



— the *CHIMES* —

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P.O. BOX 90366
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20090-0366
JAN Vol. LIX, No. 1
January 18, 2015

Schedule

- 9:30am Orientation Session – St. Clare Room – upstairs in the Friary
9:30am Candidate Session (2015) – St. Bonaventure Room downstairs
9:30am Candidate Session (2016) – tbd
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
- Extraction of Saints
- Sharing by Michele Dunne
- Presentation by J. Patrick
- 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 COMMUNION OF SAINTS** ◆

Bible Quote of the Month

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us rid ourselves of every burden and sin that clings to us and persevere in running the race that lies before us while keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus, the leader and perfecter of faith. For the sake of the joy that lay before him he endured the cross, despising its shame, and has taken his seat at the right of the throne of God. Consider how he endured such opposition from sinners, in order that you may not grow weary and lose heart. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood. (*Heb 12:1-4*)

Prayer of the Month

O God, who, through the merits of blessed Francis, didst give increase to Thy Church, by enriching her with new offspring: grant us, that following his example we may despise earthly goods and ever rejoice in partaking of Thy heavenly gifts. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with You and Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. ¹



¹ EWTN. Accessed Jan 12, 2015, URL <http://www.ewtn.com/Devotionals/prayers/francis2.htm>

Contact Information

Fraternity Council

Please call before 9pm.



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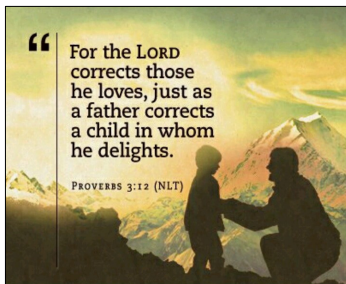
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ADMONITION OF ST. FRANCIS

22. On correction ²

Blessed (is) the servant who would endure discipline, accusation and rebuke as patiently from another as from his very self. Blessed (is) the servant, who having been rebuked, acquiesces kindly, submits meekly, confesses humbly and makes satisfaction freely. Blessed (is) the servant, who is not quick to excuse himself and humbly endures shame and rebuke because of a sin, even though he has not committed (any) fault.



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 Two, Article 4 of The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order.

The rule and life of the Secular Franciscans is this: to observe the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ by following the example of Saint Francis of Assisi, who made Christ the inspiration and the center of his life with God and people.

Christ, the gift of the Father's love, is the way to him, the truth into which the Holy Spirit leads us, and the life which he has come to give abundantly.

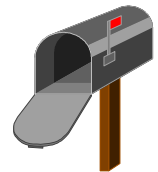
Secular Franciscans should devote themselves especially to careful reading of the gospel, going from gospel to life and life to the gospel.

The Information Corner

The **March For Life 2015** is on Thursday, January 22, 2015. Rally at 12:00 noon at 12th St. and the National Mall, Washington, D.C. March begins at 1:00 p.m. from 14th St. and the National Mall. If you cannot march, please pray and fast for the legal protection of pre-born children.

From the Mailbox: News of our Family

- **Eugene Sides** writes and asks for prayers for his wife, Annagret, who has stage four cancer and is now in hospice care.
- **Marie Louisa Correa** writes, "Please continue to pray for me and my sister. Best wishes for the new year and God bless our Franciscan family."



Fraternity Finances

\$ Last month we received \$22 in donations and disbursed \$8.50 in expenses. This does not include many undeposited checks.

Please Pray For Our Sick

Pat Allnutt; Larry Bleau's father, Raymond; Ernest Braddock; Mary Anne Corr's niece, Patricia Corr (surgery); Maria Louisa Correa and her family; Sarah Faizi and her family; Jean Fleurival; Roy Foster; John Hewitt; Marianne Hughes and her great-niece, Mindy; Nancy McCleary; Ouida Morrison; Fritz Nicholas and his family; George Ramsey; Joe Rende; Eugene Sides and his wife, Annagret (cancer); Margaret Simoneau and her mother, Frances; Julia Stratchko and her family; Cecilia Thieman and her family; Dineen Whipple; Donna Wilkes and her brother, Hollis; Theresa Wilson; and Mildred Wray.

February Birthdays

February 1 – Ronald McMahon and Cecelia Thieman; 4 – Alan Blevins and Mary Gamez; 8 – Polly Howard, James (Jay) Lynagh III and Donna Wilkes; 21 – Joseph Rende; and 26 – Joan Adundo and Nita Mullins.

Franciscan Feastdays and Memorials

February 1 – St. Veridiana, virgin, III Order, Bl. Andrew of Segni, religious, I Order; 4 – St. Joseph of Leonessa, priest, I Order; 6 – Sts. Peter Baptist, priest, Paul Miki and companions, martyrs (Martin of the Ascension, Francis Blanco, priests; Philip of Jesus, cleric; Francis of St. Michael, Gonsalvo Garcia, religious; seventeen tertiaries), I and III Order; 7 – St. Colette of Corbie, virgin, II Order; 8 – St. Giles Mary of St. Joseph, religious, I Order; 15 – Transfer of the Body of St. Anthony of Padua; 17 – Bl. Luke Belludi, religious, I Order; 19 – St. Conrad of Piacenza, hermit, III Order; 27 – Bl. Sebastian of Aparicio, religious, I Order.

Feastdays of Franciscan Friars

Keep in your prayers the following friars, whose birthdays are this coming month: April 4 – David Wathen.

January Reflection

By Corky Hart, OFS

The prayers of the Saints sustain us here upon earth and assist us on our way to our Heavenly Homeland. The great "cloud of witnesses" who give us example also give us practical help in the day-to-day struggle to walk with the Lord.



How often have we stopped to pray the prayer to St. Anthony or our Guardian Angels, or patron saints for a particular need and been surprised to receive a quick answer? Can you recall when the witness of a Saint has inspired you to carry on, or encouraged you when things looked bleak? How often do we turn to our brothers and sisters who have already reached their eternal goal to ask their help on our own journey?

Of course every one of us can think of countless occasions when the Saints and Angels have ministered the grace of God to us. As we pick our Saints for the coming year (or rather allow the Saints to pick us!), let's recall that this practice is no small thing. Accepting that the Lord has assigned each of us a particular Saint for the coming year helps us to take this selection seriously. Pray to your Saint this year. Learn as much as you can about him or her. Ask the Holy Spirit to teach you something new through this Saint's example and intercession, and maybe journal about your interaction with the Saint who "adopts" you. In a year's time there will be plenty of evidence of God grace at work through the Communion of Saints.

