



– *the CHIMES* –

P.O. BOX 90366

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20090-0366

MAY Vol. LV, No. 5

May 15, 2011

Schedule

- 9:30am Inquiry 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. *(Please don't forget your \$1 donation towards lunch expenses.)*
- 12:45pm Fraternity Meeting – St. Francis Room
- 2:15pm Council Meeting

Fraternity Meeting Agenda

- Franciscan Consecration to Our Lady
- Bible verse discussion
- Franciscan Spirituality Series: Clare – presented by Chris Cropper
- Closing Evening prayer. If you have the “Shorter Christian” Prayer Book, please bring it with you.

Notice: Due to a conflict with Fathers Day, there will be **NO** Fraternity meeting in June. Those in formation should contact their instructors and discuss how to proceed.

DON'T FORGET YOUR BINDERS!

◆ Theme: MOTHERHOOD ◆

Bible Quote of the Month

(And) Jesus said to her, “Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come.”

His mother said to the servers, “Do whatever he tells you.” *(John 2:5)*



Prayer of the Month

Hail, holy Lady, most holy Queen, Mary, Mother of God, you are forever Virgin, chosen by the most holy Father in heaven, whom he consecrated with his most holy beloved Son and the Paraclete Spirit! You in whom was and is all plenitude of grace and all good! Hail, his palace! Hail, his tabernacle! Hail, his dwelling! Hail, his vesture! Hail, his handmaid! Hail, his Mother- and all you holy Virtues that by the grace and light of the Holy Spirit are infused into the hearts of the faithful, that from faithless souls you may make souls faithful to God! *Salutation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, by St. Francis of Assisi*

Contacting Council

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



Vicky Spalding (Minister) 301-373-3955
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 Chris Cropper (Vice Minister) 703-501-3873
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Fraternity Web Site – dcsfo.org

Our Fraternity’s web site just went public!
Visit us online at

<http://dcsfo.org/>

We have the monthly meeting schedule, the Rule, our calendar of events, the *Chimes*, and more. We would appreciate your honest feedback as well as suggestions; send email to webmaster@dcsfo.org. *Note:* Copies of the *Chimes* are password protected for privacy reasons; contact the webmaster for the current access codes.



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

A reading from ‘The Legend of Saint Clare’



The Solemnity of the Day of the Palms was at hand when the young girl Clare went with a fervent heart to the man of God, asking him about her conversion and how it should be carried out.

The father Francis told her that on the day of the feast, she should go, dressed and adorned, together with the crowd of people, to receive a palm, and, on the following night, leaving the camp she should turn her worldly joy into mourning the Lord’s passion.

Therefore, when Sunday came, the young girl, thoroughly radiant with festive splendor among the crowd of women, entered the church with the others. Then something occurred that was a fitting omen: as the others were going up to receive the palms, while Clare remained

immobile in her place out of shyness, the bishop, coming down the steps, came to her and placed a palm in her hands. On that night, preparing to obey the command of the saint, she embarked upon her long desired flight with a virtuous companion.



Since she was not content to leave by way of the usual door, marveling at her strength, she broke open – with her own hands – that other door that is customarily blocked by wood and stone.

And so she ran to Saint Mary of the Portiuncula, leaving behind her home, city, and relatives. There the brothers, who were observing sacred vigils before the little altar of God, received the virgin Clare with torches. There, immediately after rejecting the filth of Babylon, she gave the world ‘a bill of divorce’. There, her hair shorn by the hands of the brothers, she put aside every kind of her fine dress.

ADMONITION OF ST. FRANCIS

17. On the humble servant of God ¹


“Blessed (is) that servant” (Mt 24:46), who does not exalt himself more because of the good, which the Lord says and works through him, than that which He says and works through another. A man sins, who wants rather to receive from his neighbor, what he does not want to give of himself to the Lord God.

Our Seminarian to be Ordained!

Michael Paris is excited about his ordination to the Priesthood, which will take place **June 18th** at Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception 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.

Food for Fraternity Meeting

Please don't forget to **donate \$1** to help with luncheon expenses. A can will be placed on the food table for your convenience. Thank you!

Below is a list of food items members volunteered to bring to the meeting. 

Contact **Bill Richardson** (richardson4645@yahoo.com or 301-848-7390) if you wish to opt out, confirm, or bring a different item.

Main entree:	Ham	Bill Richardson
Potato Salad	Vicky Spalding, Chris Cropper	
Bread/rolls	Nirvana Jolls, Ling Guiron	
Vegetables	Saturnino and Vilma Camposano	
Fruit/Dessert	David Weir, Clotilda Crawley, Peggy Tippett, Patrick Enderson	
Carrot Cake	Vilma Camposano	
Beverages	Vilma & Saturnino Camposano, Bill Richardson	

If you want to volunteer to bring something for July, 2011 please let Chris Cropper and/or Bill Richardson know well in advance.

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>

News of our Family In India

Here is an extract from a January letter from our family in India. It is addressed to Secular Franciscan Friends:

I have received your help and also your Christmas gift. I will never forget this help and gift. We thank you by remembering you in our daily prayers. My husband does fishing. I do household work. The children are studying for their annual exams.

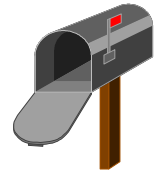


Once again thank you for the help you send from time to time. A happy Easter to you and your family members.

Yours sincerely, Mary Sebastian

From the Mailbox: News of our Family

- **Adele Spellerberg** tells all the members that she loves them.
- **Gene Sides** wrote in April, “We learned early this month that Annegret is in remission with her cancer. Although it is only ‘temporary,’ we thank all our family for their prayers.”



Please Pray For Our Sick

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

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 12 – Blessed Jolenta, Religious of the III Order (optional memorial for II and III Order nuns); 13 – Saint Anthony of Padua, priest and doctor of I Order (feast); 22 – Saint Thomas More, martyr of the III Order, with Saint John Fisher (optional memorial); and 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, 19 – Romuald Green, 21 – Aloysius Florio, and 29 – Simon McKay.

Seeking Counsel With Council

Sometimes members wish to speak with Fr. Kevin or another Council member after a Fraternity meeting in regards to a spiritual or personal matter. Please schedule time with that person after our Mass (usually between 12:15 and 12:45) or on some other day, rather than immediately after the meeting. This will permit the Council meeting to begin on time, which usually follows the Fraternity meeting. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



May Reflection

Our Mother

Taken from Mother of Light and Humility

By Vicky Spalding, SFO



Mary bore patiently the sufferings of the world, out of love for her Son and humanity. She knew the Father was calling her Son to great things, but she did not know how it would all take place. Yet, she trusted God the Father, in spite of not fully comprehending what God had in mind.

Whenever I am seeking to know the will of God the Father, I run to Mary. I ask her to give me courage and strength to live out my baptismal promises and to do what God is calling me to do. Each of



us has a set purpose and plan in life that God has chosen for us and is calling us to fulfill, but it takes grace from above to know and accomplish that plan. That is why we need the help of Mary.

St. Louis de Montfort explains that since Mary formed Jesus Christ as the head of the elect, it is also her office to form the members of that head, that is to say, all true Christians. So, whoever wishes to be a member of Jesus Christ, who is full of grace and truth, must also be spiritually formed through Mary, by means of the grace of Jesus Christ, which she possesses in its fullness. Therefore, Mary has received this special office over our souls in order to nourish them and give them growth in God.

St. Augustine tells us that all the elect are hidden in Mary's womb until she brings them forth into eternal life. In the same manner, as a child draws its strength from the mother's womb physically, so we too draw our spiritual strength while on earth from Mary.

Therefore, Mary has been entrusted with all the graces that are required for each of us to be formed in God's image, in order that we may fulfill the will of God in our lives. That is why she is called the Mediatrix of all graces. She knows best, in union with Christ, how to distribute God's graces to help us accomplish His love and desires for us.

Let us therefore, run to Our Mother and ask her to help us live out our Franciscan promises, which She so beautifully radiates, so we may share in her virtues and faithfully imitate her Son.

Mary, our Mother, we love you!