



– the CHIMES –

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P.O. BOX 90366

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FEB Vol. LVI, No. 2

February 19, 2012

Schedule

- 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 to be provided.
- 12:45pm Fraternity Meeting – St. Francis Room

Fraternity Meeting Agenda

- Opening Prayers
- Fraternity Members updates
- Group Discussion on Scripture Verse (below)
- Power Point Presentation – duties of Council
- Power Point Presentation – Sacrament of Confession
- Book Review by Chris Cropper
- Closing Evening prayer. If you have the “Shorter Christian” Prayer Book, please bring it with you.

DON'T FORGET YOUR BINDERS!

◆ Theme: ST. JOSEPH ◆

Bible Quote of the Month

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.



His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” (*Matthew 3:11-12*)

Prayer of the Month

Prayer to St. Joseph to Obtain a Special Favor

O blessed St. Joseph, tenderhearted father, faithful guardian of Jesus, chaste spouse of the

Mother of God, we pray and beseech thee to offer to God the Father, His divine Son, bathed in blood on the cross for sinners, and through the thrice-holy Name of Jesus, obtain for us from the eternal Father the favor we implore.



Appease the Divine anger so justly inflamed by our crimes, beg of Jesus mercy for thy children. Amid the splendors of eternity, forget not the sorrows of those who suffer, those who pray, those who weep; stay the Almighty arm which smites us, that by thy prayers and those of thy most holy Spouse, the Heart of Jesus may be moved to pity and to pardon. Amen. Saint Joseph, pray for us.

Contact Information

Fraternity Council

Please call before 9pm.



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ADMONITION OF ST. FRANCIS

26. On the virtue of fleeing vice ¹

Where there is charity and wisdom, there (is) neither fear nor ignorance. Where there is patience and humility, there (is) neither wrath nor disturbance. Where there is poverty with gladness, there (is) neither cupidity nor avarice. Where there is quiet and meditation, there (is) neither solicitousness nor wandering about. Where there is fear of the Lord to guard the entrance hall (cf. Lk 11:21), there the enemy can have no place to enter. Where there is mercy and discretion, there (is) neither superfluity nor hardness.

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>



The Rule

Chapter Three, Article 22 of The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order.

The local fraternity is to be established canonically. It becomes the basic unit of the whole Order and a visible sign of the Church, the community of love. This should be the privileged place for developing a sense of Church and the Franciscan vocation and for enlivening the apostolic life of its members.

Quinquennial

Mark Your Calendars!

The Quinquennial is a week-long meeting of Secular Franciscans held every five years. The first Quinquennial was held in Chicago in 1921, which resulted in approval of a national Constitution.



This year's Quinquennial, which will be held on July 3-8, will also be in Chicago, at the Holiday Inn Northshore. Rooms are \$89/night, single or double. Registration will be around \$300 (which includes all meals; actual to be determined soon).

The theme for this meeting will be, "Why Francis? Claim the Gift!" Speakers will include Sr. Ilia Delio, OSF; Brother Bill Short, OFM; Ed Shirley, SFO; and Pat Brandwein-Ball, SFO. More information will follow.

For more information, visit our web site at <http://dcsfo.org/> and access General / The Order, or access <http://www.nafra-sfo.org/q2012.html>.

The Information Corner

St. Joseph

By Chris Cropper, SFO



Several weeks ago, I was facing some stress and anxiety about my job, and I was advised by a close friend to turn to St. Joseph. I found some prayers to St. Joseph, and I was planning on saying them every day, hoping for some help. The second day of my prayers, I was called into my supervisor's office for no apparent reason, except to be told that he had a special job for me.

The job that I am now doing I enjoy very much, and it has put my mind at ease. I couldn't believe the quick response to my prayer from St. Joseph. I feel so blessed in many ways, and my confidence in God's help has increased greatly. Every time we have some answered prayer, we should thank and praise God for His goodness to us miserable sinners. That's what I'd like to do now by giving this witness.

Recently, I started reading a book I had purchased a few years ago about St. Joseph called, "The Divine Favors Granted to St. Joseph" by Pere Binet. Some highlights of St. Joseph's life are these: He is the Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary; the foster Father of Jesus; the protector, provider, and guardian of our Lord and our Lady. He taught Jesus the craftsmanship of being a carpenter and workman. He spent some thirty years in the company and family with Jesus and Mary. They must have spent hours praying and talking about the scripture they would hear proclaimed in the Temple.

St. Joseph was a humble, modest, pure man with great faith in God. He is the model for workmen, and the exemplar of obedience, patience, and love. He was very skilled in the art of prayer and contemplation, as he responded perfectly to God speaking to him in dreams and visions. Our Blessed Lady told St. Bridget that St. Joseph

would frequently pray, "Heaven grant that I may live so as to accomplish the will of my God!"

March 19th is the feast of Joseph, the husband of Mary, and May 1st is the feast of Joseph the Worker. St. Joseph is the greatest Saint in heaven, next to Our Lady, because he was obedient to the will of God and was entrusted with the care and protection of the son of God, Jesus Christ, and with the Blessed Virgin Mary for this reason. When we send our prayers to him, he is quick and powerful to help. St. Joseph, pray for us!

From the Mailbox: News of our Family

Helen Walls writes from Coatsville, PA: "Thank you for remembering me in the Chimes. You are remembered at Mass, in the rosary and Divine Mercy chaplet and other prayers. I still remember the bonding I felt at our monthly meetings. Please know how honored I am to be a part of our Franciscan Family."



News From Our Seminarian

Ryan Pineda, the seminarian we support, writes, "I really am thankful for the spiritual and financial support from your Fraternity. Rest assured of my prayers. Please pray for me as well."



Apostolate: Missionaries of Charity

Our Rule and way of life urges us to engage in apostolates, and Jesus tells us to feed the hungry. The Missionaries of Charity, located in Takoma Park, runs a feeding program for poor families. Your Council recommends this be a fraternity apostolate. They need rice and dried beans on a regular basis. Brown rice is best, for nutritional reasons, and while dried beans come in a lot of varieties, black beans, red beans (kidney), or white (canellini) would be best. There is also a need for canned goods. Bring any of these items you would like to donate to the next fraternity meeting, and Corky Hart will transport them for us. God bless you, Corky, for this wonderful service!

Food for Fraternity Meeting

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 bring an additional item.



Donuts, pastries Chris Cropper, Virginia Lyons
Bread Vicky Spalding
Veggies Vilma
Fruit David Weir, Josephine Awich, Ling
Drinks Bill Richardson

Please Pray For Our Sick

Pat Allnutt; Rita Braddock; Buelah Mary Bridges; Maria Louisa Correa (glaucoma) and her family; Lordes Corso; Sarah Faizi's friend, Ron Harner; Jean Xavier Fleurival; Pat Ferguson and her daughter, Patty Wyman; Roy Foster; Marianne Hughes and her family; Robert Mason, widower of deceased member Gwen Mason; Gene Sides and his wife, Annegret; Vicky Spalding's father, John Lynch; Julia Stratchko; Cecelia Thieman (upcoming tests); Helen Walls (knee problem); Dineen Whipple; Donna Wilkes; Emmy's friend, Josephine; and Theresa Wilson.

March Birthdays

March 9 – Patricia Allnutt and Rita Braddock, 11 – Ling Guiron and Fritz Nicolas, 16 – Helene Hogan and John Whipple, 23 – Winston Williams, 25 – Mary Anne Corr, and 28 – Robert Mendoza and Fr. Kevin Treston, O.F.M.

Franciscan Feastdays and Memorials

March 2 – Blessed Agnes of Prague, virgin of II Order (optional memorial for II and III Order nuns); 9 – Saint Frances of Rome, religious of III Order (optional memorial); and 24 – Blessed Didacus Joseph of Cadiz, priest of I Order (optional memorial).



February Reflection

By Vicky Spalding, SFO

There are so many wonderful reasons to celebrate our faith each day! During this month, we have several feasts, but my favorite is Our Lady of Lourdes. Our Lady appeared to a 14 year old peasant girl, Bernadette Soubirous, on February 11, 1858 in Lourdes, France. She appeared 18 times to Bernadette from February 1858 to July 16, 1858. During one of her apparitions, Our Lady asked for Penance! Penance! Penance! During the thirteenth apparition, Our Lady said to Bernadette, "Go tell the priests to come here in procession and build a chapel here." On the 25th of March 1858, the day of the sixteenth Apparition, Bernadette went to the Grotto, and on the instigation of the Parish Priest, Abbé, Peyramale, asked the Lady for her name. Three times Bernadette asked the question. On the fourth request, the Lady responded in dialect, "Que soy era Immaculada Conception." (**"I am the Immaculate Conception"**). The Immaculate Conception, as the Church teaches, is, "Mary, conceived without sin, thanks to the merits of the Cross of Christ".



Approval of Lourdes

On 18 January 1862, Bishop Laurence, the Bishop of Tarbes, gave the solemn declaration: "We are inspired by the Commission comprising wise, holy, learned and experienced priests who questioned the child, studied the facts, examined everything and weighed all the evidence. We have also called on science, and we remain convinced that the Apparitions are supernatural and divine, and that by consequence, what Bernadette saw was the Most Blessed Virgin. Our convictions are based on the testimony of Bernadette, but above all on the things that have happened, things which can be nothing other than divine intervention."

