



# IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY

SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER

## JOY FOR THE JOURNEY

AUGUST 2017

*Il Poverello Fraternity*

August 27<sup>th</sup>

*Fraternity Potluck Picnic \**

September 24<sup>th</sup>

*St. James Bake Sale \**

October 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>

*St. Francis Transitus & Feast Day*

October 22<sup>nd</sup>

*\*(see events page)*

## Il Poverello Fraternity

Gathering Sunday August 27<sup>th</sup>

Fraternity Potluck Picnic at the Petaluma Old Adobe 12 to 4

*(see events page for location directions)*

### 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

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Dianne Prior, OFS

Cosmos Bacich, OFS

Margaret Enea-Patrizi, OFS

#### Special Ministries

**Librarian:**

TBA

**Newsletter Editors:**

Edd & Noreen Ringlein, OFS

**J P I C:**

Noreen & Edd Ringlein, OFS

#### Ministers Letter - August, 2017

##### Pay it forward . . .

As a transit driver, life can be rather routine – yet there are moments that catch my attention, and rightly so . . . for example, just this morning I was leaving a stop in Tam Valley. I looked down the street, and saw an older passenger running and waving. I stopped, a few feet from the stop, and waited for him – he boarded. a little breathless, and said a heartfelt “thank you!” We continued on, and at the next stop, a park and ride, picked up a younger lady who was not having the best day. Her Clipper card was low, so she had to pay cash fare. Then she asked for a transfer, so she could get cross town in SF using another of our routes. We got to the bridge, and she came up to tell me (as I had stopped, worried that she hadn’t signaled for that stop) that she checked the schedule, and it would be too late to transfer so she would go down to Van Ness and catch a Muni route to the civic center area. So, off we trundled. She rang for the stop at VanNess and Chestnut, and getting off, wrangling several large possessions, she said “hopefully I’ll get it together today!” I chuckled (having had those days myself) and wished her luck. No sooner, though, had I started to pull from the stop than the gentleman I had waited for earlier came up the aisle with a pair of sunglasses – yep, they were hers! I told him I’d wait if he could catch her, and he did – returning to the bus, breathless, for the second time in one morning. There’s a saying of “pay it forward,” you might have heard. It means when we receive a kindness from another in our life, we pass that on to someone else in need in our lives. It’s not often I get to see such a “pay forward” in person; usually it happens somewhere down the road, out of our sight and presence (we hope) but today I did – and it was special! I guess my thoughts are these: when God gives us a kindness without request or demand, how do we “pay this forward” - even if God is not watching or present to see such? Are we willing to find ourselves “breathless” in service to others? As Franciscans, such is our call to servant ministry.

**Mark Kroncke, OFS**

*Minister*

**Scripture reading for August 28<sup>th</sup>,  
Feast day of St. Junipero Serra and  
Memorial of Saint Augustine, Bishop  
and Doctor of the Church**

**Mathew 23: 13-22**

Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples:

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites. You lock the Kingdom of heaven before men. You do not enter yourselves, nor do you allow entrance to those trying to enter.

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites. You traverse sea and land to make one convert, and when that happens you make him a child of Gehenna twice as much as yourselves.

"Woe to you, blind guides, who say, 'If one swears by the temple, it means nothing, but if one swears by the gold of the temple, one is obligated.'

Blind fools, which is greater, the gold, or the temple that made the gold sacred?

And you say, 'If one swears by the altar, it means nothing, but if one swears by the gift on the altar, one is obligated.'

You blind ones, which is greater, the gift, or the altar that makes the gift sacred?

**One who swears by the altar swears by it and all that is upon it; one who swears by the temple swears by it and by him who dwells in it; one who swears by heaven swears by the throne of God and by him who is seated on it."**



**On the Way of the Cross, you see, my children, only the first step is painful. Our greatest cross is the fear of crosses. . . . We have not the courage to carry our cross, and we are very much mistaken; for, whatever we do, the cross holds us tight -- we cannot escape from it. What, then, have we to lose? Why not love our crosses, and make use of them to take us to heaven?**

**St. Jean Marie Baptiste Vianney, Feast Day Aug. 8<sup>th</sup>**

***The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order***

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

**- Rule 14 -**

*Secular Franciscans, together with all people of good will, are called to build a more fraternal and evangelical world so that the kingdom of God may be brought about more effectively. Mindful that anyone "who follows Christ, the perfect man, becomes more of a man himself," let them exercise their responsibilities competently in the Christian spirit of service.*

**Our Holy Father, Pope Francis,  
requests Prayer Intentions for the month  
of August for ARTISTS:**

*Such that artists of our time, through their ingenuity,  
may help everyone discover the beauty of creation.*

**Lord hear our prayers . . .**

**F**or Pope Francis and members of the Christian church worldwide, guidance toward unification through ecumenical dialogue;

**F**or world leaders, may our representatives govern wisely for the good of humanity, the common man;

**F**or the worldwide immigrant and refugee populations, especially for those fleeing conflicts, may they find comfort;

**F**or the dignity of all human beings, especially the most vulnerable put an end to human trafficking;

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

**F**or our Il Poverello fraternity, for families and friends, such as John Kennedy, OFS, for the great grandson of Margaret Enea-Patrizi, OFS, for the son of Cosmos Bacich, OFS who is in the police academy in New York City, for Mary Anne and Alice, we offer prayers also for Rita Wyatt, Elizabeth Louderback, Darryl Fraser, Anthony Butera, Rosemary Clark, for Dianne's daughter, and the Porter family;

**F**or these and all our individual intentions,

**We Pray to the Lord**

## Franciscan Saints in August

### Month of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

1. **St. Alphonse de Liguori, Bishop**, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1787
2. **Our Lady of the Angels of the Portiuncula**,  
*Plenary Indulgence possible by visiting a church or chapel of the Franciscan 1st Order (see the history attached)*
3. **St. Pierre-Julien Eymard, Priest**, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1868
4. **St. Dominic, Priest**, Cordbearer, d. 1221
5. **B. Marie-Francoise de Jesus, Virgin**, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1904
6. **Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ**
7. **Bl. Agathange et Cassien, Priest**, Capuchin, martyr 1638
8. **St. Jean-Marie Vianney, Priest**, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1859
9. **Bl. Marie-Marguerite of the Sacred Heart, Virgin**, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1924
10. **St. Beatrice de Silva, Virgin**, of the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1492
11. **Bl. Innocent XI, Pope**, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1689
12. **St. Clare of Assisi, Virgin**, Foundress of the Poor Clares,  
*Plenary Indulgence for Tertiaries (Renewal of Engagements)*
13. **Bl. Novellon de Faenza, Confessor**, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1280
14. **St. Maximilien-Marie Kolbe, Priest**, Conventual religious, martyr 1941
15. **Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady**
16. **Bl. Francois de Pesaro, Confessor**, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1350
17. **St. Roch de Montpellier, Confessor**, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1327
18. **Blessed Martyrs of Pontons de Rochefort**, d. 1794
19. **St. Jean Eudes, Priest**, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1680
20. **St. Louis d' Anjou, Bishop of Toulouse**, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1297
21. **St. Jeanne-Francoise de Chantal, Virgin**, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1610
22. **Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary**
23. **Bl. Bernard d'Offide, lay brother**, Capuchin religious, d. 1694
24. **St. Emilie de Vialar, Virgin**, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1856
25. **St. Louis**, Patron of Franciscan Third Order Seculars,  
*Plenary Indulgence for tertiaries and cordbearers*
26. **Bl. Pierre de Benisa, Priest**, Capuchin religious, martyr 1936
27. **St. Joseph Calasanz, Priest**, Cordbearer, d. 1648
28. **St. Junipero Serra, Priest**, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1784
29. **Bl. Jean de Prouse, Priest**, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1231
30. **Bl. Juvenal Ancina, Bishop**, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1604
31. **Bl. Aurele de Vinalesa, Priest**, Capuchin religious, martyr 1936



Jesus took Peter, James, and his brother, John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him. ~ [Mathew 17: 1-3](#)

Saint Francis's Prayer Praising Mary the Mother of God  
Hail, O Lady, Holy Queen,  
Mary, holy Mother of God:  
you are the Virgin made Church  
chosen by the most Holy Father in heaven  
whom He consecrated with His most holy beloved Son  
and with the Holy Spirit the Paraclete,  
in whom there was and is all fullness of grace and every good.  
Hail His Palace!  
Hail His Tabernacle!  
Hail His Dwelling!  
Hail His Robe!  
Hail His Servant!  
Hail His Mother!  
And hail all you holy virtues  
Which are poured into the hearts of the faithful  
through the grace and enlightenment of the Holy Spirit,  
that from being unbelievers,  
you may make them faithful to God. Amen.



***Franciscans in the World***  
***“BE THE BRIDGE”***  
***Bringing Christ’s Love to All***



**St. Catherine of Siena**  
**Doctor of the Church**

## **St. Catherine’s Three States of the Soul**

Excerpted from “St. Catherine of Siena: *The Mystic*”

**Word on Fire, Christianity, Pivotal Player series with Bishop Robert Barron**

Describing her communication with God in her book *The Dialogue*, St. Catherine writes about the stages of spiritual growth using a metaphor of a raging river and a bridge that lifts you above the river and allows safe passage across.

The raging river represents the sinful and fallen world, while the bridge represents Jesus Christ, the way to be free from sin and safely cross into eternal life. Our souls are forced to live in the raging river due to Original Sin and earthly lives lived in a fallen world. Our sole hope for salvation is to climb onto the bridge, to enter into the Divine Life of God’s only Son, Jesus Christ.

There are three steps leading up to the bridge of life. The first step, representing most beginners in the spiritual journey, is climbed by the soul desiring to be saved because of its “slavish fear.” Catherine quotes God saying: ***“The law of fear was the Old Law that I gave to Moses. It was built on fear alone: whoever sinned suffered the penalty. Their slavish fear is not enough to win them eternal life.”***

The soul who progresses in faith will next climb the second step, which leads it to reject sin due to its love of God. Catherine describes hearing God say: ***“The law of love is the New Law given by the Word, my only Begotten Son. The imperfectness of the fear of suffering was taken away by love, and what remained was the perfectness of holy fear, that is, fear simply of sinning, not because of personal damnation but because sin is an insult to me, supreme Goodness.”***

However, a soul’s love and charity toward its neighbor on this second step is imperfect, as the person loves ***“for their own profit or for the delight and pleasure”*** found in God. As long as these souls are receiving blessings, they continue to love. Once those blessings stop, they slip back into the raging river.

To ascend to the third step, souls must ***“seek perfect knowledge of themselves so that they will know that of themselves they have neither existence nor any grace.”*** In challenging times these souls, in true humility, will seek God alone and know him as their “benefactor” and eternal Father. As souls persevere in eliminating all slavish fear and selfish desires, they reach the bridge, attaining true unity with the Trinity in “filial love” – the love of a child for his parent or of God for his children. adopted through Christ.



*We become what we love  
and who we love shapes what we become.  
If we love things, we become a thing.  
If we love nothing, we become nothing.  
Imitation is not a literal mimicking of Christ,  
rather it means becoming the image of the beloved,  
an image disclosed through transformation.  
This means... we are to become vessels  
of God’s compassionate love for others.  
~ St. Clare of Assisi*

# Upcoming events

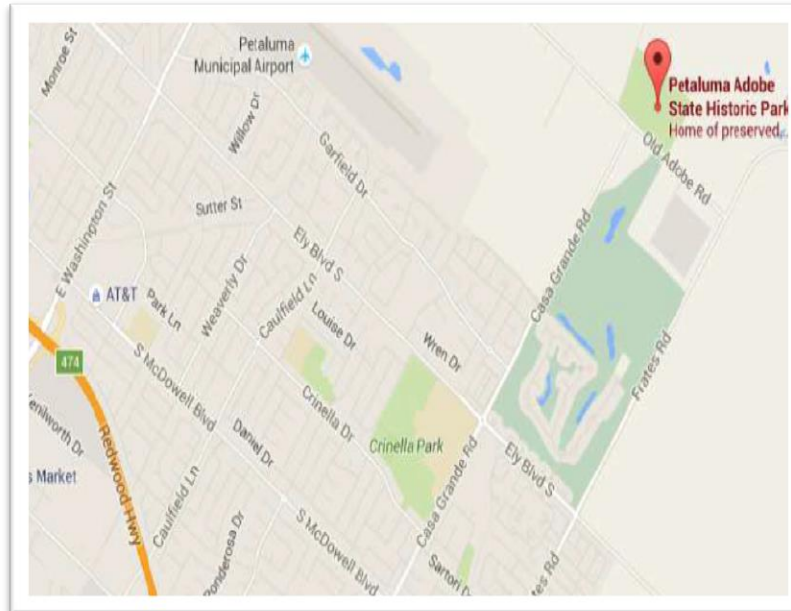
So that no one ever forgets the effects of what happened on August 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>.

These are dates to remember the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki

- pray especially for the Transfiguration of the human heart.

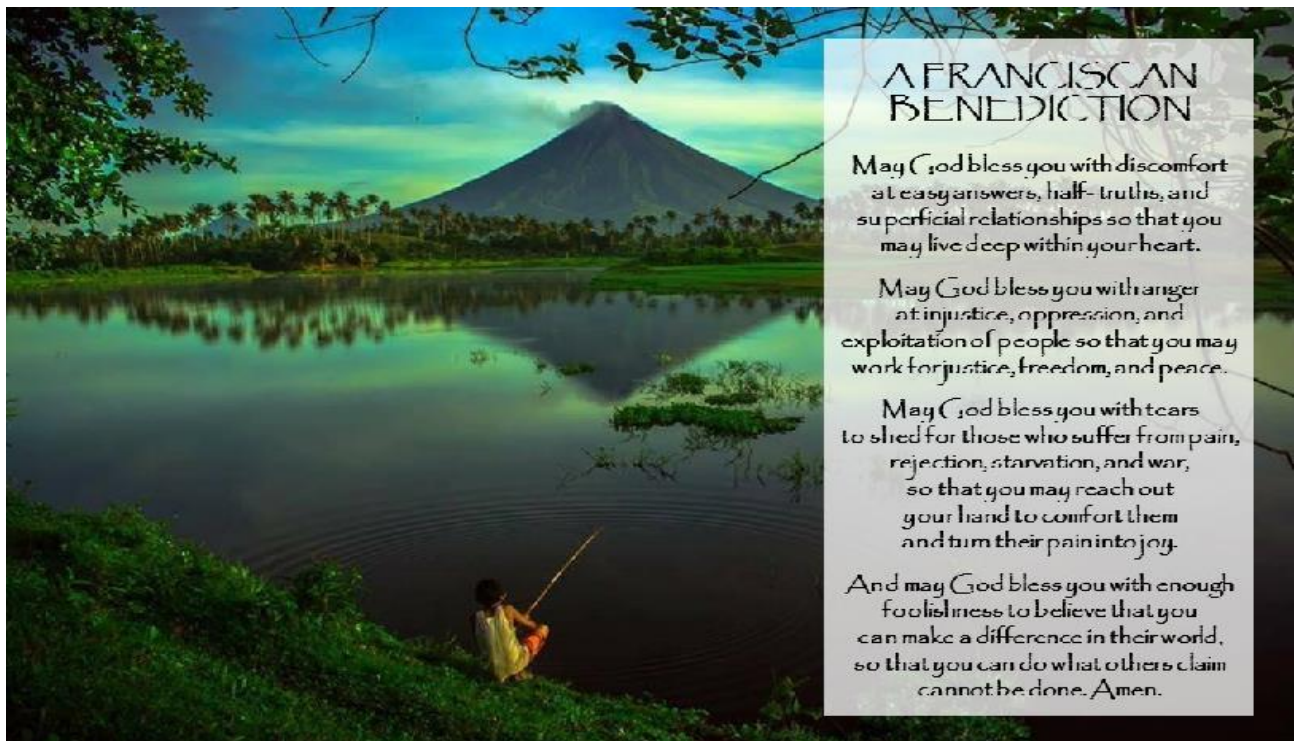
Our gathering on **August 27<sup>th</sup>**  
will take place from **12 to 4** at the

**Petaluma Old Adobe  
State Historic Park**  
3325 Adobe Road  
Petaluma, CA 94954  
Potluck picnic



*Special date to remember: On 9/17, St. Francis received the "stigmata" the physical marks of Christ's passion on his hands and feet while praying at Mt. La Verna in 1224.*

Before the gathering on Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> there will be a St. James Bake Sale after the 9 and 11 AM masses. This is an opportunity to outreach to the St. James parishioners who would like to know more about the 3<sup>rd</sup> Order of Secular Franciscans. Proceeds from the sale will benefit *Franciscan Living*, a nonprofit organization established by Sr. Margie Will, OSF. There will also be a viewing and discussion of the *St. Francis: the Reformer*, from Catholicism the Pivotal Players series presented by Word on Fire with Bishop Robert Barron. Public is invited.



## The History of the Little Chapel

In the first centuries of the Christian era, Palestinians built an oratory in the region that would become known as Assisi. In the 6th century this small plot of land was given to the Benedictine monks of Subasio and its name, Little Portion, is supposed to have been derived from the transfer of the property. Its name has been derived from the Italian, Porziuncola as well as from the Latin or Spanish, Portiuncula. Later this Little Chapel became venerated for the apparition of Angels within it and given the name, St. Mary of the Angels, where the people from Assisi went to pray. Today the Little Chapel is enclosed within the Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels outside of the city of Assisi.

## The creation of the Franciscan Religious Family

When Francis was given the command to “rebuild my church”, it was this abandoned sanctuary which had become dilapidated over time that he had chosen to restore. He came to understand his true vocation over time as others joined in the efforts and followed his example in the lifestyle he chose. This lifestyle soon became the rule of the order that he founded, the Order of the Friars Minor in 1209. In his biography of St. Francis, St. Bonaventure told of how the Little Chapel was gifted to him by the Benedictines as the center of the new Franciscan religious family.

This family continued to grow and a new order was established in 1211 when Clare received her religious habit in this Little Chapel from St. Francis to initiate the Order of the Poor Clares. This Little Chapel was designated as the cradle of the Franciscan Order by the Queen of heaven who later implored for him the great indulgence that had become known throughout Christendom as the Portiuncula Indulgence.

## The Portiuncula Indulgence

One evening in 1216, Francis was drawn to go into the chapel where he saw our Lord and His holy mother along with a host of angels. He prostrated himself in adoration and heard our Lord urge him to ask for a special favor. What is dear to Francis’s heart is the salvation of souls, so he implored for the merciful grace of a full pardon for all who were contrite, having confessed their sins, would visit the Little Chapel. Mary as well went down on her knees before her Divine Son, and repeated the petition of her faithful servant. Jesus then said to Francis, “It is a great favor that you request, nevertheless, it shall be granted to you. Go to my Vicar on earth, to whom I have given the power to bind and to loose, and ask him in My name to grant this indulgence.”

Francis immediately presented his petition before Pope Honorius III, who at first was taken aback by such a request for a merciful complete indulgence granted to anyone for simply visiting a church. However, Francis insisted that the Lord Himself had granted this. After receiving assurance of the validity of the vision, Pope Honorius III granted the request designating the anniversary of the Little Chapel’s dedication, August 2nd, as the date to receive the indulgence. Over time popes have extended this privilege to all churches connected to any of the Franciscan Orders. This included parish churches where Third Order Franciscans would meet provided no other Franciscan church was in the area.

The norms and grants of indulgences were completely reformed by Pope Paul VI after the Second Vatican Council in his Apostolic Constitution *Indulgentiarum Doctrina (1967)*, and again the Portiuncula Indulgence was confirmed. The Catholic faithful may gain a plenary indulgence under the usual conditions, Sacramental Confession, Holy Communion, and prayer for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff. To gain this, as any plenary indulgence, the faithful must be free from any attachment to sin, even venial sin. Where this entire detachment is wanting, the indulgence is partial.

## Conditions to obtain the Plenary Indulgence of the Portiuncula (for oneself or a departed soul)

- Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, to be in God’s graces (during the eight days before or after the visit)
- Participate in the Holy Mass and Eucharist
- Visit to a Catholic Church, with a Profession of Faith (the Creed), in order to reaffirm one’s own Christian identity
- Pray the Our Father, in order to reaffirm the dignity as a child of God that one received in Baptism
- A prayer for the Pope’s intention, in order to reaffirm one’s membership in the Church, of which the Roman Pontiff is the sign of visible unity