



IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY

SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER

JOY FOR THE JOURNEY

SONOMA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

SEPTEMBER 2016

IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY GATHERINGS

Sept 25th

Oct. 3rd & 4th

Celebration of Transitus & Feast Day

Oct. 23rd

Nov. 27th

IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY

Meeting St. James Catholic Church - September 25th, 2016

Council Meeting: 12:00 - 1:30

Fraternity Meeting: 1:30 - 3:30

Opening Prayer:

Business Old and New:

Ongoing Formation:

Anyone who wishes can join together for 5pm Mass at St James

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 Ringlein, OFS

& Edd Ringlein, OFS

J P I C:

Edd Ringlein, OFS

& Noreen Ringlein, OFS

Minister's Letter September 2016

While many people - religious and non-religious alike - are familiar with Mother Teresa's works of compassion in the world, not many people have yet heard of her profound personal struggles in spirituality. Only made known after her death, and seen through thousands of letters she wrote in her lifetime, some dating back almost fifty years in her life, her struggle was indeed profound and long suffered.

*In the book, *Mother Teresa: Come Be My Light*, edited by the Rev. Brian Kolodiejchuk, who was the postulator of her cause, Mother even mused at one point that, "If I ever become a Saint—I will surely be one of 'darkness,'" she wrote. "I will continually be absent from Heaven—to (light) the light of those in darkness on earth." This she wrote in 1962! In the book are included three aspects of her life: her vow to God; what she called "the inspiration;" and also "the darkness." It was in 1942 that Mother Teresa made a vow not to refuse Jesus anything He asked of her. Starting in 1946, she experienced several mystical encounters with Jesus, whom she called "the Voice," asking her to serve "the poorest of the poor." The "darkness" was her term for feelings of loneliness and abandonment when her communion with Jesus ended. This period of feelings of abandonment and lack of connection (communion) with God and Jesus would last from the beginning of her ministry in Calcutta until her death.*

In her suffering, she continued to care for the poor and outcast, to bring God's love to others forgotten by humanity, all the while wondering if God still loved her. In a 1981 interview, Mother Teresa spoke about another champion of the poor: St. Francis of Assisi. We know the story of Francis' life, where encountering a leper by the roadside he feels an intense conversion then embraces the leper with a kiss. Mother Teresa commented, "The encounter with the leper made St. Francis." Christians are called to serve the poor, to welcome all at the table. Francis saw that. Mother Teresa saw that as well. She cleared away life's clutter and allowed God to work through her in a powerful way. Francis himself, echoing John 1:5, tells us that "All the darkness in the world cannot extinguish the light of a single candle."

This dark night of the soul eventually helped her identify with not only the poor she served, but with Jesus on the Cross. May her example of faith and dedication to the Voice of Jesus be an example to all of us in our Faith and Franciscan Life, so that when we, too, face those dark times we can hold onto that connection with the poor and Jesus on the Cross, as did St. Francis and St. Teresa of Calcutta. During this Year of Mercy, may Mother Teresa, Saint of the Gutters, pray for us! May we, too, be light to those in darkness on Earth.

*Peace and all good,
Mark Kroncke, OFS
Minister, Il Poverello Fraternity*

Scripture reading for Sept. 12th Feast of the Name of Holy Mary

LUKE 7:1-10

When Jesus had finished all his words to the people, he entered Capernaum.

A centurion there had a slave who was ill and about to die, and he was valuable to him. When he heard about Jesus, he sent elders of the Jews to him, asking him to come and save the life of his slave. They approached Jesus and strongly urged him to come, saying,

“He deserves to have you do this for him, for he loves our nation and he built the synagogue for us.”

And Jesus went with them, but when he was only a short distance from the house, the centurion sent friends to tell him,

“Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you enter under my roof. Therefore, I did not consider myself worthy to come to you; but say the word and let my servant be healed. For I too am a person subject to authority, with soldiers subject to me. And I say to one, ‘Go,’ and he goes; and to another, ‘Come here,’ and he comes; and to my slave, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.”

When Jesus heard this he was amazed at him and, turning, said to the crowd following him,

“I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith.”

When the messengers returned to the house, they found the slave in good health.

** This story about the faith of the centurion, a Gentile who cherishes the Jewish nation (Lk 7:5), prepares for the story in Acts of the conversion by Peter of the Roman centurion Cornelius who is similarly described as one who is generous to the Jewish nation (Acts 10:2). See also Acts 10:34–35 in the speech of Peter: “God shows no partiality...whoever fears him and acts righteously is acceptable to him.”*

Papal prayers for the month of September:

Universal intention: Centrality of the Human Person

That each may contribute to the common good and to the building of a society that places the human person at the center.

Evangelization intention: Mission to Evangelize

That by participating in the Sacraments and meditating on Scripture, Christians may become more aware of their mission to evangelize.

Birthday and Profession Anniversaries

Cindy Cunningham

Birth date: 9/15

The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order As Secular Franciscans we are constantly challenged to mindfully follow the rule of St. Francis – Rule 3 –

The present rule, succeeding “Memoriale Propositum” (1221) and the rules approved by the Supreme Pontiffs Nicholas IV and Leo XIII, adapts the Secular Franciscan Order to the needs and expectations of the Holy Church in the conditions of changing times. Its interpretation belongs to the Holy See and its application will be made by the General Constitutions and particular statutes.

Prayer Intentions ...

Let us pray

For our Il Poverello fraternity newly elected council members as we embark on this journey under their guidance;

For our families and friends, for Mary Anne and Alice, Evelyn, John, Julie and their families, as well as the Porter family, for Br. Mateo, Father Christopher, Anthony, Ken, and Ann Carranza;

For the penitential fraternities striving to live through 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 through the Holy Spirit to be the Lord's evangelizers;

For our nation, as it prepares for another series of elections for representatives, that the electorate is guided to choose those who will seek the common good;

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

For the activists and environmentalists protesting the nearly 1,200 mile Dakota Access Pipeline that is planned to be built right alongside North Dakota Native American reservations and sacred tribal lands, they are saying that it represents a profound threat to the wellbeing of indigenous communities;

For these and all our individual intentions;

We Pray to the Lord



**St. Theresa of Calcutta pray for us,
St. Pio and St. John Paul pray for us.**

Pope Francis Has Asked Us to Pray for Creation, Our Common Home, During the Month of September

September 1 was proclaimed as the World Day of Prayer for Creation by the Orthodox Church in 1989. Many other Christian churches have joined since then. In 2015, Pope Francis emphasized our shared responsibilities in his encyclical *Laudato Si*. His focus was then extended to this month-long Season of Creation, ending on October 4 (Feast of St. Francis of Assisi). Watch the video at: SeasonOfCreation.org.



September – Month of the Holy Cross

1. **Bl Joachim de Albocacer**, Priest, Capuchin religious, martyr 1936
2. **Bl. Martyrs de Carmes**, d. 1792
3. **St. Pius X**, Pope, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1914
4. **St. Rose of Viterbo**, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1252 Plenary Indulgence for cordbearers
5. **Bl. Gentil de Matelica**, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, martyr 1340
6. **Bl Liberat de Laure**, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1258
7. **Bl. Eugenie Picco**, Virgin, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1921
8. **Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
9. **Bl. Seraphique Sforza**, Virgin, of the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1478
10. **Bl. Martyrs of Japan**, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order and Franciscan Third Order Seculars, d. 1622-1632
11. **Bl. Bonaventure de Barcelone**, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1684
12. **Feast of the Name of Holy Mary**
13. **Bl. Apollinaire Franco**, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, martyr 1622
14. **Exaltation of the Holy Cross**
15. **Feast of Our Lady of the Seven Sorrows**
16. **Bl. Roland de Medicis**, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1386
17. **Feast of the Stigmatization of St. Francis of Assisi**
18. **St. Joseph de Cupertino**, Priest, Conventual, d. 1664
19. **Bl. Louis Alleman**, Bishop, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1450
20. **St. Francois-Marie de Camporosso**, lay brother, Capuchin religious, d. 1866
21. **Bl. Elizabeth Amerina**, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1498
22. **Bl. Ignace de Santhia**, Priest, Capuchin religious, d. 1773
23. **St. Pio of Peitrelcina**, Priest, Capuchin religious, d. 1968
24. **St. Pacifique de San Severino**, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1721
25. **St. Nicholas de Flue**, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1487
26. **Bl. Lucie de Catalagirone**, Virgin, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1400
27. **St. Elzear de Sabran**, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1323
28. **Bl Bernadin de Feltre**, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1494
29. **Feast of Saint Michael the Archangel**
30. **Bl. Charles de Blois**, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1364

Remembering Labor Day, a prayer for those who labor:

I worked with my own hands, and I am still determined to work, and with all my heart I wish to have all the rest of the brothers' work at employment that can be carried out without scandal. Those who do not know how to work should learn, not because they want to get something for their efforts, but to give good example and to avoid idleness. And should the wages of our work not be given to us, we can turn to God's table and beg alms from door to door. God revealed a form of greeting to me, telling me that we should say, "God give you peace."

~St. Francis

UPCOMING EVENTS

Congratulations to our new Council Members

Standing: Edd Ringlein, OFS Vice Minister, Mark Kroncke, OFS Minister, Kathleen Robbiano, OFS Formation Director, Cosmos Bacich, OFS Councilor, Dirk Wohlau, OFS Regional Elections Counselor, **Sitting:**



Noreen Ringlein, OFS Secretary, Susan Forsyth, OFS Treasurer, Margaret Enea-Patrizi, OFS Councilor, Dianne Prior, OFS Councilor

Please Note these Upcoming Formation Workshop dates:

Mark your calendars for one of these Saturday Formation Workshops. Remember, formation is the responsibility of the whole fraternity, so everyone is welcome to attend:

Sacramento, St. Francis of Assisi—September 17, 2016

Burlingame, Our Lady of the Angels—September 24, 2016

(Also included will be a special Spanish Formation Workshop with Cindy Wesley)

Fresno, Nazareth House—October 22, 2016

(Those who are interested in carpooling send us the date that you are interested in and we will try to connect you.)

RETURN OF THE RELIQUARY TO THE NATIONAL SHRINE

If you missed the first opportunity in June & July to view and pray before the reliquary containing the remnants of Saint Pio and Saint Leopold, September will be another chance. The Shrine will regain custody of the relics of these two Capuchin saints and place them again at the side altar for veneration during Church visiting hours.

Mark **November 20, 2016** on your calendars as the Jubilee Year of Mercy draws to a close on the Feast of Jesus Christ, the King of the Universe. The Shrine will have a special celebration on that day. details will follow in upcoming bulletins.



When the hour of his death approached, Francis asked that all of the brothers living with him be called to his death bed and softening his departure with consoling words, he encouraged them with fatherly affection to love God. He spoke of patience and poverty and of being faithful to the Holy Roman Church, giving precedence to the Holy Gospels before all else. He then stretched his hands over the brothers in the form of a cross, a symbol that he loved so much, and gave his blessings to all followers, both present and absent, in the power and in the name of the Crucified. Then he added: "Remain, my sons, in the fear of the Lord and be with him always. And as temptations and trials beset you, blessed are those who persevere to the end in the life they have chosen. I am on my way to God and I commend you all to His favor."

Franciscan Links:

The National Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order-USA:

<http://www.nfra-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

San Damiano retreats calendar:

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

Blessed Junipero Serra Regional news:

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

Il Poverello website (under construction):

<http://ofsilpov.org>

