



— the *CFJMES* —

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P.O. BOX 90366

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20090-0366

FEB Vol. LX, No. 2

February 21, 2016

Schedule

- 9:30am Orientation Session – St. Bonaventure Room downstairs
9:30am Candidate Session (2017) – St. Clare Room – upstairs in the Friary
9:30am Candidate Session (2016) – Sacred Heart Room downstairs
11:00am Franciscan Crown Rosary in Blessed Sacrament Chapel
12:00pm Mass in Monastery church
1:00pm Fraternity Social Gathering – St. Bonaventure Room – downstairs in the Friary. Bring your own lunch, light refreshments will be provided.
1:30pm Fraternity Meeting – St. Bonaventure Room

Fraternity Meeting Agenda

- Opening prayer
- Housekeeping
- Presentation: **Lectio Divina** by Vicky Spalding
- Presentation: **Year of Mercy** by Mary Jo
- Closing Evening prayer. We will use the projector this month, but bring “Shorter Christian” Prayer Book next month.

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: FASTING AND FEASTING ◆

Bible Quote of the Month

If you lavish your food on the hungry and satisfy the afflicted; then your light shall rise in the darkness, and your gloom shall become like midday; then the LORD will guide you always and satisfy your thirst in parched places, will give strength to your bones, And you shall be like a watered garden, like a flowing spring whose waters never fail. (*Isaiah 58:10-11*)



Prayer of the Month¹

Teach me to seek you, and reveal yourself to me as I seek: For unless you instruct me I cannot seek you, and unless you reveal yourself I cannot find you.



Let me seek you in desiring you:
let me desire you in seeking you.
Let me find you in loving you:
let me love you in finding you.

¹ A prayer of St. Anselm of Canterbury, URL <http://biblestudyforcatholics.com/prayer-of-st-anselm/>

Contact Information

Fraternity Council

Please call before 9pm.



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ADMONITION OF ST. FRANCIS

7. Good Works should follow knowledge²

The Apostle says: “The letter kills, but the spirit gives life.” (2 Cor 3:6). Those have died by the letter who desire to know only the words, so as to be esteemed as wiser among others and be able to acquire great riches to be given to relatives and friends. And those religious have died by the letter, who do not want to follow the spirit of Divine, but rather desire only to know the words and to explain them to others. And those have been vivified by the Divine Letter, who do not attribute every letter, which they know and desire to know, to the body, but in word and example render them to the Most High Lord God, of whom every good belongs.

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 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.

By living the grace of matrimony, husbands and wives in particular should bear witness in the world to the love of Christ for his Church. They should joyfully accompany their children on their human and spiritual journey by providing a simple and open Christian education and being attentive to the vocation of each child.

Revive Your Spirit in St. Louis

Revive your spirit! Register for the 2016 **Quinquennial**. Nicknamed the “Q”, the congress is for Secular Franciscans, the wider Franciscan Family, and Franciscan-hearted companions. It takes place June 30 - July 4 at Renaissance St. Louis Airport Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri. Keynote presenter is Friar Dan Horan, OFM, a young priest who has already become a prolific author and sought-after speaker. See <http://www.quinquennial.org/> for more.



Papal Intentions for the Month

Universal Intention – Care for Creation. That we may take good care of creation—a gift freely given—cultivating and protecting it for future generations.

Evangelization Intention – Asia. That opportunities may increase for dialogue and encounter between the Christian faith and the peoples of Asia.³

³ Apostleship of Prayer (2016). Accessed February 10, 2016, URL <http://apostleshipofprayer.org/reflectionsmonthly/> .

The Information Corner

Origin of the Peace Prayer

The Actual Origin of the Prayer of St. Francis: The first appearance of the Peace Prayer occurred in France in 1912 in a small spiritual magazine called La Clochette (The Little Bell). It was published in Paris by a Roman Catholic association known as The Holy Mass League, founded in 1901 by a French priest, Father Esther Bouquerel (1855-1923). The prayer bore the title of "Belle prière à faire pendant la messe" (A Beautiful Prayer to Say During the Mass), and was published anonymously. The author could possibly have been Father Bouquerel himself, but the identity of the author remains a mystery. The prayer's world-wide popularity finally began to blossom after it was attributed to St. Francis in various publications just before and during World War II. But what was the way St. Francis and his close friend St. Clare actually did pray? We could go back now to Henry Nouwen's quote: "Praying is Living."

New Up-To-Now

The new edition of *Up-To-Now*, the regional's newsletter, is now out and available on our web site at <http://dcsfo.org/UTN-02-16-Forms.pdf> . If you are on the dcsfochimes email list you should have received it. For earlier editions see <http://saintmargaretofcortona.com/newletters/> .

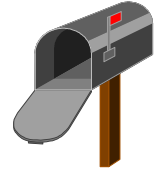
Fraternity Finances

\$ Last month we received \$685.90 in donations and disbursed \$917.30 in expenses, excluding undeposited checks.

Council also voted to make the following Christmas Donations: Poor Clare's \$100, Franciscan Monastery \$200, Monastery for the profession Mass \$100, Fr. Kevin \$50, Franciscan Family Apostolate \$50, Ryan Pineda (our seminarian) \$50, and Fr. Ed Flanagan \$50.

From the Mailbox: News of our Family

- **Salvacion Pagado**, a former fraternity member who moved to the Philippines, call recently. She is doing okay and sends her best wishes. She is well and has not been able to locate an OFS fraternity that she can join; the nearest one is difficult to reach. Please remember her in your prayers.
- **Mary Anne Corr** writes: "Because of a broken wrist and injured shoulder, I was unable to send Christmas greetings last year. I wish you many blessings in the New Year. Please continue your prayers as I undergo physical therapy. Peace and love, Mary Anne Corr"
- Recently we received a handwritten letter from the family in India whom the Fraternity supports through the Franciscan Family Apostolate program (see <http://www.openhearts.org/>). Here is their letter. Please keep them in your prayers.



Dear friend,

May all your special plans materialize and all your fondest dreams come true; May each day bright opportunities for you, and with a touch of success, may you stay joyous all through. "Merry Christmas & Happy New Year."

As usual we have received your timely aid. The money is spent for our daily expenditure. Our gratitude knows no bound when we think of your great generosity. Thank a lot.

Here I am surviving with medicine for gsinophilia. My husband Sebastian is going for fishing, but the catch from the sea is very less. Our children Laya, Lidhiya and Samuel are continuing their studies.

How are you and your dear ones? May Jesus grant your intention be fulfilled as the reward for your great generosity.

Yours lovingly, Mary Sebastian

February Reflection

By Corky Hart, OFS

The Pope has recommended that along with the Church's fasts this Lenten season, that we focus not so much on what we "give up" as on what we can add – prayer, and acts of charity.

The prophet Isaiah gives us a clear indication of the power of charity to cover sin, and restore fellowship with the Lord. As we turn to the Lord in penitence and prayer, let us allow Him to lead us into greater intimacy with Him through Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving.

You dear brothers and sisters do not need to be told about prayer or fasting because you are all seasoned warriors in prayer and the accompanying power of fasting, whether from foods, particular habits, or words. Almsgiving (caritas), as you know, is the thing which makes prayer and fasting pleasing to God, and legitimizes all our other practices. It takes many forms; feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and house the homeless. And, of course, some are poor and hungry and naked and homeless interiorly; they do not yet know that they are loved beyond their wildest imaginings by Him Who loved them and gave Himself up for them (cf *Gal 2:20*).

Let us live our faith life boldly in the world. "Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father." (*Mt 5:16*)

March Birthdays

March 4 – Francis Kane, 5 – Vilma Camposano, 9 – Patricia Allnutt, 11 – Ling Guiron and Fritz Nicolas, 16 – Helene Hogan and John Whipple, 24 – Kady Konan, 25 – Mary Anne Corr, and 30 – Rita Aughenbaugh.

Franciscan Feastdays and Memorials

March 2 – Blessed Agnes of Prague, virgin of II Order (optional memorial for II and III Order nuns); 9 – Saint Frances of Rome, religious of III Order (optional memorial); and 24 – Blessed Didacus Joseph of Cadiz, priest of I Order (optional memorial).

Nominations for Fraternity Elections

In March the fraternity will hold its triennial elections. Last month you – our members – both suggested those whom you would like to serve and volunteered to serve. They are listed below. The floor will be open for nominations at the election, so this list is by no means exclusive or definite.

- **Minister:** J. Patrick Enderson, Larry Bleau
- **Vice-Minister:** Chris Cropper, J. Patrick Enderson
- **Secretary:** Gerda Biglin, Larry Bleau, J. Patrick Enderson, Polly Howard, Ling Gurion, Bill Richardson
- **Treasurer:** J. Patrick Enderson, Bill Richardson
- **Formation Director:** Larry Bleau, J. Patrick Enderson

PriestField Retreat

The St. Margaret of Cortona Regional Fraternity is hosting a retreat the weekend of April 22-24 at the PriestField Pastoral Center, 4030 Middleway Pike, Kearneysville, WV. For details and registration form see p6 of the most recent *Up-To-Now* at <http://dcsfo.org/UTN-02-16-Forms.pdf>, which must be submitted no later than April 8.

Please Pray For Our Sick

Pat Allnutt; Larry Bleau's father, Raymond Bleau; Maria Louisa Correa and her sister, Maria Franco; Mary Anne Corr (wrist fracture) and her niece, Patricia Corr; Lourdes Corso and her family; Sarah Faizi's mother; Jean Fleurival; Roy Foster; John Hewitt; Marianne Hughes and her family; Rory Martinez's nephew, Nathan Barkocy; Nancy McCleary; Fritz Nicholas and his family; Mary Okuma's family; Joe Rende; Julia Stratchko; Cecilia Thieman and her family; Dineen Whipple; Theresa Wilson; Mildred Wray.