



IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY

SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER

JOY FOR THE JOURNEY

SEPTEMBER 2017

IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY GATHERINGS

September 24th

Bake Sale after masses

*9/29-10/1 Franciscan Spirituality
Retreat (San Damiano)*

October 3rd & 4th

St. Francis Transitus & Feast Day

October 22nd

November 19th

IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY

Gathering Sunday September 24th, St. James Rm. 9

St. James Bake Sale after the 9 and 11 AM masses

Fraternity Council meeting: 12:30 – 1:30

Fraternity Meeting: 1:30 – 3:30

2:00 Formation: Viewing and discussion of *St. Francis: the Reformer*, from Catholicism the Pivotal Players series presented by Word on Fire with Bishop Robert Barron. Public is invited.

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:

Edd & Noreen Ringlein, OFS

J P I C:

Noreen & Edd Ringlein, OFS

Minister's Letter September 2017

Seeing Through Shadows . . .

This month I would like to share some thoughts from Richard Rohr, OFM. He speaks of a topic which seems relevant to today's world and the struggle to hold light and darkness in the same moment. May we receive his thoughts prayerfully and with openness to the Spirit that moves us.

"Spiritual transformation is often thought of as movement from darkness to light. In one sense that is true, while in another sense, this image fails to show the whole picture. Darkness is always present alongside the light. Pure light blinds; shadows are required for our seeing. We know the light most fully in contrast with its opposite—the dark. There is something that can only be known by going through "the night sea journey" into the belly of the whale, from which we are spit up on an utterly new shore. Western civilization as a whole does not know how to hold darkness. Rather than teach a path of descent, Christianity in the West preached a system of winners and losers, a "prosperity Gospel." Few Christians have been taught to hold the paschal mystery of both death and resurrection and how to acknowledge and address the dark side of the Church (for example, sexism, persecution of outsiders, pedophilia — to name a few). As a result, many people who formerly called themselves Christians have "thrown out the baby with the bathwater," rejecting Christianity with the same dualistic, all-or-nothing thinking that immature religion taught them in the first place. In many ways, this struggle with darkness has been the Church's constant dilemma. It wants to exist in perfect light, where God alone lives (see James 1:17). It does not like the shadow land of our human reality. We are hardwired to avoid the human mystery—that we are all a mixture of darkness and light—instead of learning how to carry it patiently through to resurrection. There are no perfect institutions and no perfect people. There is only the struggle to be whole. It is Christ's passion (patior, the "suffering of reality") that will save the world. Jesus says, "Your patient endurance will win you your lives" (Luke 21:19). He shows us the way of redemptive suffering instead of redemptive violence. Patience comes from our attempts to hold together an always-mixed reality. Perfectionism only makes us resentful and judgmental. Grateful people emerge in a world rightly defined, where even darkness is no surprise but an opportunity."

Mark Kroncke,
Minister for Il Poverello Fraternity

Scripture reading for Sept. 29th

Feast of Saints Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, archangels

War broke out in heaven;

Michael and his angels battled against the dragon. The dragon and its angels fought back, but they did not prevail and there was no longer any place for them in heaven.

The huge dragon, the ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, who deceived the whole world, was thrown down to earth, and its angels were thrown down with it.

Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say:

"Now have salvation and power come, and the Kingdom of our God and the authority of his Anointed. For the accuser of our brothers is cast out, who accuses them before our God day and night. They conquered him by the Blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; love for life did not deter them from death. Therefore, rejoice, you heavens, and you who dwell in them."

Revelation 12: 7-12

Prayer Requests

For Pope Francis, and the Bishops and Priests worldwide, spiritual guidance of the faithful into the one true church;

For those who have died, for Father Thomas Devereaux, of St Rose of Lima Church, who passed away on August 6, 2017;

For those who have retired, for Father Gary Lombardi whose retirement was celebrated on August 27th;

For world leaders, may the national representatives govern wisely for the good of humanity, for the common man;

For the worldwide immigrant and refugee populations, especially for those fleeing natural and manmade disasters, i.e. the Gulf Coast victims of Hurricane Harvey and the SE Asia countries of India, Bangladesh, & Nepal experiencing the worst monsoon season ever, may they be comforted;

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

For members of our Regional Fraternities', their families and friends, for Cindy Wesley, OFS recovering from shoulder surgery, she has gone two weeks without using her right arm, and has begun physical therapy on August 21st, and for Dirk Wohlauf, OFS who has some difficult medical issues to deal with;

For our Il Poverello Fraternity, with families and friends, for Alberto Cortez, OFS to return to good health, for John Kennedy, OFS and his family, for Mary Anne and Alice, for Dianne's daughter, also for Rita Wyatt, Elizabeth Louderback, Darryl Fraser, Anthony Butera, Rosemary Clark, and the Porter family;

For all these and those we hold in our hearts,

Let us Pray to the Lord

The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order

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

- Rule 15 -

Let them individually and collectively be in the forefront in promoting justice by the testimony of their human lives and their courageous initiatives.

Especially in the field of public life, they should make definite choices in harmony with their faith.

- Rule 16 -

Let them esteem work both as a gift and as a sharing in the creation, redemption, and service of the human community.

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."

~ *The Testament of Saint Francis, 1226, 20-25*

Papal prayer intentions for the month of September:

For Parishes:

That our parishes, animated by a missionary spirit, may be places where faith is communicated and charity is seen.



Asking for continued prayers during
Season for Caring for Creation
1 September - 4 October

Birthday and Profession Anniversaries

Cindy Cunningham - Birth date: 9/15

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 Camposso, 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

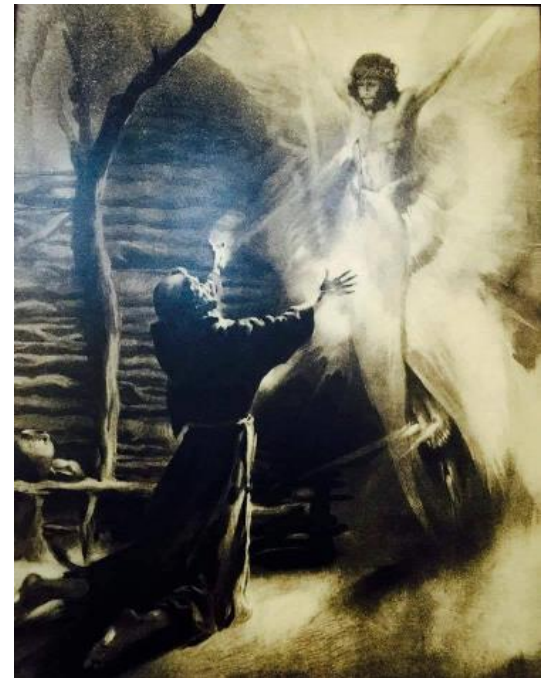
Prayer to Mother Mary from St. Francis of Assisi

Holy Virgin Mary, among the women born into the world, there is no one like you.

Daughter and servant of the most high and supreme King and of the Father in heaven,



Mother of our most Holy Lord Jesus Christ, Spouse of the Holy Spirit, pray for us with St. Michael the Archangel, all the powers of heaven and all the saints at the side of your most holy beloved Son, our Lord and Teacher.



Appearance of the Stigmata of Holy Father Francis



Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls."

<http://www.praymorenovenas.com/st-michael-archangel-novena/#ixzz4qDuzUNnE>

Upcoming Events

From August MOJ:

Formation Convocations

All workshops will be held from 9:00-2:30

Sept. 9, St. Francis Parish, Sacramento

Sept. 16, Our Lady of Angels, Burlingame

Sept. 23, Nazareth House, Fresno

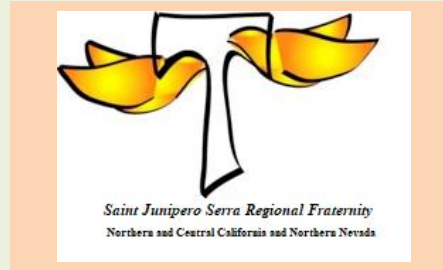
Big Thank Yous

Regional Website—We appreciate Scott Langston, Greg Colley, and Fran Tom (with daughter) stepping forward to help get our website back up and running. We'll keep you posted on their progress. Good things to come!

All Franciscan Family Gathering—Thanks to our team (so far), which consists of Debbie Clingingsmith (who has agreed to take the lead), myself, and Cindy Wesley. We need a few more folks to help, and are open to suggestions for speakers and/or places you might have in mind for our event.

Congratulations

Joanne Dobrzynski has completed her course work and will now serve as our Regional Spiritual Assistant as an intern. Thank you, Joanne, for the work you've already done in order to serve in this way. I always say when we take on a new position as Servant Leader, it isn't "congratulations" we want to hear, it's "we appreciate your yes and will be praying for you." So please put Joanne in your prayers. We look forward to working with you, and welcome you with eager and open arms!



San Damiano Retreat on FRANCISCAN SPIRITUALITY: WHAT IS YOURS TO DO?

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1: - Private room \$235/Shared room \$205.

Presented by Anne & Terry Symens-Bucher

Celebrate Liturgy as well as offering Sacrament of Reconciliation Fr. Ray Bucher, OFM

Musician Jesse Manibusan

At the end of his life Francis told his followers that he had *“found what was his to do”* and asked that Christ would teach them *“what was theirs to do.”* In other words, he hoped that they would find their soul work. Have you found your soul's work—that which is yours, and only yours to do? The examples of Francis and Clare of Assisi are as relevant, as vital, and as inspiring today as they were 800 years ago. You are invited to weave experiential exercises from the Work at Reconnects, ritual, prayer, poetry and song into your own personal yearning to grow into your life's purpose. This purpose is one in service to life in this time of disconnection, global crisis and unique opportunity. This is not a lecture-based retreat. We will explore what it means to be a soul, to have a destiny, and to be called to a great adventure in this life. Our goal is to support one another in finding our soul's work, and, in St. Clare's words, *“to go forward joyfully, confidently, and swiftly ... believe nothing, agreeing with nothing, that would dissuade you from this purpose.”*

Bake Sale after St. James masses before gathering on Sept. 24th

Proceeds from the sale will benefit organizations like *Franciscan Living*, a nonprofit organization established by Sr. Margie Will, OSF. This is an opportunity to outreach to the St. James parishioners who would like to know more about the 3rd Order of Secular Franciscans. The new tri-fold leaflets will be available to hand out to parishioners.

Franciscan Links

NAFRA

National Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order:

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

Letter to all Secular Franciscans from our

General Minister, Tibor Kausar, OFS:

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

Il Poverello Fraternity on Face Book:

[Il Poverello Fraternity OFS - Petaluma, CA](#)

