



IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY
SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER
JOY FOR THE JOURNEY

PETALUMA, CA JULY, 2016

Il Poverello Fraternity
Gatherings

July 24th

*Potluck picnic meeting at
Petaluma Old Adobe **

August 20th

*Handicapables **

August 28th - *Elections **

September 25th

**see Upcoming Events*

IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY

Potluck Picnic Meeting

Sunday July 24th, 2016 from 12:30 - 4:00

Petaluma Old Adobe

Petaluma Adobe State Historic Park

3325 Adobe Road,
Petaluma, CA 94954

Il Poverello Fraternity

COUNCIL

Minister:

Kathleen Robbiano OFS

Vice Minister:

Eunice Edgington OFS

Treasurer:

Margaret Enea-Patrizi OFS

Formation Director:

Il Poverello Formation Team

Spiritual Assistant:

Special Ministries

Librarian:

J. Patch Guglielmino

Newsletter Editors:

Noreen & Edd Ringlein

J P I C:

Edd & Noreen Ringlein

Minister's Letter

July 2016

Peace be with you!

What a gift our Day of Reflection with Father Tom West proved to be! The opportunity to share our faith journey stories gave voice to God's mercy at work in each of our lives. Further teaching and discussion was both simple and profound.

In his own story, Father Tom shared his experience of God's voice speaking within, surprising him in the midst of his Eastern meditation study, and slowly calling him to Franciscan life. God does nudge us into new directions.

It is interesting to hear that many of us sense God's stirrings, and often put up resistance. Yet God gently leads, with great mercy, to life within great love. That conversion continues daily if we recognize our ongoing need for God being with us in life.

A question for pondering this month- what are we being called to say "Yes" to? What can we find in the Gospel, reflecting on the life of Jesus, that this will open us more deeply to God's mercy and desire for us? How can we share our discoveries with others we meet?

Please continue to pray for our upcoming fraternity election, that God will bring forth new council members who respond to God's invitation. God will be a source of wisdom and mercy for all who enter into leadership.

May Christ bring you blessings and healing!

Kathleen Robbiano, OFS
Minister, Il Poverello fraternity

Scripture reading for

JULY 15, 2016

Memorial of Saint Bonaventure,
Bishop and Doctor of the Church

MATTHEW 12:1-8

Jesus was going through a field of grain on the sabbath. His disciples were hungry and began to pick the heads of grain and eat them.

When the Pharisees saw this, they said to him, "See, your disciples are doing what is unlawful to do on the sabbath."

He said to them,

"Have you not read what David did when he and his companions were hungry, how he went into the house of God and ate the bread of offering, which neither he nor his companions but only the priests could lawfully eat? Or have you not read in the law that on the sabbath the priests serving in the temple violate the sabbath and are innocent?"

I say to you, something greater than the temple is here. If you knew what this meant, *I desire mercy, not sacrifice*, you would not have condemned these innocent men. For the Son of Man is Lord of the sabbath."



The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order

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

- Rule 1 -

The Franciscan family, as one among many spiritual families raised up by the Holy Spirit in the Church, unites all members of the people of God - laity, religious, and priests - who recognize that they are called to follow Christ in the footsteps of St. Francis of Assisi.

In various ways and forms but in life-giving union with each other, they intend to make present the charism of their common Seaphic Father in the life and mission of the Church.

Papal prayer intentions for the month of July



Please remember Pope Francis' monthly prayer intentions:

Universal: Indigenous Peoples

That indigenous peoples, whose identity and very existence are threatened, will be shown due respect.

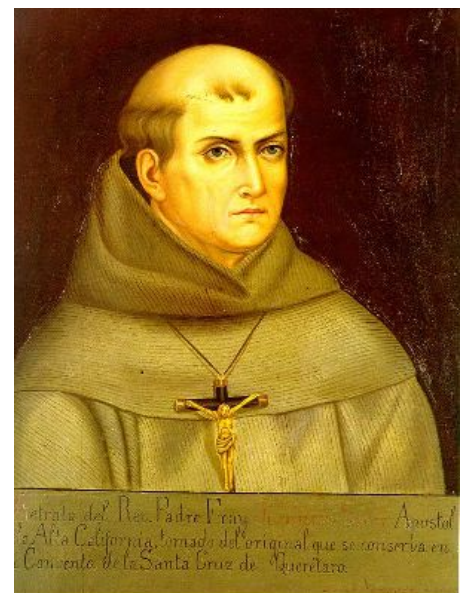
Evangelization: Latin America and the Caribbean

That the Church in Latin America and the Caribbean, by means of her mission to the continent, may announce the Gospel with renewed vigor and enthusiasm.



The Most Precious Blood of Our Lord
Jesus Christ Feast Day: July 1st
Woodcut by Albrecht Dürer (1471-1528)

July 1st
Feast Day of
St. Padre
Junipero
Serra
Pray for us!



The most well-known image of Serra, a copy of portrait done in 1771, when Serra was 58.

Our Fraternity Prayer Intentions

Let us pray

For our Il Poverello fraternity families and friends, for those traveling this week, Franciscans returning from the Q in St. Louis, as well as all those on vacation to see family and friends;

For all of the penitential fraternities worldwide striving to live through the Rule of St. Francis and St. Clare;

For Pope Francis and all church leaders, guidance in directing the church members worldwide;

For all religious to be guided through the Holy Spirit to be the feet and hands as our Lord's evangelizers;

For our nation, as it prepares for electing our next representatives, that the electorate is guided to choose those who will seek the common good for everyone;

For healing and restoration for those who are recovering from natural and man-made disasters;

For those who are suffering from the recent attacks of terrorists continuing worldwide;

For comfort of the homeless worldwide especially for those fleeing conflicts at home and abroad;

For these and all our intentions,

We pray to the Lord.



Franciscan Saints in July

– Month of the Precious Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ

1. **Feast of the Precious Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ**
2. **Feast of the Visitation of Our Lady**
3. **Bl. Marie Anne Fontcuberta, Virgin**, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1886
4. **40 Martyrs of China**, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order and Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1900
5. **Bl. Ignace Falzon, Confessor**, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1865
6. **St. Maria Goretti, Virgin Martyr**, Corderbearer, d. 1902
7. **Bl. Oddin Barotto, Priest**, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1400
8. **St. Elisabeth of Portugal, Virgin**, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1336
9. **St. Veronica Giuliani, Virgin**, Capuchin religious, d. 1727
10. **8 Martyrs religious of the Franciscan 1st Order of Damas**, d. 1860
11. **11 Martyrs religious of the Franciscan 1st Order of Holland**, d. 1572
12. **Sts. Geoffroy and Joachim, Priests**, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, martyrs 1679
13. **St. Francis Solano, Priest**, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1610
14. **St. Bonaventure, Bishop, Doctor of the Church**, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1274
15. **Bl. Bernard de Bade, Confessor**, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1458
16. **Our Lady of Mount Carmel; St. Marie-Madeleine Postel, Virgin**, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1846
17. **Bl. Pierre De Foligno, Confessor**, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1614
18. **St. Camillus de Lellis, Priest**, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1614
19. **St. Vincent de Paul, Priest**, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1660
20. **St. Jerome Emilien, Priest**, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1537
21. **St. Laurent de Brindes, Priest**, Capuchin religious, Doctor of the Church, d. 1619
22. **Bl. Angeline of Marciano, Virgin**, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1435
23. **Bl. Louise de Savoie, Virgin**, of the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1503
24. **Bl. Modestin de Jesus-Marie, Priest**, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1864
25. **Bl. Antoine Lucci, Bishop**, Conventual religious, d. 1752
26. **St. Anne, mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
27. **Bl. Marie-Madeleine Martinengo, Virgin**, Capuchin, d. 1737
28. **Bl. Marie-Therese of the Infant Jesus, Virgin**, Capuchin, martyr 1941
29. **Bl. Alphonse de l'Immaculee, virgin**, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1946
30. **St. Leopold de Castelnovo, Priest**, Capuchin religious, d. 1942
31. **St. Ignace de Loyola, Priest**, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1556

June 25th Day of Reflection



In his talk on Mercy, Fr. Tom West, OFM, reflected on this Year of Mercy offered by Pope Francis. He gave us several names of those who have given their thoughts on God's Divine Mercy. One name was Cardinal Walter Kasper. Here is what was said in the introduction of Commonweal Magazine of their Interview with Cardinal Walter Kasper - *During his first Angelus address, Pope Francis recommended a work of theology that "has done me so much good" because it "says that mercy changes everything; it changes the world by making it less cold and more fair."* That book is **Mercy: The Essence of the Gospel and the Key to Christian Life** by Cardinal Walter Kasper,...

Another name offered was Fr. Richard Rohr, OFM, a Franciscan priest of the New Mexico Province and founder of the Center for Action and Contemplation (CAC) in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He has authored many books one of which, **Falling Upward** which as a fraternity, we chose to read and discuss for our ongoing formation. It's when we pick ourselves up after a great fall that we find ourselves growing spiritually.

Eckert Tolle was another name mentioned, Tolle writes in the introduction to his second book, *Stillness Speaks*: "A true spiritual teacher does not have anything to teach in the



conventional sense of the word, does not have anything to give or add to you, such as new information, beliefs, or rules of conduct. The only function of such a teacher is to help you remove that which separates you from the truth ... The words are no more than signposts."

Tolle writes that "the most significant thing that can happen to a human being [is] the separation process of thinking and awareness" and that awareness is "the space in which thoughts exist". Tolle says that "the primary cause of unhappiness is never the situation but your thoughts about it". Fr Tom helped us to explore the concept of this inner place, where we co-exist with the divine.

According to Tolle's official website, "at the core of Tolle's teachings lies the transformation of consciousness, a spiritual awakening that he sees as the next step in human evolution. An essential aspect of this awakening consists in transcending our ego-based state of consciousness. This is a prerequisite not only for personal happiness but also for the ending of violent conflict endemic on our planet".

In his book *A New Earth*, Tolle describes a major aspect of the human dysfunction as "ego" or an "illusory sense of self" based on unconscious identification with one's memories and thoughts, and another major aspect he calls "pain-body" or "an accumulation of old emotional pain".

St. John Paul II covered this topic in his first encyclical, *DIVES IN MISERICORDIA* (On the Mercy of God), it can be found here: http://w2.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/encyclicals/documents/hf_jp-ii_enc_30111980_dives-in-misericordia.html, and in the Divine Mercy website: <http://www.thedivinemercy.org/message/johnpaul/encyclical.php>.

Others who were mentioned for their contributions of understanding Mercy as a human condition were St Augustine, St Paul, St John of the Cross, John Main, Dom Laurence Freeman, OSB, and Anthony De Mello.

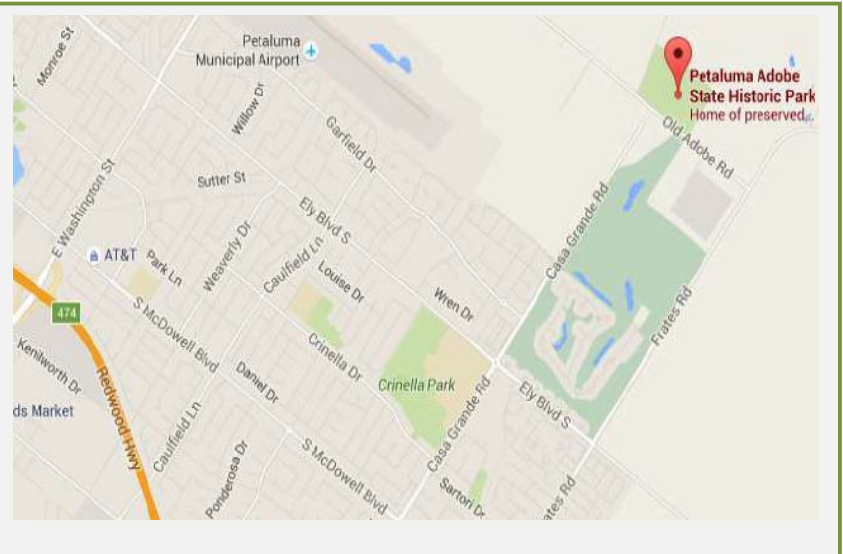
Thank you, Father Tom, for your talk for us to reflect on as we continue on our spiritual journey. Some things for us to take away are to remember to not just read scripture, but to pray it. It's not meant to be dwelt upon, but to be experienced from the heart. This will help to develop true relationships with our Brothers and Sisters in Christ through our understanding of what it means to be Merciful, through Faithfulness, Compassion, Empathy, and most of all LOVE.

Upcoming Events

Our meeting on **July 24th**
will take place from **1 to 4** at the

Petaluma Old Adobe
Petaluma Adobe State Historic Park
3325 Adobe Road
Petaluma, CA 94954

Potluck luncheon to be organized



A Day with the Handicapables August 20th, 2016



Church of the Roses

2500 Patio Court, Santa Rosa, CA

Date and Details to be announced

Care for Creation/Newman Center Project

Fr. John Boettcher, OFS appreciates our efforts in planting and caring for the garden. However, he has let us know that his bigger interest is having a place for students and people to come on spiritual retreat for any portion of the day. He presented us with a layout design of the 1.3 acre property to help with developing ideas to help create an environment open to spiritual reflection. Proposals for creating an area where a half dozen individuals could go and feel that they are able to have some time for prayer and reflection with little or no interruption is what I sense Fr. John would like to have for the SSU Newman Center.

Irrigation is going into place to help with this. So suggestions would be much appreciated for the placement of trees, shrubs, flowers, edible landscaping with raised beds around benches, prayer booths, outdoor chapel, etc. Suggestions have also included a labyrinth path, a stations of the cross, and a running fountain to help create an atmosphere for a spiritual retreat center.

Noreen has a landscape gardener in mind to help with preparing and placement of plants when the design has been agreed upon.

August 28th is the meeting date for Il Poverello elections of new council members. All professed members are urged to attend this important meeting. The meeting will take place in Rm. 9 of the St. Jame's Hall from 1:30 to 3:30.

Franciscan Links:

The National Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order-USA:

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

Tau-USA- Newsletter:

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

Messengers of Joy, Regional Summer Newsletter:

<https://www.luminpdf.com/viewer/yHcyZZeNuiwi2YK6R>

Franciscan Action Network (FAN):

<http://franciscanaction.org/>

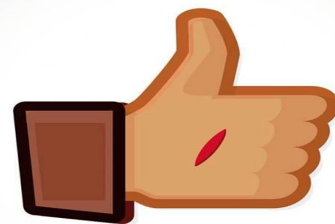
www.FranciscanEarthCorps.org

Saint Junipero Serra Regional news:

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

San Damiano retreats calendar:

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



St Francis of Assisi likes this!