

Il Poverello Fraternity
Secular Franciscan Order

Joy for the Journey

Petaluma, California
July 2013



Il Poverello Fraternity Gathering

July 20, 2013

St. Vincent de Paul Church / Hall*

35 Liberty St. and Western Ave.

<http://www.svdppetaluma.org/>

*The Knights of Columbus Annual Rummage Sale is taking over St James parking lots and grounds on July 20th, thus causing the temporary change of location for our gathering. We will be back to St James Parish Center Room 9 for August's gathering. Parking west of the church on Liberty, Howard, Bassett, or English or at the City Hall lot on Saturdays is untimed. Exit 101 E. Washington, south to Howard.

The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order

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

Article 23

Requests for admission to the Secular Franciscan Order must be presented to the local fraternity, whose council decides upon the acceptance of new brothers and sisters. Admission into the Order is gradually attained through a time of initiation, a period of formation of at least one year, and profession of the rule. The entire community is engaged in the process of growth by its own manner of living. The age for profession and the distinctive Franciscan sign are regulated by the statutes. Profession by its nature is a permanent commitment.

Members who find themselves in particular difficulties should discuss their problems with the council in fraternal dialogue.

"You have heard how it was said, You will love your neighbour and hate your enemy.

But I say this to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; so that you may be children of your Father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on the bad as well as the good, and sends down rain to fall on the upright and the wicked alike." --Matthew 5:43-45



Il Poverello Fraternity Gatherings

**PLEASE READ: The
Franciscan JOURNEY:
Chapter 30 = p.319**

**July 20*, 2013
August 17 & 24
September 28
October 26**

***3rd Saturday** in July given
necessary schedule change.
We plan to gather at
St. Vincent de Paul / Hall
35 Liberty St., Petaluma, CA.
Parking west of church is
untimed.

Il Poverello OFS met for a day of summer reflection June 27th . . .

Given moves and changes within Il Poverello Fraternity members met for a prayerful “Summer Day of Reflection” at St Philip the Apostle Catholic Church in Occidental, CA. No doubt inspired by the Holy Spirit, our dear St. Francis, and Br. Bob Brady OFM, the professed members, despite diminished numbers, decided to carry on and continue gatherings rather than dissolve and have professed members and those in formation and inquiry join other Franciscan Secular Orders. This is good news! Professed members will act as a leadership team over the next several months.



Perhaps during reflection there was clear guidance through Rule 7 which states, “United by their vocation as ‘brothers and sisters of penance’ and motivated by the dynamic power of the gospel, let them conform their thoughts and deed to those of Christ by means of that radical interior change the gospel calls ‘conversion.’”

Members are working still to contemplate renewed vision, pondering understanding and forgiveness, individual and collective efforts in the larger community for the poor, the disillusioned, the disabled, and those struggling with illness. Il Poverello members took some time to silently and prayerfully ponder deeper individual and shared relationships on their journey in faith.

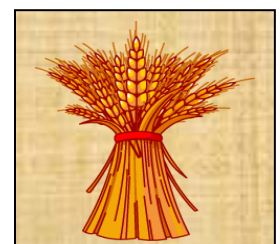


Brother Bob Brady, OFM, sharing some salient points of reflections relating to the “Year of Faith” and “Servant Leadership” as Il Poverello Fraternity members gathered.

St. Philip the Apostle Church in Occidental in the parish hall.

Along with Il Poverello Fraternity’s Spiritual Assistant, Bro. Bob Brady OFM, professed OFS members, Kathleen (Kay) Robbiano, Margaret Enea-Patrizi, Eunice Edgington, and Julie A. Schaefer, will continue to act as a leadership committee until October elections.

“Never be in a hurry; do everything quietly and in a calm spirit. Do not lose your inner peace for anything, even if your whole world seems upset.” –St Francis



**Birthday and
Profession
Anniversaries**

Julie Schaefer – 8/24

Cindy Cunningham - 9/15

**Thank you
Jim and Cindy!**

With prayer during our gathering, praise, and cake, Jim and Cindy Wesley were wished a smooth and peaceful journey as they work to sell their home, pack up, and move southward.

Il Poverello members will greatly miss their song, guidance, and presence.



Prayer Requests...

- ❖ that we, as Franciscans, can make a difference to bring peace and justice and an end to violence
- ❖ for our Holy Father Pope Francis, Bishop Robert Vasa, and all priests of the Santa Rosa Diocese
- ❖ for the Secular Franciscan Order throughout the world
- ❖ for an end to the violence in Syria and for peace in the Middle East
- ❖ for the Blessed Junipero Serra Region and the Executive Council
- ❖ for Patch and Mary Ann's healing
- ❖ for healing and strength for Julia's brother, Tim
- ❖ healing for Gregory Sandritter, Regional councilor
- ❖ for Jim and Cindy's moving and settling
- ❖ for John and Dorothy and family



Pope Francis: Decree of Miracle for Mother Maria Theresia Bonzel: Beatification closer



Back on March 27th, Pope Francis issued a Decree of Miracle that attributes a miracle to Mother Maria Theresia Bonzel, founder of the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration. It is a step in the process toward sainthood. Mother Theresia was born Regina Christine Wilhelmine Bonzel on Sept. 17, 1830, in Olpe, Germany. Mother Maria Theresia Bonzel died on Feb. 6, 1905.

As a young girl born into a wealthy family, she had an early desire to follow Christ, according to records provided by the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration. It's believed she was formed by an intensive prayer life, a great devotion to the Holy Eucharist and a love of St. Francis of Assisi. She entered the Third Order Secular Franciscans in 1850, and became a consecrated religious in 1859.

Her service to the poor did not go unnoticed, and Bishop Konrad Martin asked her to form a congregation devoted to that cause. The Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration in Olpe was approved by the Church on July 20, 1863.

The Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration is the order that runs the Franciscan Alliance hospitals in Northwest Indiana and the University of St. Francis in Crown Point. The sisters are based in Mishawaka, one of four Provinces of this order. The others are in Colorado Springs; Cologne, Germany; and BayBay, Leyete, in the Philippines. There is a mission in Brazil and the Generalate is in Olpe, Germany.

The recognized miracle attributed to Mother Maria Theresia Bonzel's intercession occurred in February of 1999. On Jan. 26 of that year Jan Burgie called Mount St. Francis and asked for prayers for her ill 4-year-old son, Luke, who recovered from his illness Feb. 22, 1999.

Hearings were held at the Diocesan office in Colorado Springs in 2001, and on Jan. 15 this year, the Commission of Cardinals unanimously agreed to this miracle of Luke's healing.

A Celebration of Beatification of Mother Maria Theresia Bonzel will be held Nov. 10, 2013 at the cathedral in Paderborn, Germany, and again on Nov. 11, 2013 in Olpe, Germany.

Pope Francis issues Encyclical Letter, Light of Faith



Pope Francis' first encyclical entitled "*Lumen fidei*" or "The Light of Faith" was released Friday at a press conference in the Vatican. The document completes the trilogy of papal teachings on the three theological virtues, begun by Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI who issued his encyclicals "*Deus Caritas Est*" on Charity in 2005 and "*Spe Salvi*" on Hope in 2007.

The final chapter focuses on Faith and the common good and shows how the light of faith can promote peace and reconciliation, and teach respect for God's creation. The encyclical also considers those areas illuminated by Faith, starting with the family based on marriage, understood as a stable union between man and woman. Faith, writes the Pope, cannot eliminate suffering in our world, but it can accompany us and bring a new sense of hope in God's love. The encyclical ends with a prayer to Mary, Mother of Jesus and icon of faith, who can lead us into the light of God's love.

Live link on Vatican Radio:

http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/francesco/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20130629_enciclica-lumen-fidei_en.html

PRAYER FOR THE INTERCESSION OF MOTHER BONZEL

Loving Father, by your great grace, you have chosen Mother Maria Theresia Bonzel as your spouse, and have imparted to her heart an ardent love for you in the Blessed Sacrament. You have made her a true disciple of St. Francis in the practice of works of charity and all other virtues, especially humility, patience and penance.

Grant that we, too, will grow in our love for the Eucharist, so that like Mother Maria Theresia, we can serve you, your Church, and all souls with joy and simple faith. Let us bring the light of Christ to all those around us, especially those in most need.

Grant us, by her intercession, and according to Your holy will, the request I now make . . . so that her heroic sanctity may be recognized in the whole Church. We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen. *With Ecclesiastical approval.*