



– the CHIMES –

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P.O. BOX 90366

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20090-0366

NOV Vol. LX, No. 11

November 20, 2016

Schedule – NOTE CHANGE!

- 11:00am Franciscan Crown Rosary in Blessed Sacrament Chapel
- 12:00pm Mass and Profession ceremony – main church
- 1:00pm Profession reception Fraternity Social Gathering – St. Bonaventure Room. Refreshments to be provided.
- 1:30pm Fraternity Meeting – St. Bonaventure Room

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.

Fraternity Meeting Agenda

- Reception honoring newly professed members: **Michele Dunne, Wendy Enderson, and Frank Klem**
- Opening prayer
- Minister and Formation Director's address to newly professed
- Rite of Admission for new Candidates: **Francoise Bidiki, Constance Ramseth**
- Closing Evening prayer. If you have the "Shorter Christian" Prayer Book, please bring it with you.

◆ Theme: BEING A LIVING WITNESS ◆

Bible Quote of the Month

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has chosen me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind; to set free the oppressed and announce that the time has come when the Lord will save his people." (Lk 4:18-19)



Prayer of the Month

"Keep a clear eye toward life's end. Do not forget your purpose and destiny as God's creature. What you are in his sight is what you are and nothing more. Remember that when you leave this earth, you can take nothing that you have received...but only what you have given; a full heart enriched by honest service, love, sacrifice, and courage." – St. Francis



Contact Information

Fraternity Council

Please call before 9pm.



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ADMONITION OF ST. FRANCIS

16. On cleanliness of heart ¹

“Blessed (are) the clean of heart, since they themselves shall see God” (Mt 5:8). Truly are they clean in heart who despise earthly things, seek heavenly ones and do not ever withdraw from adoring and beholding Our Lord, living and true, with a clean heart and soul.

Fraternity Finances

\$ Last month we received \$195 in donations and disbursed \$154.15 in expenses. This does not include undeposited checks.

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.

The Information Corner – Pope Quote



“May we make God’s merciful love ever more evident in our world through dialogue, mutual acceptance and fraternal cooperation.”²

Papal Intentions for the Month

Universal Intention – **Countries Receiving Refugees:** That the countries which take in a great number of displaced persons and refugees may find support for their efforts which show solidarity.

Evangelization Intention – **Collaboration of Priests and Laity:** That within parishes, priests and lay people may collaborate in service to the community without giving in to the temptation of discouragement.³

² Tweet sent on 11/9/2016, <https://twitter.com/pontifex>.

³ Apostleship of Prayer (2016). Accessed November 4, 2016, URL <http://www.apostleshipofprayer.org/>

Committee News

Last month the JPIC Committee was asked to consolidate their service to the Monastery and the community with the Hospitality Committee's service to our Fraternity. Committee members volunteer in a variety of ways: assist the Franciscan Monastery Garden Guild (FMGG), set up the refreshment table for our gatherings, and with others' help, clean up after the gathering. These energetic members volunteer in many other ways, from preparing flyers for our Open House to providing "tech" support to show videos at meetings.

The Hospitality/JPIC Committee currently has 13 members who communicate regularly outside the monthly meeting. This month we will identify other areas where we can serve the Monastery, our Community, and our fellow Fraternity members.

Please Pray For Our Sick



Pat Allnutt; Larry Bleau's father, Raymond; Ernest Braddock; Dorothy Clayton and her daughter Kathy McCoy; Mary Ann Corr and her niece, Patricia Corr; Maria Louisa Correa and her family; Lourdes Corso and her family; Sarah Faizi's mother; Jean Fleurival; Roy Foster; Helene Hogan; John Hewitt, M.D.; Marianne Hughes and her family; Nancy McCleary; Brenda Nutt; Mary Okuma's family; Fritz Nicolas and his family; Joe Rende; Vicky Spalding's father, John Lynch; Cecilia Thieman and her family; Julia Stratchko; Dineen Whipple; Donna Wilkes and her family; Theresa Wilson; Mildred Wray.

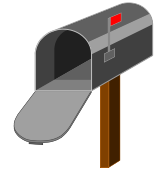
Pray for Gerda Biglin's brother, **Marty Elfving**, who passed away last month.

December Birthdays

December 1 – Mary DeShazo, 16 – Clotilda Crawley, 19 – Marianne Hughes, 20 – Patrick Nolan, 20 – Mark Pirritano, 20 – Soledad Wong, 31 – Leonora Okomo.

From the Mailbox: News of our Family

- **Theresa Wilson** is still recovering from two shoulder surgeries and an infection and is taking life one day at a time. She thanks the fraternity for all its prayers and she loves you very much. Her new address is 716 Monroe St. NE #429, Washington, DC 20017, 202-525-2054.
- **Nancy McCleary** has a new address: 115 Allnut Court #Apt. 612, Prince Frederick, MD 20678, phone is still 301-848-1126. She writes:



I am grateful to God for each day. Sometimes I can breathe without too much difficulty, and sometimes it is a struggle to catch my breath. That's when the phrase, "Breath of God" means so much to me. I ask the Holy Spirit (the Breath of God) to breathe for me, with me, in me, around me, and to help me. I'm fortunate to live in a parish that has such nice people in it. A wonderful couple takes me to Mass faithfully every Sunday and Holy Day. I'm blessed that they are in my life. I feel Saint John Vianney's is my spiritual home and I'm happier here than at every other parish I have been in. I continue to live my Gospel life as best as I can. I send my Guardian Angel to the meetings. Tell everyone I said Pax et Bonum and when they think of it, to send a prayer my way.

Feastdays of Franciscan Friars

Keep in your prayers the following friar, whose birthday is this coming month: December 11th Larry Dunham.

Franciscan Feastdays and Memorials

December 2 – Bl. Maria Angela Astorch, virgin, II Order; Bl. Rafal Chylinski, priest, I Order; 8 – Immaculate Conception Of The Blessed Virgin Mary, Patron & Queen of the Franciscan Order; 10 – Bl. Peter Tecelano, III Order; 13 – Finding the Body of St. Francis; 15 – Bl. Mary Frances Schervier, virgin, III Order.

November Reflection

By Larry Bleau, OFS

It is impressive, the unity to which we are called by our profession: unity with the Church, unity with one another, unity with our brothers and sisters of all faiths throughout the world. After my experience last weekend, I would like to add another to this list: unity within the Order. In contrast with the horizontal unity that is often considered, this is a vertical unity of the different parts of our Order, working as an organic whole.

To give context: Last weekend, November 12, the St. Margaret of Cortona held its annual meeting, or Chapter, in Crofton, MD, where I was privileged to represent our fraternity. Here I observed unity within the Order in action. Just as our fraternity recently had its triannual fraternal visitation by a representative from the Region, every third year the Region has a visitation by the National fraternity, NAFRA. This was such a year. Attending, one could see three levels in action – local Ministers, Regional Council, and National representatives, both OFS laity and friars – working in concert with one another, to promote furtherance of the Franciscan message and charism.

The National Visitors – a TOR friar and a National Council member – were present to observe, listen to, and report on our Region. Their oral report was glowing: The Region is “fantastic,” its Council is “young” (all but 2 are newly elected on the Regional Council) and “great,” and we have a “wonderful” formation team. Many ideas were suggested on how the Region can improve, too many to list here, which our Regional Executive Council will surely discuss in the months to come and report on to local ministers.

As with local fraternity meetings, this gathering was organized around prayer, social time, and – only as much as is necessary – business. The National Visitors, in three separate spiritual addresses, spoke of our mission, asking us to reach out, build bridges, walk in the others’ shoes, put on the armor of Christ, listen, and

pray. There was also a short reflection on the Visitation to Mary and some of her many attributes.

For the social aspect, during and after lunch fraternity representatives discussed in small groups their strengths, challenges, how to address them, how the Regional Fraternity could help, and how they could help the Region. After lunch the groups shared these with the entire chapter.

In matters of business, the Chapter adopted a budget; discussed upcoming workshops and meetings; set the Fair Share amount; endorsed the concept of future chapters being held for an entire weekend to permit fuller participation by all; reviewed initial and ongoing formation materials; moved to standardize various forms that are used; and improved communication through the purchase of bilingual equipment (we have two Spanish, two Korean, and one deaf fraternity, so there were interpreters). Of particular mention was Franciscan Youth, which is a way to expose youth – teens through young adults – to the Franciscan charism and way of life; it is not an early path to profession.

Before the closing prayer there was a remembrance ceremony, in which the names of those deceased from each fraternity since the last chapter were announced; let us remember those from our own fraternity: Rita Braddock, Charles T. P. Flachbarth, Apollonia Sergi, and Eugene Sides.

We thank you, Lord, for the gift of Your Church, whose unity with and fidelity to You strengthen us daily and enable us to be missionaries of Your Truth and Word in the world.

