



**IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY  
SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER**

*JOY FOR THE JOURNEY*

**PETALUMA, CALIFORNIA  
DECEMBER 2013**

DEUS MEUS ET OMNIA

*Il Poverello Fraternity  
Gatherings*

**Dec. 21  
Day of Reflection**

**Jan. 25**

*Il Poverello Fraternity*

Gathering on December 21, 2013  
St. Philip the Apostle Catholic Church  
3730 Bohemian Hwy, Occidental, CA

**Advent Spirituality and  
Franciscan Care of Creation**

Facilitated by: **Brother Keith Warner, OFM**

Time: **9AM – 3PM**



This Day of Reflection is open to anyone interested in exploring Franciscan Spirituality.

Donations gladly accepted to support the church and speaker.

Bring healthy food and drinks to share for lunch break.

For more information, call  
Kathleen Robbiano 707-331-5718

The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."



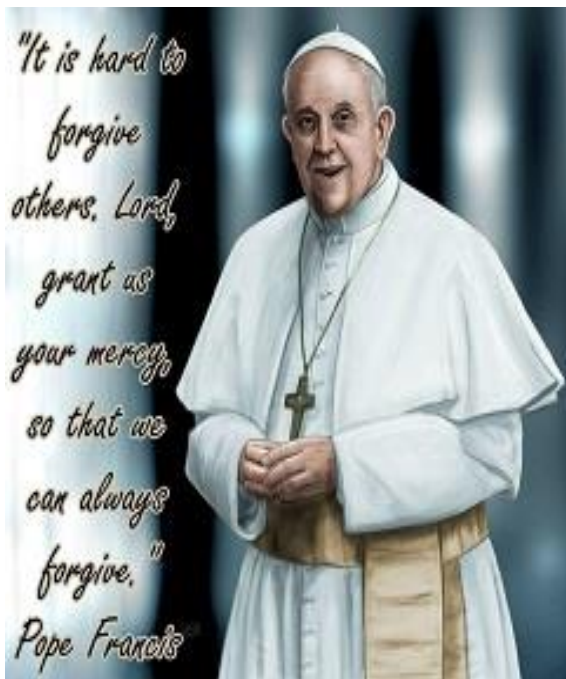
*The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order*

As Secular Franciscans we are constantly challenged to mindfully  
Follow the rule of St Francis - Rule 4: A focus on Christ

*... to observe the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ by following the example of St. Francis of Assisi, who made Christ the inspiration and the center of his life with God and people.*

*Christ, the gift of the Father's love, is the way to him, the truth to which the Holy Spirit leads us, and the Life which he has come to give abundantly.*

*Secular Franciscans should devote themselves especially to careful reading of the gospel, going from gospel to life and life to the gospel.*



## Evangelii Gaudium, "The Joy Of The Gospel"

The opening lines of the Exhortation read: "The joy of the Gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus. Those who accept his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness. With Christ joy is constantly born anew." While "the great danger in today's world, pervaded as it is by consumerism, is the desolation and anguish born of a complacent yet covetous heart, the feverish pursuit of frivolous pleasures, and a blunted conscience." Many faithful also fall into this trap "and end up resentful, angry and listless," but if we "take a step towards Jesus, we come to realize that he is already there, waiting for us with open arms."

... The main criterion for renewal is not any specific theological thought or ecclesiastical line of thinking but "a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church's customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channelled for the evangelization of today's world rather than for her self preservation."

The entire document can be found:

[http://www.vatican.va/holy\\_father/francesco/apost\\_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco\\_esortazione-ap\\_20131124\\_evangelii-gaudium\\_en.pdf](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/francesco/apost_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco_esortazione-ap_20131124_evangelii-gaudium_en.pdf)

### Join Pope Francis in his Prayer Intentions for December!

Pope Francis' general prayer intention for December is,

*"That children who are victims of abandonment or violence may find the love and protection they need."*

His mission intention is,

*"That Christians, enlightened by the Word incarnate, may prepare humanity for the Saviour's coming."*



## Franciscan Saints in December

- 2 Bl. Maria Angela Astorch, virgin, II Ord.  
Bl. Rafal Chylinski, priest, I Ord.
  - 8 IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY,  
Patron & Queen of the Franciscan Order
  - 10 Bl. Peter Tecelano, III Ord.
  - 13 Finding the Body of St. Francis
  - 15 Bl. Mary Frances Schervier, virgin, III Ord.
- List of Popes who were Secular Franciscans, some of whom are "Blessed":

Gregory IX  
Blessed Gregory X  
Innocent XII  
Martin V  
Clement XII  
Blessed Pius IX  
Leo XIII  
St. Pius X  
Benedict XV  
Pius XI  
Pius XII  
Blessed John XXIII



## Birthday Anniversaries

Eunice Edgington, OFS – 12/12  
Kay Robbiano, OFS – 12/12  
Margaret Enea-Patrizi, OFS – 1/22  
Noreen Ringlein – 1/31

December 2013

## Minister's Letter

A blessed Advent to everyone! May peace surround you in this precious time, so that the distractions of holidays will not take you along for the illusory ride.

I was particularly impressed by Sunday's reading from Isaiah (First Sunday of Advent)  
What would our world be like if the Word of the Lord truly called us to "beat swords into plowshares", and "one nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again". ?

Recently Eunice reminded me of a requirement for Franciscans she was taught long ago- Franciscans were forbidden to bear arms. This was a requirement for those who joined Francis at the beginning, and much fighting in his area of Italy stopped as a result.

The greeting Francis insisted his followers use: "The Lord give you peace" will only make sense to a stranger when coming from a heart of undefended love. The way of Christ, as demonstrated by Francis, is radical and challenging.

How are we to prepare the way of the Lord this Advent? What still voice do we give ear to? Can we ourselves be willing to join Christ in the manger, when there appears to be no room for us in the world?

My prayer is for Advent to be a special time of renewal for each of us, and that Jesus is born again in our midst, with care and compassion, touching our world with deep joy and peace wherever we walk in beauty.

God bless you  
Kathleen

### ***IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY***

<b>Minister:</b>	Kathleen	<b>Secretary - Newsletter Editors:</b>	Noreen & Edd
<b>Vice Minister:</b>	Eunice	<b>Librarian:</b>	Patch
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Margaret	<b>Peace &amp; Justice - Integrity of Creation:</b>	Edd & Noreen
<b>Formation Director:</b>	Julie		
<b>Councilor*</b>	<b><i>SPIRITUAL ASSISTANT BRO. BOB BRADY OFM <a href="mailto:ofmcafciaol.com">ofmcafciaol.com</a></i></b>		

## We celebrate Patch's Profession November 16



Julie, Kathleen, and Patch



John Kennedy, Julie, Kathleen, Bro. Bob, and Patch