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P.O. BOX 90366 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20090-0366 APR Vol. LIX, No. 4 April 19, 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) Assisi Room upstairs in the Friary
- 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: *FOR THE SAKE OF HIS SORROWFUL PASSION*: THE DIVINE MERCY ♦

# **Bible Quote of the Month**

For we do not have a high priest who is unable



to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has similarly been tested in every way, yet without sin. So let us confidently approach the throne of grace to receive mercy and to find grace for timely help. (*Hebrews* 4: 15-16)

# **Prayer of the Month**

Regina Caeli, laetare! Alleluia! Quia quem



Alleluia! Quia quem meruisti portare, Alleluia! Resurrexit sicut dixit, Alleluia! Ora pro nobis deum, Alleluia!

Queen of Heaven, Rejoice! Alleluia! For He whom you merited to bear, Alleluia! has risen as He said, Alleluia! Pray for us to God. Alleluia!.

#### <u>Contact Information</u> Fraternity Council



Please call before 9pm. Cornelia (Corky) Hart (Minister) 301-593-0955 minister@dcsfo.org Bill Richardson (Vice Minister) 301-848-7390 vice-minister@dcsfo.org Helene Hogan (Secretary) 301-481-0695 secretary@dcsfo.org Brenda Nutt (Treasurer) 301-481-3009 treasurer@dcsfo.org Larry Bleau (Formation Dir.) 301-474-1338 formation@dcsfo.org Fr. Kevin Treston, OFM 202-526-6800 spiritual@dcsfo.org (Spiritual Assistant) 301-474-1338 Larry Bleau (Chimes Editor) chimes@dcsfo.org Also visit our web site: http://dcsfo.org/ St. Margaret of Cortona Regional Council Patrick Martin (Minister) jpmmartin@gmail.com Laura Hansen-Rainey (DC Metro Area Councilor) lhr1018@gmail.com

#### National Fraternity

Dcn. Tom Bello (Minister) tbellosfo@gmail.com

# **ADMONITION OF ST. FRANCIS**

# **25.** That the servants of God should honor clerics <sup>1</sup>

Blessed (is) the servant, who puts faith in the clerics who live rightly according to the manner of the Roman Church. And woe to those who despise them; for though they may be sinners, no one however ought to judge them, since God Himself reserves to Himself alone their judgement. For as much as their administration is greater, which they have because of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ, which they themselves receive and which they themselves alone minister to others, so much greater a sin have they, who sin against them, than against all the other men of this world.



#### **The Rule**

Chapter Two, Article 7 of The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order.

United by their vocation as brothers and sisters of penance, and motivated by the dynamic power of the gospel, let them conform their thoughts and deeds to those of Christ by means of that radical interior change which the gospel itself calls conversion. Human frailty makes it necessary that this conversion be carried out daily.

On this road to renewal the sacrament of reconciliation is the privileged sign of the Father's mercy and the source of grace.

### From the Mailbox: News of our Family

- Salvacion Pagado's new address is 1223 Aldebaron Drive, McLean, VA 22101, phone 703-356-3570. Please update your directory.
- **Dorothy Clayton** misses all the members of our fraternity.

# **News From Our Seminarian**

Ryan Pineda writes, "Thank you again for the



check you sent me. Thank you as well for remembering me in your prayers. We are getting ready for midterm exams, also have a regular commitment to my

parish assignment at St. Joseph's, which gives me opportunities to assist and to learn. Sometimes it is difficult to budget my time when I go to the parish on weeknights and then return to the seminary to study, to pray and to sleep. Be assured of my prayers. Sincerely, Ryan."

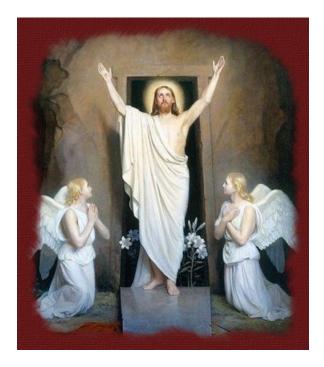
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> *The Writings of St. Francis of Assisi*, tr. by Paschal Robinson (1905), accessed September 9, 2013, URL http://www.sacred-texts.com/chr/wosf/wosf03.htm.

#### **April Reflection**

By Corky Hart, OFS

In Eastertide we all breathe a collective sigh of relief. Lent is over and we can relax our penances and enjoy a bit more of the good things of the Lord's creation: food, fellowship, a celebratory glass of wine and dessert (which I suspect may be required during the Octave!). The Second Sunday of Easter, now the Feast of the Divine Mercy, which closes out the Octave is a reminder that Easter is the victory of God's infinite Love and Mercy. Jesus the Risen Lord triumphed over death and hell at a cost we can barely get our minds around; who among us can get through the Triduum without tears first of sorrow at His Passion, then with joy at His resurrection?

The revelation of Divine Mercy is rooted in an understanding and sympathy for the Passion of Christ. Let us remember in this joyful season that we "have been purchased at a price..." (1 Corinthians 6:20). Our Jesus now seated at the right hand of the Father still bears the marks of His Passion. It is by His wounds that we were healed. Oh, how this meditation should fuel our joy, and how that joy will draw souls to His mercy!



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

Pat Allnutt; Ernest Braddock; Mary Anne Corr's niece, Patricia Corr; Maria Louisa Correa and her sister Maria Franco; Lourdes Corso and her family; Sarah Faizi and her family; Jean Fleurival; John Hewitt; Marianne Hughes and her sisters; Nancy McCleary; Dorothy Clayton and her daughter Cathy McCoy; Fritz Nicholas and his family; Mary Okumu''s family; Apollina Sergi; Joe Rende and his family and friends; Eugene Sides; Julia Stratchko; Cecilia Thieman''s family; Dineen Whipple; Donna Wilkes and her brother Hollis; Theresa Wilson; Mildred Wray

#### **May Birthdays**

May 1 – Larry Bleau, 4 – Michele Dunn, 6 – Roy Foster, 8 – Mary Jo Fehr, 12 – Margaret (Peggy) Simoneau, 15 – Delphine Ben and J. Patrick Enderson, 20 – Mark Di Salvo, 27 – Sandra White, 28 – Frank Klem, and 30 – Joseph Clemente and Jean-Paul Gauthier.

#### **Franciscan Feastdays and Memorials**

May 9 – Saint Catherine of Bologna, virgin of II Order (optional memorial for II and III Order nuns); 11 – Saint Ignatius of Laconi, religious of I Order; 16 – Saint Margaret of Cortona, III Order (memorial); 17 – Saint Paschal Baylon, religious of I Order (memorial); 18 – Saint Felix of Cantalice, religious of I Order (feast); 20 – Saint Bernardine of Siena, priest of I Order (feast); 24 – Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Francis of Assisi (feast); 28 – Saint Mariana of Jesus de Paredes, virgin of III Order (optional memorial); 30 – Blessed Baptista Varano, virgin of II Order (optional memorial for II and III Order nuns), and 30 – Saint Ferdinand, King, member of the III Order.

#### **Fraternity Finances**

Last month we received \$782 in donations and disbursed \$260.47 in expenses. This does not include undeposited checks.

# **The Information Corner**

#### Year of Mercy

The Holy Father has declared a Year of Mercy starting on December 8 of this year. He writes:

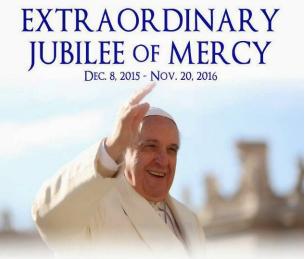
"The Holy Year will open on 8 December 2015, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. This liturgical feast day recalls God's action from the very beginning of the history of mankind. After the sin of Adam and Eve, God did not wish to leave humanity alone in the throes of evil. So he turned his gaze to Mary, holy and immaculate in love (cf. Eph 1:4), choosing her to be the Mother of man's Redeemer. When faced with the gravity of sin, God responds with the fullness of mercy. Mercy will always be greater than any sin, and no one can place limits on the love of God who is ever ready to forgive. I will have the joy of opening the Holy Door on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. On that day, the Holy Door will become a Door of Mercy through which anyone who enters will experience the love of God who consoles, pardons, and instils hope."

"On the following Sunday, the Third Sunday of Advent, the Holy Door of the Cathedral of Rome – that is, the Basilica of Saint John Lateran – will be opened. In the following

weeks, the Holy Doors of the other Papal Basilicas will be opened. On the same Sunday, I will announce that in every local Church, at the cathedral – the mother church of the faithful in any particular area – or, alternatively, at the co-cathedral or another church of special significance, a Door of Mercy will be opened for the duration of the Holy Year. At the discretion of the local ordinary, a similar door may be opened at any Shrine frequented by large groups of pilgrims, since visits to these holy sites are so often grace-filled moments, as people discover a path to conversion. Every Particular Church, therefore, will be directly involved in living out this Holy Year as an extraordinary moment of grace and spiritual renewal. Thus the Jubilee will be celebrated both in Rome and in the Particular Churches as a visible sign of the Church's universal communion."

For the full text of the Papal Bull see http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost\_lett ers/documents/papafrancesco\_bolla\_20150411\_misericordiaevultus.html







"IT WILL BE A HOLY YEAR OF MERCY."