



— the *CFJMES* —

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P.O. BOX 90366

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20090-0366

SEP Vol. LVI, No. 9

September 16, 2012

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

Fraternity Meeting Agenda

- Opening Prayers
- Announcements
- Talk: Poverty, Chastity, and Obedience in the life of a Secular, by Fr. Kevin
- Book Review
- 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: **EVANGELICAL LIVING** ◆

Bible Quote of the Month

Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father. (*Matthew 5:16*)

Prayer of the Month

Almighty, eternal, just, and merciful God, grant to us miserable ones the grace to do for you what we know you want us to do. Give us always to desire what pleases you. Inwardly cleansed, interiorly illumined and enflamed with the fire of the Holy Spirit, may we be able to follow in the footprints of your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus

Christ, and attain to you, Most High, by your grace alone, who in perfect Trinity and simple Unity lives and reigns and is glorified as God almighty, forever and ever. Amen.¹



¹ St. Francis of Assisi, from A Letter to the Entire Order, *St Francis of Assisi, The Saint, Early Documents*, volume 1 (1999), pp 120-121.

Contact Information

Fraternity Council

Please call before 9pm.



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The Rule

Chapter One, Article 3 of The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order.

The present rule, succeeding *Memoriale Propositi* (1221) and the rules approved by the Supreme Pontiffs Nicholas IV and Leo XIII, adapts the Secular Franciscan Order to the needs and expectations of the Holy Church in the conditions of changing times. Its interpretation belongs to the Holy See and its application will be made by the General Constitutions and particular statutes.



Nicolas IV

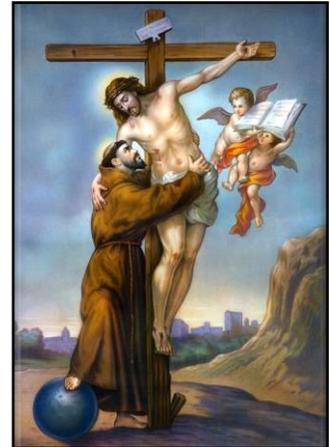


Leo XIII

ADMONITION OF ST. FRANCIS

5. That no one should be proud, but rather glory only in the Cross of the Lord ²

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. 1Cor 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 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).

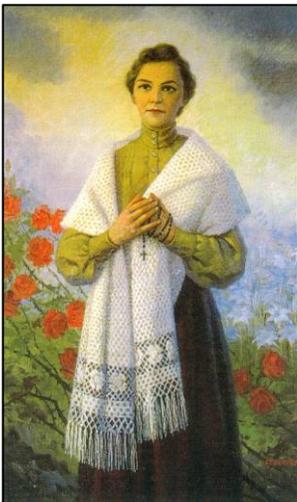


² St. Francis of Assisi, *The Words of Admonition*, translated from the Critical Latin Edition, edited by Fr. Kajetan Esser, O.F.M., courtesy of Five Franciscan Martyrs Region, accessed April 19, 2010, URL <http://www.franciscan-sfo.org/ap/Admonitions.html>

The Information Corner

Blessed Angela Salawa (1881-1922)

Angela served Christ and Christ's little ones with all her strength. Born in Siepow, near Krakow, Poland, she was the 11th child of Martlomiej and Ewa Salawa. In 1897, she moved to Krakow where her older sister Therese lived. Angela immediately began to gather together and instruct young women domestic workers. During World War I, she helped prisoners of war without regard for their nationality or religion. The writings of Teresa of Avila and John of the Cross were a great comfort to her.



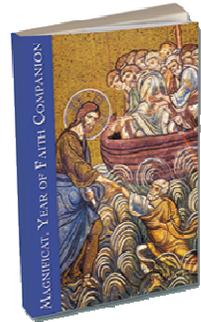
Angela gave great service in caring for soldiers wounded in World War I. After 1918 her health did not permit her to exercise her customary apostolate. Addressing herself to Christ, she wrote in her diary, "I want you to be adored as much as you were destroyed." In another place, she wrote, "Lord, I lie by your will. I shall die when you desire; save me because you can."

In order to follow more closely Christ crucified and poor, she joined the Secular Franciscan Order on March 15, 1912, and professed vows on August 6, 1913. As a lay woman consecrated to Christ living under the Rule of St. Francis for the Laity, Angela is an example to all of us that obstacles can be overcome with grace.

At her 1991 beatification in Krakow, Pope John Paul II said: "It is in this city that she worked, that she suffered and that her holiness came to maturity. While connected to the spirituality of St. Francis, she showed an extraordinary responsiveness to the action of the Holy Spirit."

Magnificat Year of Faith Companion

The coming year, October 11, 2012 through November 24, 2013, has been designated the Year of Faith. *Magnificat*, a well known monthly magazine, is offering *Year of Faith Companion*, a 448 page booklet that will contain daily features on the cornerstones of our faith. This is available at reduced rates if ordered in bulk. If you are interested, see Bill Richardson at the next meeting and give him your name and \$4. He will order the books for those interested and distribute them at the October meeting. For more information, visit http://www.magnificat.net/english/boutique_year_of_faith.asp.



From the Mailbox: News of our Family

- **Adele Spellerberg** thanks members for their prayers.

Fraternity Finances

💰 Last month we received \$336 in donations and disbursed \$152 in expenses.

October Birthdays

October 2 – Eugene Sides, 6 – Margaret Murphy, 15 – Raymond Apodaca, 17 – Cornelia Hart, and 22 – Gerda Biglin.

Please Pray For Our Sick

Pat Allnutt; Rita Braddock; Maria Louisa Correa and her family; Sarah Faizi and her family; Pat Ferguson and her family; John Fleurival; Roy Foster; Nancy McCleary; Joe Rende's granddaughter, Sophia Humphrys and family; Gene Sides and his family; Adele Spellerberg and her daughter, Ruthie; Cecilia Thieman and her family; Dineen Whipple; Donna Wilkes and her family; Winston Williams; and Theresa Wilson.

Pray For Our Deceased Michael J.

O'Connor, who died on August 19, 2012. Michael was knighted as a Knight of Mount St. Sepulchre in 1952 and displayed a Franciscan spirit in his service to the Franciscan Monastery for over 50 years. His funeral Mass was on August 21 at St. Peter's Church, in Washington, VA. May the souls of the faithful departed rest in eternal peace in the presence of our Lord.

**Franciscan Feastdays and Memorials**

October 4 – Our Holy Father Francis, deacon, founder of Three Franciscan Orders (solemnity); 6 – Saint Mary Frances of the Five Wounds, virgin of III Order (optional memorial for the III Order); 10 – Saints Daniel, priest, and companions, martyrs of I Order (optional memorial); 12 – Saint Seraphin of Montegranaro, religious of I Order (optional memorial); 20 – Blessed James of Strepar, bishop of I Order (optional memorial), and Blessed Contardo Ferrini, member of III Order (optional memorial for III Order); 21 – Blessed Josephine Leroux, virgin and martyr of II Order (optional memorial for II and III Order nuns); 22 – Saint Peter of Alcantara, priest of I Order (memorial); 23 – Saint John of Capistrano, priest of I Order (memorial); 26 – Blessed Bonaventure of Potenza, priest of I Order (optional memorial); and 30 – Anniversary of Dedication in Consecrated Franciscan Churches (solemnity).

Feastdays of Franciscan Friars

Keep in your prayers the following friars, whose feast days (or birthdays(B)) are this coming month: October 4 – St. Francis, 7 – Jeremy Harrington (B), 14 – Callistus Welch, 19 – Piotr Blajer, and 25 – Thomas Courtney.

September Reflection

By Chris Cropper, OFS

I am asked sometimes what it means to be a Secular Franciscan, and I usually respond, "To live the Gospel." This month we are reflecting on the theme Evangelical Living. Living the gospel and evangelical living are one in the same. We who strive to live this life style try to bring the good news of God's mercy into all of our relationships. We are imitators of Christ! We can show other people love, forgiveness, patience, good deeds, mercy,



understanding, wisdom, and knowledge in our circle of influence. It might be in the work place of a hospital, factory, construction site, office building, or any place of employment. It might be in raising and teaching children or caring for elderly relatives. The way the Gospel is lived will be different with each individual. There are some steps we can take to make sure our path is clear for our beautiful mission. The work will be difficult and require great labor.

There are also the Evangelical counsels that are sometimes overlooked by Seculars. How do we live out Poverty, Chastity, and Obedience in our daily lives? This will vary as well from individual to individual. Fr. Kevin will talk about this aspect of our Secular Franciscan life.

There are some other steps we can take to live the Gospel; first, regular prayer and conversation with the Lord; we can utilize the Scriptures and Eucharistic Adoration to assist us in this aspect; second, Spiritual Reading and study of the faith. We should be able to answer most of the basic questions about the Catholic faith. Third, we should be living our faith in the arena that God has placed us. We will need frequent use of the Sacraments of the Holy Eucharist and Confession to help us.

