



IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY

Secular Franciscan Order

JOY FOR THE JOURNEY

JANUARY, 2017

IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY GATHERINGS

January 22nd

February 26th

March 26th

April 23rd

IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY GATHERING

January 22, 2017

Council Meeting: 12:00 - 1:15

Fraternity Gathering: 1:30 - 3:30

Opening Prayer

Ongoing Formation

Break: Snack and Fellowship

Business: Old and New

Closing Prayer

IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY COUNCIL

Minister:

Mark Kroncke, OFS

Vice Minister:

Edd Ringlein, OFS

Secretary:

Noreen Ringlein, OFS

Treasurer:

Susan Forsyth, OFS

Formation Director:

Kathleen Robbiano, OFS

Spiritual Assistant: TBA

COUNCILORS

Dianne Prior, OFS

Cosmos Bacich, OFS

Margaret Enea-Patrizi, OFS

Special Ministries

Librarian:

J. Patch Guglielmino, OFS

Newsletter Editors:

Noreen & Edd Ringlein

J P I C:

Edd & Noreen Ringlein

Minister's Letter January 2017

It's Okay To Be Ordinary

Advent is over, the Christmas wreath is put away, along with mangers, Wiseman and the Holy Family. Trees are recycled, candles extinguished and Poinsettias start to drop their leaves. Christmas has dawned, the Incarnation made real yet again, and now we enter into that liturgical year twilight zone called "ordinary time." Most scholars consider the term to come from "ordinary" as in numbered, a way of simply keeping track of the weeks that go by in between special seasons, like Advent, Christmas, and next up Lent and Easter. So, what is the purpose of this "ordinary, numbered" time? Ordinary time does not need to be "ordinary," and is not somehow a "break" from the Liturgical Year. In fact, the opposite is true: Ordinary Time celebrates "the mystery of Christ in all its aspects." Many important liturgical celebrations fall during Ordinary Time, and it can be seen as a chance to remember and to celebrate those parts of Jesus' life that were quite ordinary, much as we experience in our own, daily, "secular" lives. Especially, we can begin the "Work of Christmas," which calls us to action in the most ordinary of ways. Here is a prayer by Michael Dougherty, "The Work of Christmas Begins":

When the cards have been stilled,

When the star-topped tree is taken down,

When family and friends are gone,

When we are back to our schedules

THE WORK OF CHRISTMAS BEGINS

To welcome the refugee, To heal a broken planet, To feed the hungry,

To build bridges of trust, not walls of fear, To share our gifts,

To seek justice and peace for all people,

To bring Christ's light to the World.

As we return to some sense of ordinariness, let us remember that even in daily tasks we are called to change the world, one small action at a time. Jesus lived an ordinary life, and look what happened! While I personally have no expectations of reaching His level, I certainly find comfort knowing that ordinary is okay, and that ordinary time is a chance to break the Light of Christmas into the world throughout the year.

May the peace of Christmas continue with you now and throughout the coming liturgical year!

Mark Kroncke,

Minister, Il Poverello Fraternity

Scripture reading for: 1/16/2017

HEBREWS 5:1-10

Brothers and sisters:

Every high priest is taken from among men and made their representative before God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins.

He is able to deal patiently with the ignorant and erring, for he himself is beset by weakness and so, for this reason, must make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people.

No one takes this honor upon himself but only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

In the same way, it was not Christ who glorified himself in becoming high priest, but rather the one who said to him:

You are my Son: this day I have begotten you; just as he says in another place, You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

In the days when he was in the Flesh, he offered prayers and supplications with loud cries and tears to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence.

Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered; and when he was made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

We pray to the Lord...

For Pope Francis and all the church leaders, as well as all religious for guidance in directing the church worldwide;

For all the penitential fraternities and members of St. Junipero Serra Region: Christine's daughter, quick recovery from surgery, Karl and Laurinda Vargas (Karl struggles with serious illness), Imelda Schroeder, who ended up in the hospital on Christmas Day, Jim Wesley, who had knee surgery on Jan. 11th, Mary Bittner, our National Vice Minister who has been very ill with flu, for the dearly departed: Val Orona (St. John the Baptist/Fresno) and Lupe Gomez (San Juan Bautista /Sacramento). May they rest in Peace;

For our Il Poverello fraternity, their families and friends, for Mary Anne and Alice, Evelyn, John, and their families, for the healing of Patch and for Julie's goddaughter, for Cindy's niece, for all who are ill as well as Mike Ortelle and family, for the Porter family, and for the family of Daryl Fraser;

For our nation that those elected to serve are guided to seek the common good of all in His creation;

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

For the activists and environmentalists continuing in the protest of the DAPL, that their efforts protecting Native American reservations and sacred tribal lands of the indigenous peoples, as well as all of the farmlands, and other communities down river may be successful;

Lord, hear our prayers

THE RULE OF THE SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER

AS SECULAR FRANCISCANS WE ARE CONSTANTLY CHALLENGED

TO MINDFULLY FOLLOW THE RULE OF ST FRANCIS

RULE 7

United by their vocation as "brothers and sisters of penance" and motivated by the dynamic power of the gospel, let them conform their thoughts and deeds to those of Christ by means of that radical interior change which the gospel calls "conversion." Human frailty makes it necessary that this conversion be carried out daily.

On this road to renewal the sacrament of reconciliation is the privileged sign of the Father's mercy and the source of grace.

Prayer Intentions ... Of the Holy Father for January

Christian Unity: That all Christians may be faithful to the Lord's teaching by striving with prayer and fraternal charity to restore ecclesial communion and by collaborating to meet the challenges facing humanity.

Jesus taught that division leads to weakness. He said: "Every kingdom divided against itself will be laid waste" (Lk 11: 17). Is that true, even for the Church, through which the Kingdom of God is breaking into the world? Yes. Unfortunately the divisions among Christians make us weak. We cannot confront the evils in our world because our energy is sapped by the divisions among us.

Who is behind division? Pope Francis' answer is clear: "The devil plants evil where there is good, trying to divide people, families and nations." Weakened by division, the People of God become fair game for devilish assaults. Satan wants to destroy the Church and humanity. We can't ignore our divisions.

Pope Francis said: "Either you are with me, says the Lord, or you are against me. On this point, there are no nuances. There is a battle and a battle where salvation is at play, eternal salvation. We must always be on guard, on guard against deceit, against the seduction of evil." By means of prayer and works of charity, we can stay close to the one who won the victory over evil and division. Pope Francis exhorts us: "Let us ask the Lord for the grace to take these things seriously. He came to fight for our salvation. He won against the devil! Please, let us not do business with the devil!"

We meet Jesus in both prayer and in whatever we do for the least of our brothers and sisters (see Mt 25: 31-45). One concrete way that we Christians can come together, even though we are divided by doctrines and the way we worship, is by working together to protect human life.

In his encyclical *The Gospel of Life* Pope St. John Paul II wrote: "Service of the Gospel of life increasingly appears as a valuable and fruitful area for positive cooperation with our brothers and sisters of other Churches and ecclesial communities." And in his encyclical about ecumenism, *Ut Unum Sint*, he wrote: "With increasing frequency Christians are working together to defend human dignity...Before the world, united action in society on the part of Christians has the clear value of a joint witness to the name of the Lord."

We join Pope Francis this month in praying for Christian unity. We ask that this prayer may lead us to work with other Christians to meet the challenges facing humanity.

January Birthdays

Margaret Enea-Patrizi, OFS 1-22

Noreen E. Ringlein, OFS 1-31



Feast of the Epiphany



The Feast of the Espousal of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Saint Joseph

Franciscan Saint Days in January —

Month of the Holy Name of Jesus and His Holy Childhood

1. Feast of the Circumcision of Our Lord—Holy Day of Obligation;
Plenary Indulgence possible (Chant in public *Veni Creator*)

2. Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus

3. Bl. Chriatiane Menaburi, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1310

4. Bl. Angele de Foligno, widow, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1310

5. Bl. Pierre Bonilli, priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1935

6. Feast of the Epiphany—Holy Day of Obligation

(Celebrated on Sunday; in the Latin and Eastern Rites, included with the Lord's baptism)

7. St. Charles de Sezza, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order,
d. 1670

8. Bl. Roger de Toddi, priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1237

9. Bl. Gilles de Lorenzana, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1518

10. Bl. Gregory X, Pope, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1276

11. St. Thomas de Cori, priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1729

12. St. Bernard of Corleone, lay brother, Capuchin religious, d. 1667

13. Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ

14. Bl. Oderic de Pordenone, priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1331

15. Bl. Jacques del Piebe, priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, martyr d. 1304

16. Sts. Berard and Companions, Protomartyrs of the Order, d. 1220

17. St. Matthieu d'Argrigente, Bishop, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order,
d. 1451

18. Bl. Jeanne of Saint Mary, virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1360

19. Bl. Marcel Spinola y Maestre, Bishop, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1906

20. Bl. Jean-Baptiste Triquerie, priest, conventual religious, martyr d. 1794

21. Bl. Joseph Nascimbeni, priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1922

22. St. Vincent Pallotti, priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1850

23. Feast of the Marriage of the Blessed Virgin Mary

24. Bl. Paule Gamgara Costa, widow, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1515

25. Bl. Emmanuel Dominguo y Sol, priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1909

26. Bl. Georges Matulwicz, Bishop, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1927

27. St. Angela Merici, virgin, had been a tertiary before founding or
joining another religious Institute, d. 1540

28. Bl. Bienvenu de Recanati, priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1289

29. St. Francis de Sales, Bishop, Doctor of the Church, Codbearer, d. 1622

30. St. Hyacintha of Mariscotti, virgin, religious of the Third-Order Regular
[living in community, under a Rule], d. 1640

31. St. John Bosco, priest, had been a tertiary before founding
or joining another religious Institute, d. 1888

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

He was in the beginning with God. - *John 1: 1-2*

When eight days were completed for his circumcision, he was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. - *Luke 2: 21*

The origin of the Feast of the Holy Name occurred at the end of the 15th century, celebrated between New Year's and Epiphany. It celebrates Christ's naming and circumcision, a memoriam of the first shedding of the Lord's blood. The Holy Name, often seen as "I.H.S.," the Latin abbreviation of Christ's name as revealed through divine intervention to Joseph and Mary. These letters stand as a reminder of blessings received through Christ's love and mercy.

<http://www.salvemariaregina.info/SalveMariaRegina/SMR-163/Holy%20Name.html>

Upcoming Events

January 18-25, is the annual observance of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

The theme chosen for 2017 is Reconciliation – The Love of Christ Compels Us (2 Corinthians 5:14-20).

Throughout 2017, join Christians everywhere in praying “that they may all be one” joining our prayer with that of the Lord Jesus Christ.

January 21, Annual Walk for Life, West Coast

January 22, Il Poverello fraternity gathering

January 27-29, Franciscan Spirituality Retreat at San Damiano Retreat Center

February 17-19, St. Junipero Serra Regional Elective Chapter gathering at San Damiano Retreat Center.

February 26, Il Poverello fraternity gathering

March 26, Il Poverello fraternity gathering

Remembrances of December Day of Reflection



Before the Nativity, those in attendance reflected on Advent, on what it means to prepare for His coming and what that represents to everyone within creation. In this time of waiting and anticipation we are to contemplate on the meaning of His life here on earth and the graces we can receive through the Love and Mercy bestowed upon those actively participating in faith.

Care for Creation

Here is a [Link to the Franciscan Action Network website](https://franciscanaction.org/issues) listing the many issues and the ways in which to respond for those who may choose to do so: <https://franciscanaction.org/issues>

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>

Saint 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/>

Ecumenical and Interfaith Committee's new web site:

<https://www.ofsusaecumenicalinterfaith.org/>

