



- the Chimes -

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P.O. BOX 29506
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20017
AUGUST 2022 Vol. LXVI, No. 8
August 14, 2022

WE WILL MEET IN PERSON ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 14 AT 1:30 PM AT THE FRANCISCAN MONASTERY FOR A PROFESSION CEREMONY FOR OUR CANDIDATE AMY BILYEAU. (There will be no meeting August 21.)

Please make every effort to attend this important event for our fraternity in person. For our infirm members, we will livestream the profession ceremony portion of the meeting:

- To join by computer, use this link:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87313563677?pwd=ak9nVGdsR1BMRGIhT2NNZkdqMUd2UT09> Meeting ID: 873 1356 3677 Passcode: 035163
- To join by phone, call 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 873 1356 3677

Fraternity Meeting Agenda: Sunday, August 14, 2022, 130 pm

- Gather: 1:15-1:30 pm
- Opening prayer
- News and announcements
- Profession of Amy Bilyeau
- Social with refreshments

Preparing for our August Meeting – There is no homework for our August meeting; we will resume our virtual pilgrimage using *Encountering Jesus* in September.

National Elections for our Order in Oct: All professed members of our order are welcome to nominate members for elections for U.S. national leadership of the Secular Franciscan Order that will take place on Saturday, October 15, 2022, in Detroit, Michigan. Positions to be filled are: National Minister, National Vice Minister, National Secretary, National Treasurer, National Councilor, and International Councilor. Please send your nomination (name, address, zip code, email address) to both: Joan Geiger, geigerjmm@hotmail.com and Emma Lozowsky, ofs.minister.prairie@gmail.com.

Ongoing Formation Volunteers – Sep-Dineen Whipple, Oct- Amy Bilyeau, Nov-Joe Gigliotti, Dec-John Whipple.

Fraternity & National Finances – July deposits were \$285.00; expenditures were \$16.69. Please see a detailed report of how the national leadership spends our Fair Share on pp. 22-23 of the Summer 2022 edition of the *Tau* (https://www.secularfranciscansusa.org/wp-content/uploads/TAU_USA_106_sum_22.pdf).

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for Sep 2022– *Abolition of the Death Penalty*: We pray that the death penalty, which attacks the dignity of the human person, may be legally abolished in every country.

Please pray for our members – Amy Bilyeau, Maria Louisa Correa and family, Sarah Faizi and her friend Ron Harner, Nancy McCleary, Carol Petro, Bill Richardson, Dineen and John Whipple, Donna Wilkes.

Fraternity Birthdays, September 6-Joseph Gigliotti; 21- Fr. Jim Gardiner; 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**

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Our fraternity website:

<https://dcsfo.org/>

August Reflection

Michele Dunne, OFS

As I write this reflection, two exciting events are on my mind: celebrating the profession of our sister Amy Bilyeau on August 14 and participating in the Secular Franciscan Quinquennial in Phoenix August 3-7.

Amy and I met a few weeks ago for the final lesson of her candidacy, a discussion about what profession really means. As we talked, I recalled a recorded talk about the meaning of profession that we watched some years ago, in which the friar who spoke said that we should at profession imagine laying our bodies down on the altar table in sacrifice. In profession we give ourselves to God, to live the gospel in the way St. Francis showed us, and we should hold nothing back. I also remembered a Secular Franciscan who said that before her profession she walked around her house and said goodbye to each of her possessions; they could no longer have any importance for her. On the day I professed, a young friar greeted me, saying “remember, your profession is just as important as mine!”

Since I said yes to enter formation in 2013 and especially since my profession in 2016, God has presented me with one door after another and invited, but not compelled, me to enter. While I have surely resisted or ignored some of those doors, each one that I did enter has taken me to thrilling new paths of which I had not dreamt before. Two that stand out in my mind were the opportunity to take a pilgrimage of nonviolence to Assisi in 2019 and the invitation to leave my former career and become director of the Franciscan Action Network in 2021. Those two choices have humbled and challenged me, introduced me to new teachers and friends, taught me new ways to understand my faith and practice my Franciscan vocation—in short, enriched my life in countless ways. I am hoping that my participation in the Quinquennial this week will be another chance for growth.

How has God changed your life since your profession as a Secular Franciscan? What kind of invitations or challenges is God presenting you with these days to keep your conversion moving forward? None of us is a completed work, and even when we refuse or miss the invitations God places before us, there is always another chance coming. St. Francis himself had many regrets and do-overs. What a blessed life this is!

