



- *the Chimes* -

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MAY Vol. LXIV, No. 5

May 17, 2020

NO IN-PERSON MEETING THIS MONTH. WE WILL HAVE A CONFERENCE CALL MEETING; SEE REVISED SCHEDULE BELOW AND ARTICLE.

ON SUNDAY 1:20pm CALL 605-313-5421, CONFERENCE CODE 844330

Schedule

- 10:30am **Sunday Mass:** Dish or Direct TV subscribers Ch. 50; Comcast Ch. 23 in DC and Montgomery County, Ch. 3 in Prince George's County and Southern Maryland; RCN Ch. 15; Verizon Fios Ch. 3
- 12:00pm Mass livestreamed from the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception: <https://www.nationalshrine.org/mass/>
- 1:00pm** Franciscan Crown Rosary at home (optional)
- 1:30pm** Fraternity Meeting by telephone conference call; see above.

Fraternity Meeting Agenda

- Opening prayer
- News of members
- Book discussion – chapter 4
- Discussion of Article 14 of the Rule
- Closing prayer. This month we'll pray the Little Office of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which is on a handout we distributed last year; check your binder.



◆ Theme: **MARY AND THE EUCHARIST** ◆

Bible Quote of the Month

“You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. ... The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.” (*Lk 1:31-32*)



Prayer of the Month

May the most blessed Virgin Mary, from whom Christ the Lord took the flesh that “is contained, offered, received” in this Sacrament under the appearances of bread and wine ... intercede with the Father of mercies so that this common belief in the Eucharist and devotion to it may give rise among all Christians to a perfect unity of communion that will continue to flourish. (*Mysterium Fidei* 75)

Contact Information

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Please call before 9pm.



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ADMONITION OF ST. FRANCIS

23. On humility ¹

Blessed (is) the servant, who is found to be as humble among his own subjects, as when for example he would be among his own lords. Blessed (is) the servant, who always remains continually under the rod of correction. A faithful and prudent servant is he (cf. Mt 24:45), who in all (circumstances) does not delay to punish his own offenses interiorly by means of contrition and exteriorly by means of confession and works of satisfaction.

¹ *The Writings of St. Francis of Assisi*, tr. by Paschal Robinson (1905), accessed September 9, 2017, URL <http://www.sacred-texts.com/chr/wosf/wosf03.htm>.



The Rule

Chapter Two, Article 14 of The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order.

Secular Franciscans, together with all people of good will, are called to build a more fraternal and evangelical world so that the kingdom of God may be brought about more effectively. Mindful that anyone who follows Christ, the perfect man, becomes more of a man himself, let them exercise their responsibilities competently in Christian spirit of service.

The Information Corner – Pope Quote



“As we look ahead to a slow and arduous recovery from the pandemic, the risk is that an even worse virus may strike us: that of a selfish indifference that forgets those who are left behind.”²

Papal Intention for the Month

Prayer Intention – For Deacons. We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.³

Book Discussion: “Surrounded by Love”

This month we will continue to discuss the book “**Surrounded by Love**”. Please read chapter 4 and be ready to discuss.

Fraternity Finances

\$ Last month we disbursed \$133.82 in expenses, of which \$75 was for our apostolate. Donations for last month had not yet been deposited.

² Apr 24, 2020. URL <http://twitter.com/pontifex>

³ Pope’s Worldwide Prayer Network. Accessed April 24, 2020, URL <http://popesprayerusa.net/popese-intentions/>

The Information Corner

May 17th – Feastday of St. Paschal of Baylon⁴



Born on Pentecost in 1540 in Spain of poor but pious parents, Paschal from an early age appeared to be endowed with all the gifts of the Holy Spirit. He was joyfully attentive, obedient, understood divine truths and had a zeal for virtue.

As a boy, Paschal tended the cattle of strangers. He was well liked and respected by other boys his age. As he grew into a strong young man, his employer wanted to adopt him. Paschal, though, wished to remain poor and to consecrate himself to God's service as a religious.

At the age of 24 Paschal was admitted as a lay brother at the convent of the Friars Minor at Monteforte. Here Paschal exhibited many virtues: humility, charity, hard work, and devotion to prayer.

Paschal always had his rosary in his hand and God in his heart. He fostered special devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, whom he called his Mother, and to the Blessed Sacrament, and it proved a constant means to rekindle his zeal.

God showed how pleased He was with this devotion: while Paschal was in the field, He presented Paschal with a vision of the Blessed Sacrament in a monstrance supported by hovering angels.

In the convent church Paschal frequently lie prostrate before the tabernacle or rapt in ecstasy. The simple brother, who had never learned to read or write, could discourse about the deepest mysteries of religion with

marvelous insight. He was even sent on a very important matter to the general of the order.

Paschal died at Villareal on Pentecost, the feast on which he was born, May 17, 1592, during high Mass in the convent church, at the moment of the elevation of the Sacred Host.

At the funeral Mass, as the Blessed Sacrament was elevated, Paschal's dead body raised itself, bowed to the Sacred Host, and then lowered itself again. This was witnessed by many.

When his body was exhumed years later, there was no decay, no foul odor, and the limbs were supple and flexible. Numerous other miracles occurred at his grave.

Pope Paul V beautified Paschal and Pope Alexander VIII canonized him in 1690. Pope Leo XIII in 1897 made Saint Paschal of Baylon patron of all Eucharistic societies and congresses.

Pray For Our Deceased Amy Bilyeau's mother, **Mary Bilyeau**, who died on May 4 from Covid-19 and other complications. May the souls of the faithful departed, especially those of our members and their families, rest in eternal peace in the presence of our Lord.

Pray For the Franciscan Friars

Keep in your prayers the following friars, whose feast days are this coming month: June 3 – Kevin Treston, 19 – Romuald Green, and 29 – Simon McKay.

Also keep in your prayers all the friars, who due to age and congregate living arrangements are at increased risk of Covid-19.

In particular, pray for **Fra. Thomas** and **Fra. Ed**, both of whom now reside at Little Sisters of the Poor so they may receive better care.

June Birthdays

June 5 – Sheila Kelly and Anna Zaczynski, 9 – Mary Catherine Kohut and Carol Petro, 12 – Lee Ann Petta, 19 – Helen Walls, and 22 – William Hayes Brown, III.

⁴ From web site Roman Catholic Saints, accessed May 6, URL <https://www.roman-catholic-saints.com/saint-paschal-of-baylon.html>, based upon *The Franciscan Book of Saints*, ed. by Marion Habig, OFM.

A Stitch in Chimes

Here's a look at our fraternity 20 years ago:

In May of 2000 we had a Pastoral Visitation; the fraternity discussed Article 18 of our Rule; and we discussed another chapter from the book "Way of Life" by Richard A. Portasik, OFM.



Please Pray For Our Sick

Donna Wilkes and her brother, Hollis; Adele Lewis; Vilma Camposano; Mary Anne Corr and her family; Maria Louisa Correa and her family; Sarah Faizi and friend, Ron Harner; Mary Jo Fehr's daughter and granddaughter; Jean Fleurival; Nancy McCleary; Margaret Murphy; Fritz Nicolas and his family; Connie Ramseth and her husband, Robert; Cecilia Thieman and her family; John and Deneen Whipple and their family; Rosemary Bordley and her family.

Franciscan Feastdays and Memorials

June 2 – St. Felix of Nicosia, religious, I Order; 8 – Bl. Nicholas of Gèsturi, religious, I Order; 12 – Bl. Florida Cevoli, virgin, I Order; Bl. Jolenta, religious, II Order; Bl. Antoninus Bajewski, priest, and companions, martyrs (Pius Bartosik, Innocent Guz, Achille Puchala, Herman Stepien, priests; Timothy Troianowski, Boniface Zukowski, religious), I Order; 13 – St. Anthony of Padua, priest, doctor, I Order; 16 – Bl. Anizet Koplín, priest, and companions, martyrs of Poland (Henry Krzystofik, Florian Stêpniak, Fidelis Chojnacki, Symforiam Ducki), I Order; Bl. Guy (Guido) Vignotelli, priest, I Order; 17 – St. Albert Chmielowski, religious, III Order, founder; 22 – St. Thomas More, martyr, III Order; 23 – St. Joseph Cafasso, priest, III Order; 25 – Bl. Jutta of Thuringia, widow, III Order; 26 – Bl. Andrew Hyacinth Longhin, bishop, I Order; 27 – Margurite Bays, III Order; 30 – Bl. Raymond Lull, martyr, III Order.

May Reflection

By Larry Bleau, OFS

Vessel of Honor: Mary and the Eucharist

This month I was moved to highlight St. Paschal of Baylon, not knowing why. Upon reading his story, I was impressed with his devotion to the Eucharist. Later I realized I had not chosen a theme, and this being May, something Marian was appropriate. In this manner I was led to consider the relation between Mary and the Eucharist.

At first, I thought there to be little direct relation, since Mary was not present when Our Lord established the Eucharist as a sacrament.

As I considered it more, though, I realized two things: Our Lord is fully present in the Eucharist, and after the Annunciation He was fully present in our Blessed Mother as well. This far predated the initiation of the sacrament!

One of the many titles our Blessed Mother has is Vessel of Honor. This, too, made me consider this relation. The chalice is made of gold, a noble metal, called this by chemists because it does not interact with other chemicals, and thus keeps the Blessed Sacrament from any impurities. Mary, due to her Immaculate Conception, is a such a noble vessel as well, she being free from all sin and keeping Our Lord, while in her womb, free from any contact with anything impure.

O noblest of women! O Vessel of Honor who held Jesus so lovingly, both before and after his birth! Pray for us, that we too may receive Jesus.

I close with the prayerful words of Pope Benedict XVI (*Deus Caritas Est* 42):

Holy Mary, Mother of God, you have given the world its true light, Jesus, your Son – the Son of God. You abandoned yourself completely to God's call and thus became a wellspring of the goodness which flows forth from him. Show us Jesus. Lead us to him. Teach us to know and love him, so that we too can become capable of true love and be fountains of living water in the midst of a thirsting world.