and getting to know other seminarians.

My summer assignment was a blessing. I learned more about God and about myself and feel more confident that God is indeed calling me to the priesthood. The greatest gift that I have received is an affirmation of my vocation. This October or November will be my candidacy: I will declare my intention publicly, in front of the Archbishop and in front of the community, my desire to continue formation and be ordained if the Church affirms my vocation. I still have some fears about my unreadiness and unworthiness but every day I pray to the Lord and ask Our Lady for her intercession to give me the strength and courage to follow His will. I know that it is not going to be easy but I am happy knowing that the Lord will be at my side.

Thank you again for your spiritual and financial support. They really mean a lot to me. Please remember as well that I continue to pray for the intentions of your community. If you have personal requests or special prayers, you can always call me at 202-756-5465 or email me at rpineda@adwparish.org. Thank you again and let's continue to pray for one another.

Please Pray For Our Sick

Pat Allnutt; Larry Bleau's father, Raymond Bleau; Ernest Braddock (husband of deceased member Rita Braddock); Mary Anne Corr's niece, Patricia Corr; Maria Louisa Correra and her sister, Maria Franco; Lourdes Corso and her kids; Sarah Faizi and her family; Jean Fleurival; Roy Foster; Jean-Paul Gauthier (recovering from severe injury); Marianne Hughes and her sister, Ellen Burgess; Joe Humphries and his nephew, Richard Marshall; Nancy McCleary; Fritz Nicolas and his daughter; Mary Okumu's family; George Ramsey and his mother; Joe Rende's special intention; Eugene Sides and his family; Julia Stratchko and her husband; Cecilia Thieman's family (Michael, Sam, Matthew, Andrew, and her grandchildren); Helen Walls; Dineen Whipple; Donna Wilkes and her brother, Hollis; Theresa Wilson; and Mildred Wray.

October Birthdays

October 2 – Eugene Sides, 6 – Margaret Murphy, 15 – Raymond Apodaca, 17 – Cornelia Hart, and 22 – Gerda Biglin

Franciscan Feastdays and Memorials

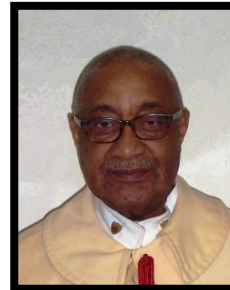
October 4 – Our Holy Father Francis, deacon, founder of Three Franciscan Orders (solemnity); 6 – Saint Mary Frances of the Five Wounds, virgin of III Order (optional memorial for the III Order); 10 – Saints Daniel, priest, and companions, martyrs of I Order (optional memorial); 12 – Saint Seraphin of Montegrano, religious of I Order (optional memorial); 20 – Blessed James of Strepar, bishop of I Order (optional memorial), and Blessed Contardo Ferrini, member of III Order (optional memorial for III Order); 21 – Blessed Josephine Leroux, virgin and martyr of II Order (optional memorial for II and III Order nuns); 22 – Saint Peter of Alcantara, priest of I Order (memorial); 23 – Saint John of Capistrano, priest of I Order (memorial); 26 – Blessed Bonaventure of Potenza, priest of I Order (optional memorial); and 30 – Anniversary of Dedication in Consecrated Franciscan Churches (solemnity).

Feastdays of Franciscan Friars

Keep in your prayers the following friars, whose feast days are this coming month: Keep in your

prayers the following friars, whose feast days (or birthdays (B)) are this coming month: October 4 – St. Francis, and 25 – Thomas Courtney.

Pray For Our Deceased Jerry Phillips, a



Knight of Mount St. Sepulchre, who died on August 29, 2014. While not a member of our fraternity, he was well known to many of us. A Memorial Mass was held on September 6 at the Monastery. May the souls of the faithful departed rest in eternal peace in the presence of our Lord.

September Reflection

By Corky Hart, OFS

You'd have to be living in a cave or under a rock not to know we live in times that require much prayer, sacrifice, and service. Thankfully, we Franciscans can view the urgent needs around us and around the world as an opportunity to imitate our Founder and "step up" our works of mercy through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. The sacrifice is worth it because the benefits are real, for those for whom we pray and for ourselves. Not only does prayer change the world, but it changes us, too, little by little into the image of Christ.

Someone once said that if you don't think there's a spiritual battle going on, you've already been captured! Of course, we know there's a battle, but it's not the Hollywood version. Our battle is fought humbly, on our knees, in our hearts (especially in the confessional), and in lives of service. Some folks may be looking for "the rapture" (there is yet another silly movie coming out!), or some other imagined "sign of the times." Our Lord told us not to be disturbed by any of this. We are not to be running here and there seeking this "sign" or that "wonder." We have our sign. It is the Holy Cross, our Tree of Life. It is in this Sign that we conquer as Jesus did, praying, interceding, and sacrificing out of love for the lost..