



**IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY**  
**SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER**  
**JOY FOR THE JOURNEY**

**PETALUMA, CALIFORNIA**  
**DECEMBER 2014**

DEUS MEUS ET OMNIA

***Il Poverello Fraternity***  
***Gatherings***

**Dec. 20**  
**Day of Reflection**

**Jan. 24**

**Feb. 28**

***Il Poverello Fraternity***  
**COUNCIL**

**Minister:**

Kathleen Robbiano, OFS

**Vice Minister:**

Eunice Edgington, OFS

**Treasurer:**

Margaret Enea-Patrizi, OFS

**Formation Director:**

Julie Schaefer, OFS

**Spiritual Assistant:**

Bro. Bob Brady, OFM



**Special Ministries**

**Librarian:**

J. Patch Guglielmino, OFS

**Newsletter Editors:**

Noreen & Edd Ringlein

**J P I C:**

Edd & Noreen Ringlein

**Minister's Letter**

**December 2014**

A blessed Advent to everyone!

I am reminded that this is a time of waiting - waiting for Christ. How can waiting this Advent become more profound and deepen our conversion? At Mass the Saturday before Advent, a priest reminded the congregation of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Not unlike the Lenten preparation for Easter, Advent prepares us for Christmas.

As we reflect on how to make our Advent more meaningful in our personal lives, let us pray for Il Poverello to heal and grow in its waiting this Advent season. Waiting for the spirit of Christ to truly take hold of us and transform us into a beacon of Light.

Thank you to all who attended a difficult and fruitful fraternity meeting on November 22, 2014. The group worked through the challenges presented and Il Poverello continues.

Advent is the beginning of a new church year - it can be a new beginning for our fraternity as well. Change and growth are hard by their nature. Trust the Spirit of God working in our group. Trust Jesus who calls us, molds us, takes us through fire and storms, tenderly loves us, challenges us, and shows up in our lives in the most unexpected ways!

Peace and all good,

Kathleen Robbiano, OFS

***Il Poverello Fraternity***

Gathering on December 20, 2014

St. Philip the Apostle Catholic Church

3730 Bohemian Hwy, Occidental, CA

**Advent Franciscan Spirituality**

**Presenters will be Br. Bob Brady, OFM, Julie Schaefer, OFS, and Mark Kroncke**  
**Eucharistic Celebration with Father Paul Botenhagen, OFM**

**Time: 9AM - 3PM**

This Day of Reflection is open to anyone interested in exploring Franciscan Spirituality. Potluck Lunch provided by Il Poverello Fraternity: Margaret Enea-Patrizi - Minestrone soup from Negri's; Edd and Noreen Ringlein - Vegetarian Soup; Mark Kroncke - Bread; Kathleen Robbiano - Large salad; Julie Schaefer - Fruit & Cheeses; Brother Bob - Drinks  
Donations gladly accepted. For more information, call Kathleen Robbiano 707-331-5718

## MARK 1:1-8

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet:

*Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way.*

*A voice of one crying out in the desert:*

*“Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.”*

John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem

were going out to him

and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins.

John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist.

He fed on locusts and wild honey.

And this is what he proclaimed:

“One mightier than I is coming after me.

I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals.

I have baptized you with water;

he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”



As we begin a new church year, anxiously awaiting the arrival of our Lord and Savior, who is also seen as our sacrificial lamb, let us please pray for our Il Poverello Fraternity. Let us also pray for all Franciscan Fraternities, their leaders and members, their families and friends, so that through their works and deeds they can receive many blessings for their efforts. Prayers also for Christine Kenny, member of Mt. Alverno Fraternity, she was admitted to the hospital a few days ago with a pulmonary embolism. Remember in your prayers: Sebastian, Anthony, Ken, Evelyn, Mary Anne and Alice, John, Tim, Br. Mateo, and Mark; all our individual intentions and the faithful departed.

## *The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order*

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

### Rule 22

The local fraternity is to be established canonically. It becomes the basic unit of the whole Order and a visible sign of the Church, the community of love. This should be the privileged place for developing a sense of Church and the Franciscan vocation and for enlivening the apostolic life of its members.

### Pope Francis Prayer Intentions for December

#### *Christmas, hope for humanity:*

“That the birth of the Redeemer may bring peace and hope to all people of good will”.

#### *Intention for evangelization is:*

“That parents may be true evangelisers, passing on to their children the precious gift of faith”.

## Birthday Anniversaries

Eunice Edgington, OFS – 12/12

Kay Robbiano, OFS – 12/12

Margaret Enea-Patrizi, OFS – 1/22

Noreen E. Ringlein – 1/31



### Our Lady of Guadalupe Patroness of the Americas

Remember the date that Mary left her image on Juan Diego's tilma, December 12. There has been much discussion of the meaning of the image. Here are a few websites that offers us incite and clarification of why there exists a miraculous image of Our Blessed Mother.

<http://infallible-catholic.blogspot.com/2012/04/miraculous-image-of-our-lady-of.html>

<http://www.virginmotherofguadalupe.com/our-lady-of-guadalupe-image/message-symbols>

<http://www.catholiceducation.org/en/culture/catholic-contributions/the-amazing-truth-of-our-lady-of-guadalupe.html>

## Franciscan Saints in December

### December – Month of the Incarnation



1. **Bl Marie-Angele Astorch**, Virgin, Capuchin religious, d. 1665
2. **Bl. Raphael Chylinski**, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1741
3. **St. Francis Xavier**, Priest,  
had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, Martyr, 1623
4. **Bl. Francois Galves**, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, Martyr 1623
5. **Bl. Pierre de Sienne**, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1289
6. **Bl. Elisabeth la Bonne**, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1420
7. **Bl. Louis Beltrame Quattrocchi**, Confessor, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1951
8. **Feast of the Immaculate Conception**, Patroness of the Seraphic Order,  
Holy Day of Obligation, Plenary Indulgence for tertiaries and cordbearers
9. **Bl. Delphine de Glandeves**, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1360
10. **Bl. Conrad d'Offide**, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1306
11. **Bl. Hugolin Magalotti**, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1373
12. **Discovery of the tomb of St. Francis 1820**
13. **Bl. Pius Bartosik**, Priest, Conventual religious, Martyr 1941
14. **Bl. Barthole Buonpedini**, Priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1300
15. **Mary Queen of the Seraphic Order**
16. **Bl. Honorat de Biala**, Priest, Capuchin religious, d. 1916
17. **Bl. Francois Bell**, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, Martyr 1643
18. **Bl. Marie-Francoise Schervier**, Virgin, religious of the Third-Order Regular  
[living in community, under a Rule], d. 1876
19. **Bl. Jean Discalceat**, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1349
20. **Bl. Antoine Galvao**, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1822
21. **St. Raphael Kalinowski**, Priest,  
had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1907
22. **St. Francis Xavier Cabrini**, Virgin,  
had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1917
23. **Bl. Nicolas Factor**, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1583
24. **Bl. Bentivoglio de Bonio**, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1231
25. **Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Holy Day of Obligation**
26. **St. Albert Chmielowski**, Confessor, religious of the Third-Order Regular  
[living in community, under a Rule], d. 1916
27. **Bl. Mathie de Nazareis**, Virgin, the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1320
28. **Feast of the Holy Innocents**
29. **Bl Gerard de Valence**, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1342
30. **Bl. Marguerite Colonna**, Virgin, the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1280
31. **St. Gaspard Buffalo**, Priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1836;  
Plenary Indulgence (Chant the Te Deum in public)



### Links:

The National Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order-USA:

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

Tau-USA- Newsletter:

[http://www.nafra-sfo.org/tau-usa/tau\\_newarticles.html](http://www.nafra-sfo.org/tau-usa/tau_newarticles.html)

Franciscan Action Network (FAN):

<http://franciscanaction.org/>

[www.FranciscanEarthCorps.org](http://www.FranciscanEarthCorps.org)

San Damiano retreats calendar:

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

Radical call to New Evangelization:

<http://www.osservatoreromano.va/en/news/popes-radical-call-new-evangelization#.U8BVUPldXHQ>

Blessed Junipero Serra Regional Newsletter:

[http://iuniperosegion.com/iuniperosegion.com/Rezional News/Entries/2014/10/MOJ 2014 Summer.pdf](http://iuniperosegion.com/iuniperosegion.com/Rezional%20News/Entries/2014/10/MOJ%202014%20Summer.pdf)



## News Release Included in Blessed Juniper Serra Region Ministers' Message

Please consider sending the following news release to your church bulletin, diocesan newspaper, or even regular local newspaper. You can include contact information at the end of the article if you wish. You might also include this topic in your Ongoing Formation and decide on an action you can take as individuals or a fraternity to support the cause. We'd love to hear and share your ideas in the next MOJ!

## Secular Franciscans Declare Solidarity with Immigrant Brothers/Sisters

DALLAS – The national body of the U.S. Secular Franciscan Order declared its “solidarity with our immigrant brothers and sisters” in a statement unanimously adopted at its annual gathering, held Oct. 21-26 in Dallas, TX.

Citing Philadelphia Archbishop Charles J. Chaput's insight that “the more we encourage and support the integrity of families, the healthier society becomes,” the national body said: “We lament that immigrants live in fear of a dysfunctional system which often leads to the forced break-up of loving families.”

The body, consisting of some 50 leaders representing 13,000 Secular Franciscans across the U.S., said that Secular Franciscans “are called by our Rule of Life to cultivate the well-being of the family through our Franciscan spirit of peace, fidelity, and respect for life.”

The leaders said they were inspired by the words and actions of Tucson Bishop Gerald F. Kicanas, this year's recipient of their Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Award.

“We accept the challenge from Bishop Kicanas that we seek ways to stand in solidarity with our immigrant brothers and sisters, through prayer, personal action, and support for comprehensive immigration reform.”

The Secular Franciscan Order is an order of single, married and ordained Catholics who profess to bring the Gospel to life in the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Il Poverello Fraternity members, please consider the possibility of our fraternity making a yearend contribution to a Franciscan ministry. We recently got a letter from "Amazon Relief", a Secular Franciscan organization. The letter will be shared on our Day of Reflection. Another possibility to consider would be The Living Room, run by the Secular Franciscans in San Francisco. Let us be open to discussing this or any other possible suggestions.

You are invited to the next

### Knights of St. Francis Party

The annual KOSF Christmas Party will be happening on Thursday Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>.

You can RSVP at either [angelaav@aol.com](mailto:angelaav@aol.com), or at [tabithatotah@gmail.com](mailto:tabithatotah@gmail.com)

for more information.

Anyone interested in carpooling, please call Edd and Noreen 7072465311 or 707246984.

Il Poverello fraternity has been invited by Mary Frances Vigil, the Minister of St. Elizabeth Fraternity, to a Franciscan gathering in Oakland. On Sunday, Dec. 7, 2014 a one day retreat will be presented at St. Elizabeth Parish, in the Franciscan Room by Brother Scott Slattum, OFM.

He held a one day retreat at San Juan Bautista on Oct. 3, 2014. The theme was "Francis meets God". What is the key that unlocks our understanding of St. Francis of Assisi? Was it his peacemaking? Was it his love for the created world? Was it his love of Lady Poverty? Was it his understanding that we are all brothers and sisters? No, the key to gaining insight into the heart of St. Francis was his focus and experience of God. We'll explore this topic through prayer, storytelling, music and faith sharing. We asked Brother Scott if he could condense this topic and present it at our fraternity gathering, he accepted and will be presenting it at our Dec. 7th gathering.

The presentation will be from 3:00 to 5:00 PM in the Franciscan Rm., St. Elizabeth Parish, 1500 34th Ave, Oakland, CA 94601



### Fr. Robert Barron's

## Advent Reflections

[adventreflections.com](http://adventreflections.com)

On **Sunday, December 21** there will be a presentation at St. Francis Retreat Center, San Juan Bautista. It will be given by Br. Mark Schroeder, OFM, Animator, Franciscans for Justice; the Tentative Title: "Doing What is Ours to Do: Secular Franciscans and Active Nonviolence" Sponsored by Junipero Serra of Carmel Fraternity From 2:00 - 3:30 Refreshments afterwards.