



– *the CHIMES* –

P.O. BOX 90366

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20090-0366

MAY Vol. LIV, No. 5

May 16, 2010

Schedule

- 9:30am Inquiry Session – Sacred Heart Room – downstairs in the Friary
- 9:30am Candidate Session – large parlor in upstairs Friary
- 10:30am Franciscan Crown Rosary in Blessed Sacrament Chapel
- 11:15am Mass in Blessed Sacrament Chapel
- 12:00pm Fraternity Social Gathering – St. Francis Room – downstairs in the Friary. Refreshments will be provided.
- 12:45pm Fraternity Meeting – St. Francis 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

- Welcoming Ceremony for new Inquirers – We welcome into our family those who have completed Orientation and feel called to further pursue their path towards profession in the Order. Please welcome and greet with joy our new Inquirers: **Cornelia Hart, Ling Guiron, Polly Howard, Lewis Remlin, Dave Weir, Deborah Williams, and Winston Williams.**
- Franciscan Consecration to Our Lady
- Handouts on Francis and Our Lady
- Short Apologetics
- Power Point Presentation on Exercise, given by Drs. Alberto and Mary Gamez
- Closing Evening prayer. If you have the “Shorter Christian” Prayer Book, please bring it with you.



◆ Theme: **MOTHERHOOD** ◆

Bible Quote of the Month



And a great sign appeared in heaven: A woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. (*Revelation 12:1*)

Prayer of the Month

Jesus Lord, I offer you this new day because I believe in you, love you, hope all things in you and thank you for your blessing. I am sorry for having offended you and forgive everyone who has offended me. Lord, look on me and leave in me peace and courage and your humble wisdom that I may serve others with joy, and be pleasing to you all day.

Contacting Council

Below is contact information for Council members; please call before 9pm.



Vicky Spalding (Minister) 301-373-3955
 Chris Cropper (Vice Minister) 703-501-3873
 Larry Bleau (Secretary, Chimes Editor)
 301-474-1338
 Virginia Lyons (Treasurer) 202-832-5666
 John Hewitt (Formation Dir.) 212-866-0229
 Fr. Kevin Treston, OFM (Spiritual Assistant)
 202-526-6800

ADMONITION OF ST. FRANCIS

5. That no one should be proud, but rather glory only in the Cross of the Lord¹



Be conscious, O man, to how many wondrous things the Lord God has placed in you, since He created and formed you “to the image” of His own Beloved Son according to the body “and to (His) likeness” according to the spirit (cf. *Gen 1:26*). – And all the creatures, which are under heaven, each according to its nature, serve, know and obey their Creator better than you. – And even the demons did not crucify Him, but you together with them have crucified Him and even now you crucify (Him) by delighting in vices and sins. Whence therefore can you glory? – For if you were so subtle and wise that you had “all knowledge” (cf. *1 Cor 13:2*) and knew how to interpret every “kind of tongue” (cf. *1 Cor 12:28*) and to search subtly after celestial things, in all these things you cannot glory; – since one demon knew of celestial things and now knows of earthly things more than all men, (even) granted that there has been someone, who received from the Lord a special

¹ St. Francis of Assisi, *The Words of Admonition*, translated from the Critical Latin Edition, edited by Fr. Kajetan Esser, O.F.M., courtesy of Five Franciscan Martyrs Region, accessed April 19, 2010, URL <http://www.franciscan-sfo.org/ap/Admonitions.html>

understanding of the highest wisdom. – Similarly even if you were more handsome and wealthy than all and even if you were working miracles, as would put demons to flight, all those things are injurious to you and nothing (about them) pertains to you and you can glory in them not at all. – But in this we can glory, “in” our “infirmities” (cf. *2 Cor 12:5*) and bearing each day the Holy Cross of Our Lord Jesus Christ (*Lk 14:27*).

The Information Corner

May 16th – Feastday of St. Margaret of Cortona²



Margaret was born of farming parents in Laviano, Tuscany. Her mother died when Margaret was seven; life with her stepmother was so difficult that Margaret moved out. For nine years she lived with St. Margaret of Cortona Arsenio, though they were not married, and she bore him a son. In those years, she had doubts about her situation. Somewhat like St. Augustine she prayed for purity – but not just yet.

One day she was waiting for Arsenio and was instead met by his dog. The animal led Margaret into the forest where she found Arsenio murdered. This crime shocked Margaret into a life of penance. She and her son returned to Laviano, where she was not well received by her stepmother. They then went to Cortona, where her son eventually became a friar.

In 1277, three years after her conversion, Margaret became a Franciscan tertiary. Under the direction of her confessor, who sometimes

² *Saint of the Day, Lives, Lessons and Feast*, revised 6th edition, by Leonard Foley, O.F.M.; revised by Pat McCloskey, O.F.M. Accessed on April 23, 2010, URL <http://www.americancatholic.org/features/saints/saint.aspx?id=1385>

had to order her to moderate her self-denial, she pursued a life of prayer and penance at Cortona. There she established a hospital and founded a congregation of tertiary sisters. The poor and humble Margaret was, like Francis, devoted to the Eucharist and to the passion of Jesus. These devotions fueled her great charity and drew sinners to her for advice and inspiration. She was canonized in 1728.

Margaret is the patron saint of single mothers and midwives. St. Margaret of Cortona, pray for us!



The Rule

Chapter Two, Rule 11 of The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order.

Trusting in the Father, Christ chose for himself and his mother a poor and humble life, even though he valued created things attentively and lovingly. Let the Secular Franciscans seek a proper spirit of detachment from temporal goods by simplifying their own material needs. Let them be mindful that according to the gospel they are stewards of the goods received for the benefit of God's children.

Thus, in the spirit of the Beatitudes, and as pilgrims and strangers on their way to the home of the Father, they should strive to purify their hearts from every tendency and yearning for possession and power.

From the Mailbox: News of our Family

- Helen Walls says "Hello" to all the members.
- Maria Louisa Correra says she loves all the members.
- Donna Wilkes says she is praying for all SFO members and their families and that she loves us all.
- Pat Ferguson's new address is Loving Arms, 103 Lee Burke RD, Front Royal VA 22630; phone 540-635-3505. (Please place "S.F.O." after Pat's name if you write to her.)



- Adele Spellerberg's new address is c/o Friends Nursing Home, Stabler Hall #210-B, 17340 Quaker Lane, Sandy Springs, MD 20860.

News From Our Seminarian

Michael Paris is excited about his ordination to the Deaconate, which will take place **June 5th** at St. Matthew's Cathedral, 1725 Rhode Island Ave., NW, at 10:00am. Mark your calendar! If you want to send him a congratulatory message, his address after May 12 is 10617 August Light Ct., Columbia, MD 21044.



Items for Our Military

Below are some ideas to choose from for items to send to Sgt. Petosky and unit. In addition, more items are listed, in case you would like to contribute extra or know someone who would. For last names beginning with:

- A - B – Sunscreen
- C – Sanitizing wipes
- D - G – Toothbrush, toothpaste
- H - K – Gatorade or Propel Packets
- L - N – Coffee bags, tea bags, hot cocoa packets
- O - R – Deodorant, shampoo (small bottles)
- S - U – Gum, snacks, granola bars, microwave popcorn
- T - Z – Ink pens and paper, playing cards

Extra items for thought: Microwaveable plates, cups, plastic forks and spoons, coffee filters, sardines, Pringles, magazines, DVDs, CDs, MMs, salt & pepper, anything non-perishable.

Please Pray For Our Sick

Pat Allnutt; Rita Braddock; Maria Louisa Correra's and her sisters; Lourdes Corso; Pat Ferguson and her daughter, Patty Wyman; Roy Foster; Marianne Hughes and her sister; Sarah Hurd and her sister, Mabel Henson; Gwen Mason; Henry Mullens; Eugene Sides; Julie Stratchko; Helen Walls; and Donna Wilkes and her brother, Hollis.

June Birthdays

June 3 – Philip Melore, 5 – Sheila Kelly and Anna Zaczynski, 9 – Mary Catherine Kohut and Carol Petro, 12 – Lee Ann Petta, 19 – Helen Walls, 21 – Adele Spellerberg, and 22 – William Hayes Brown, III.



Franciscan Feastdays and Memorials

June 2 – Blessed Felix of Nicosia, Religious of I Order; 8 – Blessed Nicholas of Gèsturi, Religious of I Order; 12 – Blessed Jolenta, Religious of the III Order (optional Memorial for II and III Order nuns); 12 – Blessed Florida Cevoli, Religious of I Order; 13 – Saint Anthony of Padua, priest and doctor of I Order (feast); 16 – Blesseds Anizet Koplín, priest and Companions, Martyrs of Nazi persecution in Poland (Capuchins), and Blessed Guy (Guido) Vignotelli, priest, III Order (OFM); 17 – Saint Albert Chmielowski, III Order; 19 – Venerable Matt Talbot, III Order; 22 – Saint Thomas More, martyr of the III Order (optional memorial), and Saint John Fisher; 23 – Saint Joseph Cafasso, III Order; 24 – St. John the Baptist, for whom Francis was originally named; 30 – Blessed Raymond Lull, martyr of III Order (optional memorial for III Order).

Feastdays of Franciscan Friars

Keep in your prayers the following friars, whose feast days are this coming month: June 3 – Kevin Treston; 13 – Anthony Sejda; 21 – Aloysius Florio; 25 – William Winkler; and 29 – Simon McKay, Paul Luke Rush, and Peter Vasko.

May Reflection

Jesus the Chosen Servant and Mary the Handmaid³

*By Father Raniero Cantalamessa, OFM Cap,
Preacher to the Papal Household*

When the angel greeted Mary, he did not address her by name but simply called her “full of grace” or “filled with grace”; he didn’t say, “Hail Mary,” but “Hail, full of grace”. Mary’s truest identity is in grace.



Mary’s grace is undoubtedly in function of what the angel then went on to announce to her, that is, her role as the Messiah’s Mother, but it is not only this. Mary isn’t just a mere passive function for God. She is first and foremost a person, and it is as a person that she is so dear to God for all eternity. Thus Mary is the real living manifestation of that grace that comes first in the relation between God and his children....

With greater reason we may ask, what had Mary done to merit the privilege of giving the Word his humanity? What had she believed in, asked for, hoped in or suffered, to be born holy and immaculate? In this case too, try to find the merit, the justice, anything you want, and see if you can find in her, at the beginning, anything but grace! In all truth can Mary apply the apostle’s words to herself and say, “By the grace of God, I am what I am” (*1 Cor 15:10*). A full explanation of Mary, her greatness and beauty, is to be found in grace. As Peguy has said, there comes a time when we can no longer content ourselves with our own patron saint, nor with the patron saint of our town, and not even with the greatest of patron saints; we must go back to the one who is most acceptable and closest to God, “to the one who is Mary because she is full of grace.” Simple and profound words! Mary is Mary because she is full of grace. To say she is full of grace is to say all there is to say of her.

³ Cantalamessa, Raniero, *Mary: Mirror of the Church*, 1992, Liturgical Press, ch. 1