



- the Chimes -

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AUGUST Vol. LXV, No. 8 (Late update)

August 15, 2021

WE WILL HAVE OUR FIRST IN-PERSON MEETING OF 2021 ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 15 AT 1:30 PM IN THE ST. BONAVENTURE ROOM AT THE FRANCISCAN MONASTERY. THERE WILL BE NO MASS AND WE WILL NOT HAVE REFRESHMENTS, JUST A MEETING. PLEASE WEAR A MASK, AS DC HAS REIMPOSED MASK REQUIREMENTS FOR INDOOR GATHERINGS.

WE WILL ALSO HAVE A SIMULTANEOUS ZOOM MEETING FOR MEMBERS WHO ARE UNABLE TO JOIN US DUE TO HEALTH OR MOBILITY CONCERNS.

- **TO JOIN BY COMPUTER: LOG ONTO ZOOM, MEETING ID 833 3143 5971, PASSCODE 432618**
- **TO JOIN US BY TELEPHONE, CALL 301-715-8592, ENTER MEETING ID 833 3143 5971**

◆ **Theme: TEACHINGS OF ST. CLARE**

Fraternity Meeting Agenda: Sunday August 15

- Opening prayer
- News of members
- Meet a Franciscan (a new feature to allow us to get to know each other better)
- Short presentation on the life and teachings of St. Clare
- Discussion of how Clare's example and teachings apply to our lives
- Closing prayer: Office of the Dead

News of our members

Our dear brother Saturnino Camposano departed this life on August 4. We will pray the Office of the Dead for him at our August 15 meeting. Please keep Saturnino, Vilma, and their family in your prayers. We will circulate funeral information when we receive it.

Bible Quote of the Month – While Peter was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.” (*Matthew 17:5*)

Prayer of the Month – What you hold may you always hold. What you do, may you always do and never abandon, but with swift pace, light step, and unswerving feet, so that even your steps stir up no dust, go forward. The spirit of our God has called you. (St. Clare)

Pope Francis’ Prayer Intention for September– We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.



The Rule – **Chapter II *The Way of Life***. 1. The rule and life of the Secular Franciscans is this: to observe the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ by following the example of St. Francis of Assisi who made Christ the inspiration and the center of his life with God and people.

Contacting Council

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Also visit our fraternity web site:

<http://dcsfo.org>

The Information Corner – **St. Clare of Assisi, Feast August 11**

“Clare’s importance stems from the fact that she was the recipient of a powerful charism of her own—a gift bestowed by the Spirit of the Lord and given to her in a fullness and forcefulness that was hers alone. That charism, matched with the equally full and forceful charism of Francis, created something akin to nuclear fission. It unleashed a mighty power of example and of hope for people who wanted to live the authentic Christian message.”

--Excerpt from *Light of Assisi: The Story of Saint Clare* by Margaret Carney, OSF, published by Franciscan Media in 2021

Restarting in-person meetings – We will meet in person for the first time since the pandemic on August 15. There will be some differences; there will be no Mass at the monastery church that day, so please attend Mass in your parish. (There will be a vigil Mass for the Feast of the Assumption at the monastery in the Lourdes Grotto on Saturday, August 14 at 7 pm.) Also, we will not serve refreshments this time to keep things simple. To abide by new DC regulations, we respectfully request that all wear masks.

Please meet at 1:30 pm in the usual room; the meeting will conclude by 3 pm.

To allow our beloved members who are not able to join due to health or mobility limitations, we will attempt to hold a hybrid meeting: in-person and Zoom at the same time. The technical set-up for such a meeting is complicated, so please be patient if it does not work perfectly on the first try!

Please pray for our members – Amy Bilyeau, Saturnino and Vilma Camposano, Mary Anne Corr and her niece Maria Louisa Correa, Sarah Faizi and her friend Ron Harner, Jean Fleurival, John Hewitt, Adele Lewis, Nancy McCleary, Ouida Morrison, Carol Petro, Cecilia Thieman and family, Helen Walls, Dineen and John Whipple, Donna Wilkes

Fraternity Finances – June deposits were \$370.00; expenditures were 0. July deposits were \$345.00; expenditures were \$13.75.

September Birthdays 6 – Joseph Gigliotti, 21 – Fr. James Gardiner, 23 – Jean Fleurival, and 27 – Mary Okumu.

Franciscan Feasts and Memorials, September – 1 – St. Beatrice of Silva, virgin, II Order, founder; 2 – Bls. Apollinaris of Posat, John Francis Burté, Severin Girault, priests, and companions, martyrs, I and III Order; 3 – Bl. Claudio Granzotto, religious, I Order; 4 – St. Rose of Viterbo, virgin, III Order; 17 – Stigmata of our Holy Father Francis; 18 – St. Joseph of Cupertino, priest, I Order; 20 – St. Francis Mary of Camporossa, religious, I Order; 22 – St. Ignatius of Santhia, priest, I Order; 23 – St. Pio of Pietrelcina, priest, I Order; 24 – St. Pacifico of San Severino, priest, I Order; 25 – Finding of the Body of St. Clare; 26 – Bl. Aurelio of Vinales, priest, and companions, martyrs of Valencia [Ambrose of Benaguacil, Pedro of Benisa, Joachim of Albocácer, Modesto of Albocácer, Germaine of Cargagente, Bonaventure of Puzol, Santiago of Rafelbunol, Henry of Almazora, Fidel of Puzol, Berard Lugar Nuevo de Fenollet, Pacifico of Valencia], I Order; St. Elzear of Sabran and Bl. Delphina of Glandenes, husband & wife, III Order; 28 – Bl. Innocent of Berzo, priest, I Order

Feastdays of Franciscan Friars – Keep in your prayers the following friars, whose feast days or birthdays are this month: Fr. James Gardiner, Sept 21 (birthday)

August Reflection

by Michele Dunne, OFS

How blessed I am to be writing to you in early August from a small cottage in Maine. It is surrounded by woods, but still close enough to the ocean so that from the porch where I am sitting, I can hear the crash of the surf faintly---if I am very still.

The fact that I can only hear the ocean if I am still recalls to me what St. Clare teaches us about prayer. Our spiritual mother delved deeply into contemplative prayer, certainly during her many years as a cloistered nun, but apparently even early in her life. Her ability to cultivate deep quiet so as to listen and to look—as she would say, into the “mirror” of Christ crucified—also allowed her to understand deeply the will of God for her life.

The path that God willed for St. Clare was by no means expected or conventional. In fact, at the time it was shocking. The young Clare left a wealthy, aristocratic family with a high status in the walled city of Assisi to join an upstart religious group living in the wilds outside the walls, headed by a young man with less education and a lower social status than Clare—our dear St. Francis. Even years later, when both Francis and Clare had won the respect and regard of all, Clare continued to buck social and religious conventions of her time. She gently but firmly refused the imposition of a rule written by male clerics for her sisters. Eventually, just before her death, she became the first woman in history to have her own religious rule approved by the pope.

St. Clare’s spiritual teachings, as well as the example of her life, have much to tell us if we can still ourselves enough to listen. I look forward to seeing you on August 15 to discuss!