



# – *the CHIMES* –

P.O. BOX 90366

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20090-0366

MAR Vol. LV, No. 3

March 20, 2011

## Schedule

*This month we will have a **Pastoral Visit** with **Fr. John Shanahan, TOR**. Please welcome him.*

- 9:30am Orientation Session – Sacred Heart Room – downstairs in the Friary
- 9:30am Candidate Session – St. Bonaventure Room downstairs
- 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.

## Fraternity Meeting Agenda

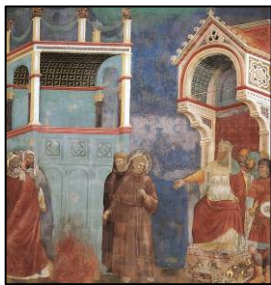
- Opening Prayers
- News of our Members
- Video on Michael Paris (on projector)
- Talk on Francis and the start of the 1st Order by Fr. Kevin
- Scripture Discussion and Dialogue
- Closing Evening prayer. If you have the “Shorter Christian” Prayer Book, please bring it with you.

### ***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: CALL TO CONVERSION! ◆

### Bible Quote of the Month

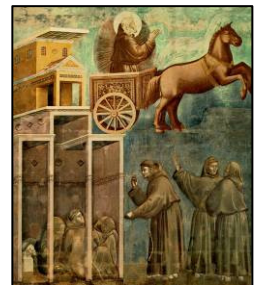


But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. (Luke 6:35) <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Giotto, *St. Francis before Sultan* fresco, before 1300.

### Prayer of the Month

I beg you, Lord, let the fiery, gentle power of your love take possession of my soul, and snatch it away from everything under heaven, that I may die for love of your love as you saw fit to die for love of mine. (*Prayer of Self Giving, St. Francis of Assisi*) <sup>2</sup>



<sup>2</sup> Giotto, *The Vision of the Chariot of Fire*, 1295-1300.

## 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

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## ADMONITION OF ST. FRANCIS

### 15. On Peace <sup>3</sup>

“Blessed (are) the peacemakers, since they shall be called sons of God” (*Mt 5:9*). Those truly are the peacemakers, who concerning all those things, which they suffer in this age, preserve peace in soul and body for the sake of the love (*amor*) of Our Lord Jesus Christ.



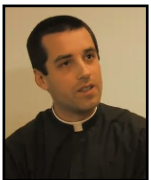
### The Rule

Chapter Two, Article 12 of The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order.

Witnessing to the good yet to come and obliged to acquire purity of heart because of the vocation they have embraced, they should set themselves free to love God and their brothers and sisters

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## News From Our Seminarian



Our own Deacon Michael Paris talks about his conversion experience on YouTube! Check it out: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6IfSSa3udnQ>

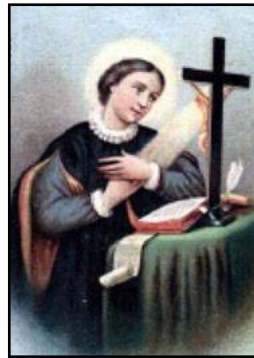
<sup>3</sup> St. Francis of Assisi, *The Words of Admonition*, translated from the Critical Latin Edition, edited by Fr. Kajetan Esser, O.F.M, courtesy of Five Franciscan Martyrs Region, accessed April 19, 2010, URL <http://www.franciscan-sfo.org/ap/Admonitions.html>

## The Information Corner

### Mar 23th – Feast of St. Catherine of Genoa (1447-1510) <sup>4</sup>

Going to confession one day was the turning point of Catherine’s life.

When Catherine was born, many Italian nobles were supporting Renaissance artists and writers. The needs of the poor and the sick were often overshadowed by a hunger for luxury and self-indulgence.



Catherine’s parents were members of the nobility in Genoa. At 13 she attempted to become a nun but failed because of her age. At 16 she married Julian, a nobleman who turned out to be selfish and unfaithful. For a while

she tried to numb her disappointment by a life of selfish pleasure.

One day in confession she had a new sense of her own sins and how much God loved her. She reformed her life and gave good example to Julian, who soon turned from his self-centered life of distraction.

Julian’s spending, however, had ruined them financially. He and Catherine decided to live in the Pammatone, a large hospital in Genoa, and to dedicate themselves to works of charity there. After Julian’s death in 1497, Catherine took over management of the hospital.

She wrote about purgatory which, she said, begins on earth for souls open to God. Life with God in heaven is a continuation and perfection of the life with God begun on earth.

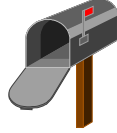
Exhausted by her life of self-sacrifice, she died September 15, 1510, and was canonized in 1737.

<sup>4</sup> Retrieved February 23, 2011 from AmericanCatholic.org, URL

<http://www.americancatholic.org/features/saints/saint.aspx?id=1332>

## **From the Mailbox: News of our Family**

- **Amy Coulibaly** has a new address: 435 West Diamond Ave. #302, Gaithersburg, MD 20877. **Update your directory!**
- **Adele Spellerberg** says hello to all the members.
- **Gene Sides** wrote that his wife, Annegret, has a trip to the hospital to continue chemotherapy; she was recently diagnosed with lymphoma non-Hodgkins cancer. He thanks us always for remembering them in our supplications to our Blessed Lady.
- **Donna Wilkes**, who recently had a serious operation, wrote to us. Here is an extract of her message<sup>5</sup>:



My dear Fathers, Sisters and Brothers,

I can't thank you all enough for all your prayers for my procedure on Thursday [Feb 10]. Our Good Lord heard and answered them all. I thank God for each of you and your prayers!

Things turned out quite differently from what I expected. Despite all the local anesthesia and pain medicine the Emergency Department surgeons could give me, I felt everything they did to my back to cut open and treat the infection. As you can imagine, it was extremely painful. Only later did we discover that my blood pressure was 210 over 182 as a result of being in such pain for so long.



I really believe - in fact, I'm certain - that your prayers sustained me through all of this, by calling on Our Lord to strengthen and help me. It's very possible that I could have had a stroke during that procedure, but praise God I didn't. Thank you, thank you so much for your prayers.

It is only with each other's prayers, along with the intercession of our Heavenly Mother Mary foremost, the prayers of our brothers and sisters in Heaven--the saints, and the powerful help and protection of the angels, especially our Guardian Angel, that we will be able to "navigate" (in the ship of Holy Mother Church) this world fraught with so many pitfalls.

I believe Saint Thomas More stated well the main benefit of intercessory prayer when he said, "Pray for me, as I

will for thee, that we may merrily meet in heaven." Let us all meet one day in heaven, my sisters and brothers. I thank you and I love you! Please be assured ALWAYS of my love and prayers for you.

With love in the Hearts of Jesus and Mary,  
Donna N. Wilkes, SFO

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## **Ordering *The Franciscan Journey***

To order a copy of *The Franciscan Journey* by Lester Bach, OFM, which is used in our Formation class, contact Smoky Valley Printing at 785-227-2364 or send an email to [lindabce@kans.com](mailto:lindabce@kans.com) and include your shipping address; they will invoice you. The cost is \$18 plus shipping and handling.

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## **Day of Reflection For Inquirers and Candidates**

### **A Reflection on the Admonitions: A Walk with Our Seraphic Father**

A Day of Reflection on the Admonitions of Francis will be held on Saturday, April 2, 2011, 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., at the Shrine of St. Anthony, 12290 Folly Quarter Road, Ellicott City, MD 21042. The presenters will be Bill Bouffard, SFO, and Brother Kip Ledger, OFMCap. Formation teams and newly professed are also invited. Send your name, address, fraternity name, telephone, and email address (if you have one), along with \$15 payment, by March 25 to: Mike Huether, 4312 Greenhill Ave., Baltimore, MD 21206, 410-488-9375 (email [mhuether1@cavtel.net](mailto:mhuether1@cavtel.net)).

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## **Please Pray For Our Family**

Pat Allnutt; Larry Bleau's brother, Ron Bleau; Teresita Pena-Castro Bohan and her sisters; Buelah Mary Bridges; Maria Louisa Correa and her sister, Maria Franco; Lordes Corso; Sarah Faizi and her friend, Ron Harner; Pat Ferguson and her daughter, Patty Wyman; Roy Foster; Sarah Hurd and her family; Marianne Hughes and her family; Gwen Mason and her husband, Robert; Joe Rende and his niece, Kiana Doyle; Gene Sides and his wife, Annegret (cancer); Julia Stratchko; Donna Wilkes; and Theresa Wilson.

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<sup>5</sup> Photo from The Washington Home & Community Hospices' 2010 annual report, used by permission.

## March Reflection

### **A reading from the 'Later Admonition and Exhortation' of Saint Francis**

Let us love our neighbours as ourselves. And if anyone does not want to love them as himself, let him at least not do them any harm, but let him do good.



Let whoever has received the power of judging others pass judgment with mercy, as they would wish to receive mercy from the Lord.

For judgment will be without mercy for those who have not shown mercy.

Let us, therefore, have charity and humility and give alms because it washes the stains of our sins from our souls. For, although people lose everything they leave behind in this world, nevertheless, they carry with them the rewards of charity and the alms they have given, for which they will receive a reward and a fitting repayment from the Lord.

We must also fast and abstain from vices and sins and from an excess of food and drink and be Catholics.

We must also frequently visit churches and venerate and revere the clergy, not so much for themselves, if they are sinners, but because of their office and administration of the most Holy Body and Blood of Christ which they sacrifice upon the altar, receive and administer to others. And let all of us know for certain that no one can be saved except through the holy words and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ which the clergy pronounce, proclaim and minister. And they alone must minister and not others. Religious, however, who have left the world, are bound to do more and greater things, but not to overlook these.

### April Birthdays

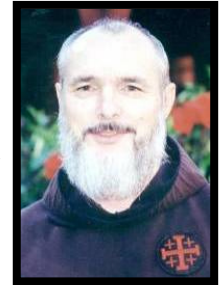
April 5 – Dorothy Clayton, 6 – William Richardson, and 9 – Virginia Lyons.

### Pray For Our Deceased

**Umberto Crovato**, great-Uncle of Candidate Polly Howard and a Knight of Mount St. Sepulchre, who died on February 14, 2011. His funeral Mass was on February 17 at St. Bernadette Catholic Church. Umberto was knighted in 1975 and served the Monastery as a knight until 2006.



**Fr. James Brabandt, O.F.M.**, a Friar-Priest at our beloved Franciscan Monastery, who died suddenly on February 13, 2011. His funeral Mass was on February 18 at the Monastery. Fr. James was professed in 1994.



**Henry Mullen**, a member of our Fraternity, who we recently learned had passed away on January 18, 2011, at the age of 99.

**Mary Wathen**, mother of Fr. David Wathen, O.F.M., passed away in late February.

May the souls of the faithful departed, especially those of our members, our Franciscan family, and their families, rest in eternal peace in the presence of our Lord.

### Feastdays of Franciscan Friars

Keep in your prayers the following friars, whose feast days (or birthdays (B)) are this coming month: April 4 – David Wathen (B).

### Franciscan Feastdays and Memorials

April 2 – Blessed Elisabetta Vendramini, III Order; 3 – Saint Benedict the Moor, religious of I Order; 6 – Saint Crescentia Höss, III Order; 16 – Saint Bernadette Soubirous, cord-bearer of St. Francis; 17 – Saint Benedict Joseph Labre, cord-bearer of St. Francis; 21 – Saint Conrad of Parzham, religious of I Order; 23 – Blessed Giles of Assisi, religious of I Order; 24 – Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen, priest and martyr of I Order; 25 – Blessed Pedro de San Jose Betancur, III Order; 27 – Saint Zitta of Lucca, III Order; 28 – Blessed Luchesius, layman of III Order; 30 – Blessed Benedict of Urbino, priest.