



IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY

SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER

JOY FOR THE JOURNEY

MARCH 2017

IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY GATHERINGS

March 26th

April 23rd

May 21st
Day of Reflection

June 25th

IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY GATHERING

Meeting St. James Catholic Church, Rm. 9 - March 26th, 2017

Council Meeting: 12:00 - 1:15

Fraternity Gathering: 1:30 - 3:30

Opening Prayer

Ongoing Formation: Discussion of Seeking a Gospel Life (see p.4)

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:

TBA

Newsletter Editors:

Noreen & Edd Ringlein, OFS

J P I C:

Edd & Noreen Ringlein, OFS

Minister's Letter - March 2017

On the Journey . . .

These weekends have been quite a challenge for me! Between retreats, regional gatherings, Congresses and vacations and ski weekends, by the time March is half way done I will have been gone from home 5 out of 6 weekends! I am beginning to know how Francis felt, just travelling from place to place, sometimes for a night, sometimes for longer and often encountering people of good will, from whom I rely on their countenance to assist in my travels. Yet, in spite of the adventures and travails, I know that my journeys will end – hopefully! – with my safe return to home. And, at the end of such travels, I always return challenged, changed, and formed more deeply in who I am.

Lent, in the same sense, is as much a journey. Pope Francis, in a recent general audience, tells us that “We can imagine the Risen Lord, Who calls us to come out of our darkness, and we set out on the way to Him, who is the Light,” Francis said, adding: “Lent is a journey towards the Risen Jesus.”

How are we travelling as Christians this Lenten season? Do we allow encounters to challenge us, change us . . . form us anew? Just as I set out on my journeys with a certain purpose in mind, and hopeful destination to be reached, so too is Lent a time for journey with purpose and destination. Again we hear Pope Francis say, “Lent is the sacramental sign of our journey from slavery to freedom, ever to be renewed — a journey that is certainly demanding, as it is right that it should be, because love is demanding, but it is a journey full of hope.” Perhaps more importantly, he adds, “the Lenten exodus is the journey in which hope itself is formed.” Not all of our Lenten journeys should be like our road trips, covering 1,955 miles and 6 cities. But all should include our openness to the “crossing of the desert” and the trials and tribulations such journeys inevitably bring. Only in this way can we prepare to receive the Hope and Home that is offered freely by the Risen Jesus – a home to which we all return at the end of our journeys.

May we pray with Pope Francis: “Let us enter Lent today with a heart open to this horizon. Feeling ourselves part of the people of God, we begin with joy this journey of hope.” Amen.

Mark Kroncke, OFS

Minister, Il Poverello Fraternity

Scripture reading from March 20th

The Solemnity of Saint Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Luke 2:41-51

Each year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, and when he was twelve years old, they went up according to festival custom.

After they had completed its days, as they were returning, the boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it.

Thinking that he was in the caravan, they journeyed for a day and looked for him among their relatives and acquaintances, but not finding him, they returned to Jerusalem to look for him.

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, and all who heard him were astounded at his understanding and his answers.

When his parents saw him, they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety."

And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"

But they did not understand what he said to them.

He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them.



Remember, Heart of Jesus, Immaculate Heart of Mary, and you, O glorious St. Joseph, that no one has ever had recourse to your protection, or implored your assistance without obtaining relief. Animated with the utmost lively confidence, I come laden with the weight of my sins, to prostrate myself before you. O Merciful Heart of Jesus, Immaculate Heart of Mary, and you, O glorious St. Joseph, reject not my prayer and petitions but graciously hear and grant them. Amen

The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order

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

- Rule 9 -

The Virgin Mary, humble servant of the Lord, was open to His every word and call. She was embraced by Francis with indescribable love and declared the protectress and advocate of his family. The Secular Franciscans should express their ardent love for her by imitating her complete self-giving and by praying earnestly and confidently.

Pope Francis' prayer intentions for the month of March

Support for Persecuted Christians.

That persecuted Christians may be supported by the prayers and material help of the whole Church.

Reflection

The Catechism of the Catholic Church reminds us: "Martyrdom is the Supreme witness given to the truth of the faith: it means bearing witness unto death." (CCC, no. 2473) In this way, we follow Christ who came into the world to proclaim the truth.

Pope Francis recognized the great courage of those who have kept their faith despite suffering and persecution and said, "To all those who are suffering, I say: Never lose hope! The church is alongside you, accompanies you and supports you."



Fraternity Prayer Intentions ...

Lent is a season of almsgiving. Jesus taught us that what we do for the poor, we do for Him. And so we pray for the poor . . . and for generous hearts and creative minds that we might do our part to alleviate poverty;

Lent is a season of prayer. Jesus taught us to pray simply and directly for what we need. And so we pray for those who cannot pray; for those who pray without consolation; for those who pray always and support us by their prayers. And for faithful hearts and quiet minds so that we might listen for the voice of God within us;

Lent is a season of fasting. Jesus fasted in the desert and taught us to choose God over excess. And so we pray for all who are overwhelmed by too much: for those who eat too much, drink too much, spend too much, own too much, and hurry too much. For the grace to live simply such that others may simply live;

Lent is a season of preparing for Baptism and renewal. And so we pray for our parish's catechumens and candidates as they begin their first Lent, and for all the members of our fraternities and parish community as we once again observe this holy season that leads us to baptismal renewal;

Let us pray for all those in our fraternities and parishes for whom Lent is being lived in the circumstances of their lives, the sick and suffering and those who are grieving the loss of their loved ones;

Lord, hear our prayers

Birthday Anniversaries in March

Mary Anne Curme 3/25

Susan Forsyth, OFS 3/26

Merciful and loving God, you revealed the mystery of your love that we might share your life. Hear the prayers of your people as we begin this holy season of Lent. Strengthen our resolve and inspire us with your promise of resurrection. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN

March – Month of St. Joseph

1. **Bl. Jean Kearney**, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, martyr 1653
 2. **St. Agnes de Prague**, Virgin, of the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1282
 3. **Bl. Innocent of Berzo**, Priest, Capuchin, d. 1890
 4. **Bl. Martyrs of the Franciscan 1st Order of Gondar (Ethiopia)**, d. 1716
 5. **St. John-Joseph of the Cross**, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1734
 6. **St. Colette de Corbie**, Virgin, of the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1447
 7. **Bl. Christopher of Milan**, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1485
 8. **St. Jean de Dieu**, Priest, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1550
 9. **St. Frances of Rome**, Virgin, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1440
 10. **St. Catherine of Bologna**, Virgin of the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1463
 11. **Bl. John Baptist Righi of Fabriano**, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1539
 12. **Bl. Louis Orione**, Priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1940
 13. **Bl. Agnellus of Pisa**, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1236
 14. **St. Catherine of Genoa**, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1510
 15. **Bl. Louis of Casoria**, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1885
 16. **Bl. Torello of Poppi**, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1282
 17. **Bl. Mark of Montegallo**, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1496
 18. **St. Salvator of Horta**, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1567
 19. **Saint Joseph, Holy Day of Obligation for the Church**
 20. **Bl. Hippolyte Galentini**, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1620
 21. **Bl. Amedee IX de Savoie**, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1472
 22. **St. Benvenute of Osimo**, Bishop, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1282
 23. **Bl. Jeremy Lambertenghi**, Priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1513
 24. **Bl. Catherine de Suede**, Virgin, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1381
 25. **Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Holy Day of Obligation for the Church**
 26. **Blessed Didacus Joseph of Cadiz**, Priest, Capuchin, d. 1801
 27. **Bl. Joseph-Sebastien Pelczar**, Bishop, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1924..
 28. **St. John of Capistrano**, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1456
 29. **Bl. Jane Mary of Maille**, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1414
 30. **St. Peter Regalado**, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1486
 31. **St. Leonard Murialdo**, Priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1900
- Holy Thursday – Plenary Indulgence: Chant in Public Tantum ergo**
Good Friday – Plenary Indulgence: Solemn adoration of the Holy Cross
Easter – Plenary Indulgence: Renewal in public of Baptismal Promises



St. Junipero Serra Regional Gathering and elections

San Damiano Retreat Center February 17 – 19



St. Junipero Serra Regional Fraternity Regional Executive Council

Minister: Kathleen Molaro, OFS

Vice Minister: Roscoe "Jack" Jackson, OFS

Secretary: Anna Yoo, OFS

Treasurer: Greg Colley, OFS

Formation Director: Dirk Wohlauf, OFS

Councilors:

Sharon Gianelli, OFS

Frances Tom, OFS

Sandy Soto, OFS

3/26 FORMATION THEME: Seeking a Gospel Life

Sharing to include:

- Cosmos - share story of Franciscan Resistance to Nazis (Croatia?)
- Personal stories of fraternity members: "Franciscan Moments" that occur in the next month
- Reflections from scripture to share and expand on
- Reflections from "Seeking a Gospel Life" by Lester Bach, OFM
- Lives of Saints you have not heard about

Suggested activity:

Interview people from different walks of life, different beliefs, etc. Ask simple questions, i.e. "What does 'Seeking a Gospel Life' mean?" - have they heard about Jesus? - and what they might think it would mean to follow Him.

Upcoming Events

March 26, Il Poverello fraternity gathering

April 9, Palm Sunday

April 14, Good Friday

April 16, Easter Sunday

April 23, Il Poverello fraternity gathering

May 21, Day of Reflection with Sr. Margie Wills, OSF a member of Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity

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/>

