



# - the Chimes -

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P.O. BOX 90366

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20090-0366

JULY Vol. LXV, No. 6

July 18, 2021

**WE WILL HAVE OUR MEETING BY ZOOM ON Jul 18, AT 1:30pm, THE THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH; SEE SCHEDULE. FOR SOCIAL TIME, THE CONFERENCE WILL OPEN EARLY, AT 1:15 PM.**

**TO JOIN BY COMPUTER: LOG ONTO ZOOM, MEETING ID 880 9984 9371**

**TO JOIN US BY TELEPHONE, CALL 1-301-715-8592, ENTER MEETING ID 272359**

◆ **Theme: UNITY IN CHRIST**

## **Fraternity Meeting Agenda**

- Opening prayer
- News of members
- Discussion of resuming in-person meetings
- *Fratelli Tutti* discussion – **Chapter 5**– *Please read in advance.*
- Discussion of Article 12 \*of the Rule
- Evening prayer. In “Shorter Christian Prayer”, see **p267** (Evening Prayer II for Week 4) and **p519** (antiphon for 16h Sunday in Ordinary Time)

**Bible Quote of the Month** – [Jesus said] “ I pray not only for them, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, so that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they may also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me. And I have given them the glory you gave me, so that they may be one, as we are, I in them and you in me, and the world may know that you sent me and that you loved them even as you loved me. Father, they are your gift to me.” (*John 17: 20-24*)

**Prayer of the Month** – “Let us pray together so that Jesus’ desire might be accomplished – that all might be one: unity, which is always higher than conflict.” (*Pope Francis, January 2021*)

**Contacting Council** – Please call before 9pm.:

Minister	Michele Dunne	202-412-1210	<a href="mailto:micheledunne@gmail.com">micheledunne@gmail.com</a>
Vice Minister	Joseph Gigliotti	202-251-7336	<a href="mailto:gigliottilaw@gmail.com">gigliottilaw@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Mary Gigliotti	202-251-7660	<a href="mailto:mmamsop@aol.com">mmamsop@aol.com</a>
Treasurer	Franciose Bidiki	443-518-6367	<a href="mailto:kimbekele@gmail.com">kimbekele@gmail.com</a>
Formation Director	Mary Gigliotti	202-251-7660	<a href="mailto:mmamsop@aol.com">mmamsop@aol.com</a>
Spiritual Assistant	Fr. Jim Gardiner,	202-526-6800x374	<a href="mailto:jgardiner@atonementfriars.org">jgardiner@atonementfriars.org</a>
Councilor	Bill Richardson	848-739464	<a href="mailto:richardson4645@yahoo.com">richardson4645@yahoo.com</a>

**Also visit our web site:**<http://dcsfo.org>**St. Margaret of Cortona Regional Council**

Bob Longo (Minister)

[blongosfo@gmail.com](mailto:blongosfo@gmail.com)

Janice Benton (DC Metro Area Councilor)

[jbentonsfo@gmail.com](mailto:jbentonsfo@gmail.com)**National Fraternity**

Jan Parker (Minister)

[jansfo@yahoo.com](mailto:jansfo@yahoo.com)

**Admonition of St. Francis** – 5 That no one should be proud, but rather glory only in the Cross of the Lord. 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).



**The Rule** – Chapter III *The Way of Life*. 12. 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.

**Prayer of the Month** – Heavenly Father, we pray that, in situations of conflict, we may be courageous architects of dialogue and friendship.

**Fraternity Finances** – Please expect a treasurer’s update for June and July in our next issue, as we are in the middle of transferring files.

**The Information Corner – Blessed Solanus Casey, Capuchin Friar, 1870-1957, Feast Day July 31**

Solanus Casey, the son of Irish immigrants in Wisconsin, felt called to the priesthood after witnessing a drunken sailor stabbing a woman. Somehow, this scene of sin and suffering caused Casey to dedicate himself to God and to promote God’s love as the answer to the world’s troubles. After entering the Capuchins, he was ordained a priest. But in light of his academic difficulties, his superiors placed restrictions on his priestly faculties. He was not permitted to hear confessions or preach on doctrine. Instead he spent most of his life as a porter at St. Bonaventure’s monastery in Detroit and worked in the friars’ soup kitchen. Despite his humble office, Casey’s extraordinary spiritual gifts were quickly recognized. Scores of people sought him out each day for spiritual counsel and intercession. Since his death on July 31, 1957 at the age of eighty-six the reports of healing miracles have continued unabated. Quote: “We must be faithful to the present moment or we will frustrate the plan of God for our lives.”

(Excerpted from Robert Ellsberg, *The Franciscan Saints*)

**News From Our Seminarian** – Thank you for all the support so far! I really cannot put into words my gratitude and appreciation. Things are going well for me this summer. I’m in Omaha, Nebraska for a summer foundation institute. I would love to come to an in-person meeting sometime the Fall. It would be wonderful to see everyone and perhaps give a bit of an update. Know of my prayers! Dylan

**Moving back to in-person meetings** – We will meet by Zoom in July but are hoping to return to in-person meetings in August. The monastery is not yet reopened but will allow us to use rooms, as they did most kindly for our June election. We are working on options to allow our members who are unable to join us physically to continue to do so via Zoom.

Whether in-person or remote, please remember that these are not “optional” meetings; they are the required fraternity meetings. If you cannot attend (due to illness or a family or work obligation that cannot be rescheduled), please inform a Council member in advance so as to be excused.

**Please Pray For Our Members** – Amy Bilyeau, Mary Anne Corr and her niece Maria Louisa Correa, (she misses all the members), Sarah Faizi and her friend, Ron Harner, Jean Fleurival, John Hewitt, Adele Lewis, Nancy McCleary, Carol Petro, Cecilia Tierman and her family, Helen Walls, Dineen and John Whipple, Donna Wilkes

**August Birthdays**

August 4 – Susan Zell, 8 – David Weir, 11 – Françoise Bidiki and Wendy Enderson, 12 – Ronald McElligott, 13 – Alberto Gamez, 16 – Lewis Remlin, 29 – Christopher Cropper, and 30 – Roberto Alvarez.

**Franciscan Feasts and Memorials** – July July 1 – St. Junipero Serra, priest, I Order; 4 – St. Elizabeth of Portugal, queen, III Order; 7 – Bl. Davanzato, bishop, III Order; 8 – Bl. Gregory Grassi, bishop, and companions, martyrs, I and III Order; 9 – St. Nicholas Pick, priest, and companions, martyrs, I Order; 10 – St. Veronica Giuliani, virgin, II Order; 12 – Sts. John Jones and John Wall, priests, martyrs, I Order; 13 – Bl. Angeline of Marisciano, religious, III Order; 15 – St. Bonaventure, bishop, doctor, I Order; 16 – Canonization of St. Francis - Canonized 16 July 1228 by Pope Gregory IX; St. Francis Solano, priest, I Order; 18 – St. Simon of Lipnica; 21 – St. Lawrence of Brindisi, priest, doctor, I Order; 23 – Bl. Cunegunda, religious, II Order; St. Bridget of Sweden, widow, III Order; 24 – Bl. Louise of Savoy, widow, II Order; Bl. Modestino of Jesus and Mary, religious, I Order; Bl. Antonio Lucci, bishop, I Order; 27 – Bl. Mary Magdalene of Martinengo, virgin, II Order; 28 – Bl. Mary Teresa Kowalska, virgin, martyr of Poland, II Order; Bl. Mattia Nazarei, virgin, II Order

**Feastdays of Franciscan Friars** – Keep in your prayers the following friars, whose feast days (or birthdays (B)) are this month: July 20 – Ed Flanagan (B)

## July Reflection

*by Michele Dunne, OFS*

When I became minister of our fraternity in late June, our Regional Councilor Jan Benton asked me what my vision for the fraternity was. Vision? I had not thought of it in those terms. But surprisingly, an answer came to me immediately: my vision was to work with all of you to foster the bonds of love among the members of our fraternity.

My own call to become a Franciscan came in the early hours of August 4, 2013. It was a time of turmoil in my work and personal life, and many nights I did not sleep soundly. That night I awoke at 3am feeling especially miserable. I prayed for the Lord's help desperately, as I often did in those days. To my astonishment that time an answer came: you are lonely and need spiritual companions. Look into the lay orders of the Church, particularly the Franciscans.

This was not an answer I expected at all. I had not met any secular Franciscans, knew next to nothing about St. Francis, and although I was an active Catholic, I had never considered myself holy enough to join a lay order. But I latched onto the idea as a drowning person would grab a rope and within a few days I reached Minister Corky Hart of the Mt. St. Sepulchre Fraternity, who welcomed me warmly and invited me to an information session in October. I counted the days, meanwhile reading everything I could find about St. Francis.

Following that first call led to a wonderful journey over the past eight years, in which the Lord has opened one door after another, giving me opportunities to discover undreamed-of aspects of my Franciscan vocation. I still have the same sense of optimism and wonder that dawned in me eight years ago, trusting there will be many more adventures if I remain faithful to the call.

Each of you has a story of where your Franciscan vocation has taken you so far, and each of us lives out this path in a unique way. Some of us may be prayer warriors, some may be devoted to serving the poor or the sick, some may be called to protect the unborn, some may work tirelessly for peace and justice, and some may be moved to protect God's vulnerable creation. But despite our various backgrounds and the very different ways we live out our vocation, when I look into your eyes, I see that we understand one another because we are on the same path: following Jesus in the way shown to us by St. Francis.

As he lay dying, Francis said to his brothers, "I have done what was mine to do. May Christ now teach you what is yours." Thank you, dear sisters and brothers, for being my loving companions as I slowly discover what is mine to do as a Catholic Christian and a Franciscan, and for giving me the privilege of accompanying you as you discover yours.