



- the Chimes -

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P.O. BOX 29506
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20017
AUGUST 2023 Vol. LXVII, No. 8
August 20, 2023

**WE WILL MEET ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 1:30 PM BY ZOOM ONLY.
OUR NEXT IN PERSON MEETING WILL BE IN SEPTEMBER.**

All members are invited to join on Zoom at 130:

- To join by computer, use this link:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87245554636?pwd=VnNDNDZFLS2tZODB0bXlvcUhhURFVSUT09> Meeting ID: 872 4555 4636 Passcode: 012306
- To join by phone, call 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 872 4555 4636

Fraternity Meeting Agenda: Sunday, August 20, 2023, 1:30 pm

- Opening prayer 1:30 pm
- News of members
- Ongoing formation
- Evening Prayer and Closing

RSVP: Joint Fraternity Retreat in September Your Council is planning a half-day retreat jointly with St Mary of the Angels Fraternity (Rockville) to be held at the Franciscan Monastery on **Sun Sept 17, 12 noon-4 pm** in place of our monthly meeting. We will have lunch, watch the Vatican-sponsored film, "The Letter," and have a discussion facilitated by Sr. Louise Lears, a Sister of Charity. **Please make an effort to attend this special event; please let Michele know if you will attend and did not already sign up at our July meeting.**

Member seeking a ride to meetings. Our sister Adele Lewis will move in August to The Landing of Silver Spring, 13908 New Hampshire Ave, Silver Spring. She would like to resume attending meetings in September and would be grateful for any member who can give her a ride. Please call Adele at 239-839-5489 to arrange. Thank you!

National Chapter, Donation to Ukraine Please pray for the national chapter of Secular Franciscans in the US, which will meet on August 22 and make decisions regarding our Order. As part of that chapter, the OFS national minister of Ukraine will participate as part of a fraternal visitation from the international leadership. Fraternities were asked to consider a donation to the Secular Franciscans of Ukraine, who are undergoing hardships as a result of the war. Your Council voted to donate \$100.

Please pray for our members: Francoise Bidiki, Amy Bilyeau, Maria Louisa Correa and family, Sarah Faizi and friend Ron Harner, Jean Fleurival, Fr. Jim Gardiner, Nancy McCleary, Bill Richardson, Helen Walls.

Contacting Council

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National Fraternity

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Our fraternity website:

<https://dcsfo.org/>

August Reflection

Michele Dunne, OFS

Recently I was blessed to visit with our sister Adele Lewis as she prepared to move from DC to Silver Spring later this month. Adele transferred into our fraternity in 2014 after she moved from Florida, not long after I began formation. She impressed me very much at that time with her knowledge of and enthusiasm for Franciscanism, as well as her commitment to practice her vocation through hands-on service and other JPIC activities.

While Adele and I were reminiscing about the things we had done together in our fraternity over the years, I was moved to tell her what an important role she had played in my life. Adele was the first person to mention the Franciscan Action Network (FAN), the peace and justice advocacy organization for Franciscans, to me. As Formation Director for our fraternity, she suggested that we invite FAN's executive director to one of our meetings, which we did. Signing up for FAN's email newsletter led to me hearing about a pilgrimage to Assisi with the organization Pace e Bene, which I went on in 2019. That was a life-changing experience for me and

led to me leaving behind my career of 30 years to join the staff of none other than FAN.

Adele is one of several people I see as having been God's instrument in my life—introducing me to someone or something that led eventually to profound change. Although I am sometimes shy about telling people that, I've decided I should start doing so. What better feeling could there be than to know that God used you to bring about good in someone's life?

What about you? Is there one of your fellow Franciscans—or someone else—who played an important role in the development of your vocation? Did someone say something or show you something that ended up being terribly important to your understanding of how God wanted you to live this vocation? If so, consider telling that person. Perhaps he or she needs encouragement, and your telling them that they were God's instrument in your life could be just what they need to hear. In fact, God might even use you as His instrument in the life of that brother or sister. Peace and all good---

