



- the Chimes -

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NOV Vol. LXIV, No. 11

November 15, 2020

WE WILL HAVE OUR MEETING BY ZOOM ON NOV 15, AT 1:30pm, THE THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH; SEE SCHEDULE.

FOR SOCIAL TIME, THE CONFERENCE WILL OPEN EARLY, AT 1PM.

TO JOIN BY COMPUTER: LOG ONTO ZOOM, MEETING ID 930 8147 5465

TO JOIN US BY TELEPHONE, CALL 1-301-715-8592, ENTER MEETING ID.

NO MEETING IN DEC, BUT WE'LL HAVE A SOCIAL GATHERING, DATE TBD

Schedule

- 10:30am **Sunday Mass:** Dish or Direct TV subscribers Ch. 50; Comcast Ch. 23 in DC and Montgomery County, Ch. 3 in Prince George's County and Southern Maryland; RCN Ch. 15; Verizon Fios Ch. 3
- 12:00pm Mass livestreamed from the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception: <https://www.nationalshrine.org/mass/>
- 1:00pm **Social time** by Zoom conference, click <https://zoom.us/j/93081475465>
- 1:30pm Fraternity Meeting starts

Fraternity Meeting Agenda

- Opening prayer
- Prayer for vocations – see (<http://dcsfo.org/prayers/vocations/>)
- News of members
- Discussion of Article 19 of the Rule
- Evening prayer. In “Shorter Christian Prayer”, see **p48** (Evening Prayer II for Week I) and **p539** (antiphon for 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time).

HAVE YOUR BINDERS HANDY!

◆ Theme: **DESTINY IN CHRIST** ◆

Bible Quote of the Month

We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. No, we declare God's wisdom, a mystery that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. (1 Cor 2:6-7)

Prayer of the Month

Lord, you created me to serve you, to proclaim Your love to the world, and at the end of my days to be with you. Give me the wisdom, strength, grace and perseverance to do these things and ultimately to be united with the Father, together with You and the Holy Spirit, in Your Eternal Kingdom. Amen.

Contact Information

Fraternity Council

Please call before 9pm.



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ADMONITION OF ST. FRANCIS

1. The Body of the Lord ¹

The Lord Jesus said to His disciples: "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life; no one comes to the Father except through Me." "If" you know "Me," you would know "My Father as well; and from now on you shall know Him and have seen Him." "Philip said to Him: Lord, show us the Father, and that suffices for us." "Jesus said to him: So much time I have been with you, and you do not know Me? Philip, he who sees Me, sees even" My "Father" (*Jn 14:6-9*). The Father dwells "in inaccessible light" (cf. *1 Tm 6:16*), and "God is spirit" (*Jn 4:24*), and "no one ever sees God" (*Jn 1:18*).

¹ *The Writings of St. Francis of Assisi*, tr. by Paschal Robinson (1905), accessed September 9, 2017, URL <http://www.sacred-texts.com/chr/wosf/wosf03.htm> .



The Rule

Chapter Two, Article 19 of The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order.

Mindful that they are bearers of peace which must be built up unceasingly, they should seek out ways of unity and fraternal harmony through dialogue, trusting in the presence of the divine seed in everyone and in the transforming power of love and pardon.

Messengers of perfect joy in every circumstance, they should strive to bring joy and hope to others.

Since they are immersed in the resurrection of Christ, which gives true meaning to Sister Death, let them serenely tend toward the ultimate encounter with the Father.

The Information Corner – Pope Quote



"You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased" (*Lk 3:22*). This simple phrase enables us to intuit something of the mystery of Jesus and of His heart, always turned to the

Father. Jesus gave us His own #Prayer, which is His loving dialogue with the Father."²

Papal Intention for the Month

Prayer Intention – Artificial Intelligence. We pray that the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind. ³

Fraternity Finances

\$ Last month we received \$200 in donations and disbursed \$333.38 in expenses. This does not include undeposited checks.

² Oct 28, 2020. URL <http://twitter.com/pontifex>

³ Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network. Accessed February 7, 2020, URL <http://popesprayerusa.net/popese-intentions/>

The Information Corner

Nov 19th – Feastday of Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, Patroness of the Secular Franciscan Order⁴

Born in 1207 to pious King Andrew II of Hungary, Elizabeth was so lovable that the wealthy landgrave of Thuringia and Hesse sought her as the bride of his eldest son Louis. His request was granted, and a solemn embassy went to get Elizabeth, only three years old, so she could be raised at her future husband's castle.



The two children loved each other like brother and sister, and vied with each other in acts of piety and charity. Elizabeth's greatest joy was to give things to the poor. When she grew a little older, she visited the poor and the sick, and waited on them with as much reverence as if she were serving Christ Himself.

Louis succeeded his father at the age of 18, took over the government and married Elizabeth. Their marriage was unusually happy, and Louis gave his wife full liberty to do all the good her heart desired. At Eisenach she built a large hospital, and during a famine she daily fed nine hundred needy people.

Once when Elizabeth was on her way with her cloak full of good things for her dear poor and sick, she met her husband, and showed him, to his great astonishment, that she was carrying fresh, fragrant roses in midwinter.

Elizabeth once took in a little leper boy and, after caring for him as if he were her own child, placed him in the royal bed, as Louis was away. Louis returned unexpectedly, and when he tore aside the bed covers, was moved to tears when

he beheld the form of the Crucified. He said, "Dear Elizabeth, you may always receive guests like that. I shall even thank you for it."

In 1227, Emperor Frederick II set out on a crusade to the Holy Land, and Louis joined the expedition, but died on the way. When news reached Thuringia, Louis' brothers rose up against Elizabeth and drove her out of the palace, with only two faithful maids to accompany her.

In Eisenach the people dared not give her shelter, fearing the resentment of the new masters. So it was that in midwinter, with night at hand, the daughter of a king, a widowed princess, with four little children was completely destitute and homeless.



A man finally offered her shelter in a stable. The thought of how the Son of God found refuge in a stable filled Elizabeth with greater joy than she had ever experienced. She now spun flax for a livelihood, saving something from the meager income to give to the poor.

Later Elizabeth was reinstated in the Wartberg, and Emperor Frederick II, whose wife had died, asked her hand in marriage. But Elizabeth had so learned to love poverty and seclusion that she had no desire for worldly greatness. Her children were given the education due to princes, but she and her two maids repaired to a small house in Marburg. Elizabeth had joined the Third Order of St Francis during the lifetime of her husband; indeed, she was the first member in Germany. Now, vested with the habit and the cord, she led a quiet religious life, while nursing the sick in the hospitals.

Elizabeth died at age 24 on November 19, 1231, after a very short illness. Although the hardships she had experienced showed on her features, after death her face became smooth, majestic, and beautiful, more beautiful than any representations of her. *(continued on p5)*

⁴ Extracted from web site Roman Catholic Saints, URL <https://www.roman-catholic-saints.com/saint-elizabeth-of-hungary.html> . Original material from *The Franciscan Book Of Saints*, ed. by Marion Habig, OFM.

Onesies Drive To Support Holy Family Hospital in Bethlehem

Although the Franciscan Monastery is closed, the friars continue to do their good works. The annual onesies drive to support **Holy Family Hospital** in Bethlehem will continue.⁵

The Franciscan Monastery will collect infant onesies, which they will have delivered to Bethlehem.



Please help out if you can. Either drop off the onesies at the guard shack at the street entrance to the Monastery or mail them to Fr. Jim Gardiner, S.A., c/o Franciscan Monastery, 1400 Quincy St. NE, Washington, DC 20017. Please do this promptly as they have a deadline.

20th Quinquennial Congress – POSTPONED to 2023

In late September the National Fraternity Council (NAFRA) met to discuss the 2021 Quinquennial (Q.) in light of the Covid-19 pandemic. They decided to postpone the 2021 Q, and rebook for 2023.

They are negotiating a contract for 2023. A new date will be announced once it is set, but it may be another 6-8 weeks before they have that information. Please keep your NAFRA leaders in prayer as they work out the details.

There will be an announcement in the next TAU-USA, which you should have by now.

From the Mailbox: News of our Family

- **Anna Zaczynski** says hello to members of the fraternity.

⁵ The hospital's web site is <http://holyfamilyhospital-bethlehem.org/>. To learn more, watch the short video (<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics/2016/12/09/bethlehems-holy-family-hospital/33646/>), which aired in December on the "Religion and Ethics" program on PBS.

Congratulations to Those Celebrating Their Anniversaries

Please extend heartfelt congratulations to our members who this year celebrate a special anniversary of their profession to the Secular Franciscan Order:

40 Years: George P. Bond

35 Years: Leonora Okomo

25 Years: Margaret Simoneau, Marilyn Taylor (d), Kathleen White, Sandra White

20 Years: Victoria Spalding, Helen Walls

15 Years: Bernard Adundo, Delphine Ben, John H. Hewitt, M.D., Catherine Horvath, James Lynagh, III, Fred Scharf

10 Years: Saturnino Camposano, Vilma Camposano, Carrol S. Williams

5 Years: Ouida Morrison, Mary I. Okumu, George E. Ramsey

Certificates were mailed to active and excused members. If you did not receive yours, contact Larry.

A Stitch in Chimes

Here's a look at our fraternity 20 years ago:

In November of 2000 the fraternity held a Mass of Profession during which Charles Flachbarth (d. 2014), Ernest Smith (d. 2010), Victoria Spalding and Helen Wells were professed into the Order; Helen Walls gave a presentation about St. Elizabeth of Hungary, patroness of the Order; we prayed for Thelma Sager, who passed away in Sep 2000; the Region conducted a Fraternal Visitation; and the fraternity held its elections. The newly elected Council members were Vicky Spalding (Minister), Pat Ferguson (Vice Minister, d. 2012), Peggy Newcomer (Secretary, d. 2009), Alan Blevins (Treasurer), Fred Dense (Formation Director, d. 2006), and Mary Anne Corr (Councilor).



The Information Corner (from p3)

The miracles that took place at her tomb were so numerous that Pope Gregory IX canonized her in 1235. Saint Elizabeth of Hungary is the special patroness of the sisters of the Third Order Secular of St Francis, and also of some religious sisterhoods of the Third Order Regular. Pope Leo XIII placed all charitable organizations of women under her patronage.

Please Pray For Our Members

Adele Lewis and her sister Diane Dalton; Larry Bleau; Mary Ann Corr and her family; Maria Louisa Correa; Sarah Faizi and her friend Ron Harner; Jean Fleurival; Nancy McCleary; John Hewitt; Margaret Murphy and her family; Fritz Nicolas and his family; Mary Okumu and her family; Carol Petro; Cecilia Thieman and her family; Helen Walls' friend Cora; John and Deneen Whipple; Donna Wilkes and her family. Also pray for Jan Parker, the National Fraternity Minister.

We also offer a prayer of rejoicing, that our sister Polly Howard has been accepted as a novice at the All Saints Sisters of the Poor in Catonsville, taking the name Frances Pauline. Our prayers and thoughts are with her, and we hope that she finds a home in her new vocation in the Lord.



December Birthdays

December 1 – Mary DeShazo; 16 – Clotilda Crawley; 20 – Patrick Nolan, Mark Pirritano and Soledad Wong; and 31 – Leonora Okomo.

Franciscan Feastdays and Memorials

December 2 – Bl. Maria Angela Astorch, virgin, II Order; Bl. Rafal Chylinski, priest, I Order; 8 – Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Patron & Queen of the Franciscan Order; 10 – Bl. Peter Tecelano, III Order; 13 – Finding the Body of St. Francis; 15 – Bl. Mary Frances Schervier, virgin, III Order.

November Reflection

By Larry Bleau, OFS

While attending Mass at my parish on All Saints Day, I heard a quote that struck me and stayed with me. It was from French poet and writer Leon Bloy, who wrote, “**The only real sadness, the only real failure, the only great tragedy in life, is not to become a saint.**”

We are all called – indeed, destined – to be saints, to take our place with our heavenly Father after our Earthly life has concluded. We were created with a destiny to be united with Him, a destiny we do not merit on our own, but are given to us out of love, as sons and daughters of the Almighty, so great is His love for us. It is up to us, in our lives, by our actions, to fulfill this destiny or to discard it.

We are not alone in our journey to this destiny, this universal calling. He has given us fellow travelers for the journey: as guides, as guide posts, even as wrong way signs. We are also called to be signs to others, by our words, acts, and prayers.

Let us remember this month all our members who have died, especially those this year, and pray for them that they find their way to Him and fulfill that ultimate destiny to which we are all called.

Pray For Our Deceased Francis Kane,

who died on Oct 10, 2020. Francis professed in 1959, one year earlier than his wife Joan did, who passed in 2015. They were both members of our fraternity, having transferred here from Harrisburg in 2012.

Marilyn Taylor, who died on Oct 31, 2020. Marilyn professed in 1995 and in recent years has been immobilized due to severe health issues.

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