



# - the Chimes -

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P.O. BOX 29506  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20017  
NOVEMBER 2022 Vol. LXVI, No. 11  
November 20, 2022

**WE WILL MEET IN PERSON ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20 AT 1:00 PM AT THE FRANCISCAN MONASTERY IN OUR USUAL ROOM. WE WILL HAVE OUR SOCIAL AT 1:00 PM, WITH THE MEETING BEGINNING AT 1:30.**

**For our infirm members, please join by Zoom by 1:30:**

- To join by computer, use this link:  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81571427479?pwd=RVZMNzRnUIIZUTdsRUZsT2ZoNDhEdz09> Meeting ID: 815 7142 7479 Passcode: 684408
- To join by phone, call 301-715-8592 Meeting ID 815 7142 7479

## **Fraternity Meeting Agenda: Sunday, November 20, 2022, 1:00 pm**

- Lunch and social 1:00-1:30 pm
- Opening prayer 1:30 pm
- News and announcements. Report on Regional Ministers Meeting.
- Ongoing formation: *Encountering Jesus*, Ch 16, "The Holy Sepulchre: The Resurrection." Brief presentation by Amy Bilyeau, OFS, followed by discussion and faith sharing.
- Evening Prayer and Closing

## **Upcoming Events**

- Franciscan Action Network will hold online election eve prayers for the Holy Spirit to guide our country and our own conduct during the upcoming elections on **Mon, November 7, 7:00-8:00 pm**. Our new national OFS Minister will participate! Register here: <https://franciscanaction.org/election-eve-prayer-vigil/>
- Please note that our December meeting will take place on **Saturday, December 17, 8:30 am-12 noon at Capuchin College**. See below for details.

**Preparing for our November Meeting** – Please read Ch.16, "The Holy Sepulchre: the Resurrection" in *Encountering Jesus* and come prepared to share your thoughts as we continue our virtual pilgrimage together. Please bring food or drink to share if you will join for lunch. **Also, please remember to bring onesies or other infant clothes to our November meeting for the monastery's annual collection for the Holy Family Hospital in Bethlehem.**

**Advent Service Activity Dec 17** – This year, in place of our December meeting, we will do a joint prayer and service activity with St. Francis Fraternity. Last year we hosted them at our usual place and time, and this year they will reciprocate. We will meet on **Saturday, Dec 17, 8:30-12:00 noon at Capuchin College, 4121 Harewood Rd NE.** Our activity will be making no-sew scarves as holiday gifts for our unhoused neighbors. Please come ready to pray & work! Here is the schedule:

- 8:30 am: Mass with the friars at Capuchin College
- 9:30 am: Light refreshments
- 10:00 am-12:00 noon: Make scarves!

**New Council Member** – Our fraternity council has appointed Amy Bilyeau to serve as secretary for the remainder of the council's term. We thank Mary Gigliotti for heroically serving in two offices since June 2021; henceforth Mary will be Director of Formation only.

**New OFS National Leadership** – As you are aware, our order elected a new national council in mid-October. Our new National Minister is Jane DeRose-Bamman, Vice Minister Diane Menditto, Secretary Susan Ronan, Treasurer Claudia Kauzlarich, International Councilor Mary Francis Charsky, Councilors Cherryle Fruge, Josh Molidor, and Donna Hollis. The new Council has reaffirmed our OFS theme for 2022-23: "Listen, Discern, and Go Forth."

**Ongoing Formation Volunteers** –Nov-Amy Bilyeau, Jan-John Whipple.

**Fraternity Finances** – October deposits were \$299.00; expenditures were \$319.06. Expenditures included purchasing fabric for our December service project; St. Francis fraternity will reimburse for half of that. Please contribute in November if you can so that we can be generous in our holiday giving in December. Thank you!

**Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for Dec 2022:** *Volunteer Not-for-Profit*

*Organizations:* We pray that volunteer non-profit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

**Please pray for our members** – Amy Bilyeau, Maria Louisa Correa and family, Jean Fleurival, Sarah Faizi's friend Ron Harner, Nancy McCleary, Carol Petro, Bill Richardson, Helen Walls, Donna Wilkes.

**Franciscan Feasts 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

## **Contacting Council**

Minister	Michele Dunne	202-412-1210	<a href="mailto:micheleddunne@gmail.com">micheleddunne@gmail.com</a>
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### **St. Margaret of Cortona Regional Council**

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### **National Fraternity**

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### **Our fraternity website:**

<https://dcsfo.org/>

## **November Reflection**

Michele Dunne, OFS

Learning about Secular Franciscans who have gone before us reminds me of how many wonderful ways there are to live our Franciscan vocation. On October 26, Franciscans commemorate one of our number: Blessed Contardo Ferrini, who lived in Italy and died in 1902 at only age 42. Contardo was not poor or especially humble in a social sense; he was a respected scholar of Roman law from a prosperous family. He did not have mystical visions or undertake heroic acts of service or charity. Living as a celibate layman, he became a Secular Franciscan in his mid-twenties.

But there was something special about Contardo; in the words of Pope Pius XII at the time of his beatification, Contardo “gave an emphatic ‘yes’ to the possibility of holiness” during the times in which he lived. He shared with St. Francis a great love of nature—in Contardo’s case, of hiking in the mountains. Contardo wrote these beautiful words: “Nature lives by the breath of God’s omnipotence, smiles in its joy of him, hides from his wrath—yet greets him, eternally young, with the smile of its own youth.”

Another wonderful and completely different example of Secular Franciscan saintliness is Servant of God Julia Greeley, who entered the OFS at about the time that Contardo died in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Julia was an enslaved African American woman born in Missouri, who had lost an eye in her childhood due to a whipping. She moved to Colorado at some point after being freed and became a domestic worker for wealthy white families. What made Julia extraordinary was that she used all the money she made to help those less fortunate than herself—in fact, she gave away her own burial plot to a man whose body was to have been laid in a pauper’s grave. Her case for sainthood is under investigation.

What did a highly educated Italian man from a well-off family and a barely educated American woman who lived all her life in poverty have in common? They cultivated

holiness in ordinary conditions and inspired others by their goodness. And what do they have in common with us? They looked at the Poor Man of Assisi and saw that he could teach them how to follow Christ in their time.

May we also find our own uniquely Franciscan way to live in holiness in our times—to be blessed and a blessing to all we meet.



Sources: *Give Us This Day*, October 2022; FranciscanTradition.blog; FaithND.edu