



IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY

SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER

JOY FOR THE JOURNEY

DECEMBER 2016

Il Poverello Fraternity Gatherings

Dec. 4th

Day of Reflection

Jan. 22nd

Feb. 26th

March 26th

Il Poverello Fraternity

**Presents an Advent Day of Reflection
A Discussion on**

The Franciscan heart of Christmas

Date: Sunday, December 4th

Time: 9AM – 3PM

Location: SSU Newman Center

**1798 E. Cotati Ave., Across the street from SSU, one block east of main entrance
watch for banner "Newman Center" out front. Parking lot is in rear off Sturtevant Dr.**

Il Poverello Fraternity

COUNCIL

Minister:

Mark Kroncke, OFS

Vice Minister:

Edd Ringlein, OFS

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Noreen Ringlein, OFS

Treasurer:

Susan Forsyth, OFS

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Newsletter Editors:

Noreen & Edd Ringlein

J P I C:

Edd & Noreen Ringlein

Minister's Letter - December 2016

Advent – "Coming."

We may be familiar with the rituals of advent in our Christian churches – the wreaths, the candles of purple or blue, colors of a darkening night, the pink "Gaudete" candle reminding us of coming Joy. Yet these symbols, the rituals of advent, beg us to ask: "how are WE preparing for the advent – the Coming of Light into the darkness? In advent, we can find three truths of the coming of the Light: Christ has come; Christ will come again; and Christ is here now. Advent calls us to take stock of our lives so we may become "blameless in holiness." The purpose of such a preparation is so we may welcome the new born Christ into our hearts. Meister Eckhart captured the meaning of Advent when he wrote: "What good is it to me if this eternal birth of the divine Son takes place unceasingly but does not take place within myself? And, what good is it to me if Mary is full of grace and if I am not also full of grace? What good is it to me for the Creator to give birth to his/her Son if I do not also give birth to him in my time and my culture? This, then, is the fullness of time: When the Son of God is begotten in us." Our task, then, this advent and each new day in fact, is to be Mary to Christ – to prepare ourselves to welcome Christ the Light into our world of darkness, born anew in our hearts. The song "Be Born in Me" by Francesca Battistelli, includes beautiful lyrics which have been prayerful for me this advent. I share some of these:

- Be born in me, be born in me. Trembling heart, somehow I believe that You chose me.
- I'll hold You in the beginning, You will hold me in the end. Every moment in the middle, make my heart Your Bethlehem - be born in me
- I am not brave, I'll never be - The only thing my heart can offer is a vacancy. I'm just a girl, nothing more - but I am willing, I am Yours

This advent, does the Inn of Our Heart have OUR "vacancy" sign out?

Mark Kroncke, OFS

Minister

Scripture reading for Dec. 12th
Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
& Discovery of the tomb of St. Francis in 1820

LUKE 1:39-47

Mary set out
and traveled to the hill country in haste
to a town of Judah,
where she entered the house of Zechariah
and greeted Elizabeth.
When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting,
the infant leaped in her womb,
and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit,
cried out in a loud voice and said,
"Most blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb.
And how does this happen to me,
that the mother of my Lord should come to me?
For at the moment the sound of your greeting
reached my ears,
the infant in my womb leaped for joy.
Blessed are you who believed
that what was spoken to you by the Lord
would be fulfilled."

And Mary said:

"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;
my spirit rejoices in God my savior."

Pope Francis Prayer Intentions for December

Universal: End to Child-Soldiers

That the scandal of child-soldiers may be
eliminated the world over.

Evangelization: Europe

That the peoples of Europe may rediscover the
beauty, goodness, and truth of the Gospel which
gives joy and hope to life.

Anniversaries Birthday and Profession

Robert Bayley, OFS – 12/6

Mark Kroncke, OFS – 12/6

Eunice Edgington, OFS – 12/12

Susan Forsyth, OFS – 12/6

Kay Robbiano, OFS – 12/12

Edd Ringlein, OFS - 12/6

Alberto Cortez, OFS – 12/25

Noreen E. Ringlein – 12/6

The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order

As Secular Franciscans we are constantly challenged
to mindfully follow the rule of St Francis

~ Rule 6 ~

They have been made living members of the
Church by being buried and raised with Christ in
baptism; they have been united more intimately
with the Church by profession. Therefore, they
should go forth as witnesses and instruments of
her mission among all people, proclaiming Christ
by their life and words.

Called like Saint Francis to rebuild the
Church and inspired by his example, let them
devote themselves energetically to living in full
communion with the pope, bishops, and priests,
fostering an open and trusting dialogue of
apostolic effectiveness and creativity.

Fraternity Prayer Intentions ...

Let us pray

For our Il Poverello fraternity families and friends,
for the healing of Patch and for Catherine Galiata, for
Cindy's niece, for Andrea and JJ Taylor, Mary Anne and
Alice, Evelyn, John, Julie and their families, as well as
Gemma Marie and baby Willow who died in utero and for
the Porter family, as well as the Brawdy family, for Br.
Mateo, Father Christopher, Anthony, Ken, and Ann
Carranza;

For all the penitential fraternities striving to live
the Rule of St. Francis;
For Pope Francis and all the church leaders, guidance in
directing the church worldwide;

For all religious to be guided by the Holy Spirit to
be the Lord's evangelizers;

For our nation, reeling from the results of electing
their representatives, that those elected are guided to
seek the common good of all in His creation;

For those who are dealing with health problems,
especially heart issues and cancer, and for those
recovering from natural and man-made disasters;

For all refugees of worldwide conflicts that they
may be sheltered, healed, and comforted;

For the activists and environmentalists
participating in the protest of the Dakota Access Pipeline
that is being built right alongside North Dakota Native
American reservations and sacred tribal lands, it
represents a profound threat to the wellbeing of the
indigenous peoples, all farmlands, and other communities
down river;

For these and all our individual intentions;

We Pray to the Lord

Living Simply

As Americans, when we speak of living out the Gospel while in the midst of an ecological crisis, we must see that something more radical than recycling and something more profound than a social media post is required. Elizabeth Anne Seton, a formerly wealthy New York socialite, summed up this profound and radical something when she spoke, "Live simply so that others may simply live." These words were spoken nearly half a century before the American Industrial Revolution began in earnest. However, they resonate even more today because American society is only beginning to come to terms with the costly externalities of our addictive consumption.

That is the essence of Franciscan simple living: Imagining how our life can imitate Jesus' life in our day and age and living it with a minimal dependence upon material things and a maximal interdependence upon each other. Here are some key simple living elements from the passage:

1. All creatures bear the imprint of God- The radical reorientation that comes from seeing God in all of creation is fundamental to Franciscan simple living.
2. A proper spirit of detachment from material possessions- Franciscan simple living is an experience of what happens when we reprioritize means and ends in our lives.
3. Solidarity with the poor- In order to experience the life of the poor, Francis gave up his wealthy inheritance and sought the virtue of living at a level equal to the poor.
4. Living in a house of peace- God gave Francis his own commission, "Go repair my house which as you see has fallen into ruin."
5. Worthiness is not earned it is experienced- Francis once stated, "I have been all things unholy; if God can work through me, He can work through anyone."

Excerpted from:

<https://franciscanaction.org/earthcorps/article/living-simply>



Franciscan Saints in December

1. Bl Marie-Angele Astorch, Virgin, Capuchin religious, d. 1665
2. Bl. Raphael Chylinski, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1741
3. St. Francis Xavier, Priest, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, Martyr, 1623
4. Bl. Francois Galves, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, Martyr 1623
5. Bl. Pierre de Sienne, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1289
6. Bl. Elisabeth la Bonne, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1420
7. Bl. Louis Beltrame Quattrocchi, Confessor, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1951
8. Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Patroness of the Seraphic Order, Holy Day of Obligation, Plenary Indulgence for tertiaries and cordbearers
9. Bl. Delphine de Glandeves, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1360
10. Bl. Conrad d'Offide, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1306
11. Bl. Hugolin Magalotti, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1373
12. Discovery of the tomb of St. Francis 1820
13. Bl. Pius Bartosik, Priest, Conventual religious, Martyr 1941
14. Bl. Barthole Buonpedini, Priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1300
15. Mary Queen of the Seraphic Order
16. Bl. Honorat de Biala, Priest, Capuchin religious, d. 1916
17. Bl. Francois Bell, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, Martyr 1643
18. Bl. Marie-Francoise Schervier, Virgin, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1876
19. Bl. Jean Discalceat, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1349
20. Bl. Antoine Galvao, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1822
21. St. Raphael Kalinowski, Priest, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1907
22. St. Francis Xavier Cabrini, Virgin, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1917
23. Bl. Nicolas Factor, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1583
24. Bl. Bentivoglio de Bonio, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1231
25. Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Holy Day of Obligation
26. St. Albert Chmielowski, Confessor, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1916
27. Bl. Mathie de Nazareis, Virgin, the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1320
28. Feast of the Holy Innocents
29. Bl Gerard de Valence, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1342
30. Bl. Marguerite Colonna, Virgin, the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1280
31. St. Gaspard Buffalo, Priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1836; Plenary Indulgence (Chant the Te Deum in public)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Admission Right of Michelle Schumacher

Our fraternity will take a break during the Advent Day of Reflection on Sunday to welcome in our dear sister, Michelle. There will be an Admission Right performed by members of the Il Poverello fraternity. We celebrate her admittance into our order.

Preparation of Blessing Bags

We will take some time during the Day of Reflection to assemble the Blessing Bags that will be presented to the homeless population in Petaluma. Please remember to bring your items that you wish to contribute. Also remember that if you wish to include any food items, they need to be individually wrapped.

Advent Day of Reflection

A Discussion on The Franciscan heart of Christmas

Date: Sunday, December 4th

Time: 9AM - 3PM

Location: SSU Newman Center

1798 E. Cotati Ave.,

Across the street from SSU, one block east of main entrance watch for banner "Newman Center" out front.
Parking lot is in rear off Sturtevant Dr.

This Day of Reflection is open to anyone interested in exploring Franciscan spirituality

- Donations gladly accepted to support the Newman Center
- Bring healthy food and drinks to share for lunch break
- For more information please call Mark: 415-2507362

Secular Franciscan Links:

The National Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order-USA:

<http://www.nafra-sfo.org/>

Tau-USA- Newsletter (complete issues):

http://www.nafra-sfo.org/tau-usa/tau_newarticles.html

Franciscan Action Network (FAN):

<http://franciscanaction.org/>

www.FranciscanEarthCorps.org

San Damiano retreats calendar:

<http://sandamiano.org/retreats-programs/retreats-calendar>

Blessed Junipero Serra Regional Fraternity:

<http://www.juniperoserraregion.com/juniperoserraregion.com/Homepage.html>

Secular Franciscan Order - Ordo Franciscanus Sæcularis:

<http://www.ciofs.org/portal/index.php/en/>

