



IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY
SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER
JOY FOR THE JOURNEY
PETALUMA, CALIFORNIA
OCTOBER, 2014

DEUS MEUS ET OMNIA

IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY
GATHERINGS

Oct. 25th

Meeting at St. James

Nov. 22nd

Meeting at St. James

Dec. 20th

Day of Reflection
 St. Philip the Apostle Church

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
October 2014

Peace and all good!

What great opportunities for Franciscan Formation came recently to our Region! The All Franciscan Family Gathering in San Jose on September 20, and the Franciscan Spirituality Retreat from September 26-28 at San Damiano Retreat Center in Danville brought a renewed sense of purpose, focus and depth in looking at our journey and vocation as Franciscans.

Speakers presented many beautiful themes for reflection, each pointing back to Christ and the need for a strong Franciscan presence in our world today. To be bridges in our world, walk with people, reflect on the cross of Christ, awaken our capacity to say "Yes" to God, open to wonder in our faith-these are just a taste of the many rich words of wisdom encouraging our growth as Franciscan Christians.

Much of the sharing led back to scripture- and whether one had the ability to be at a gathering or not, the call to search scripture over and over for guidance is important to all in the Franciscan community. Also, the need to affirm each other was brought to attention, since life in Christ most often includes struggle of some kind, and it is not "of this world".

As we prepare for our next Fraternity Meeting and our discussion of renewal in the fraternity, we can search the scripture for inspiration and revisit the essentials of what Francis and Clare sought for their lives. The path unfolds for us in ways yet to be discovered.

Remember our brothers and sisters who yearn for peace in many countries, and pray for peace in all hearts, that transformation into love and light may be realized.

In Christ's love,

Kathleen Robbiano
 Minister for Il Poverello Fraternity

Il Poverello Fraternity Meeting October 25 10:00 AM -1:00 PM

- 10:00** Morning Prayer (Mark will lead)
- 10:30** Sharing from recent formation events:
 Franciscan Family Gathering and Franciscan Spirituality Retreat
 Business – Old and New
- 11:00** Break, quiet walk, reflection time
- 11:15** Fraternity future –
 Discussion: What is Fraternity by Rule and General Constitutions
 What do we want individually and as group? Vision for the future?
 (Please review General Constitutions if possible before meeting)
- 12:00** Lunch and continued sharing: If fraternity topic has been discussed enough,
 Then we will continue Richard Rohr book "Falling Upward"
- 1:00** Candidate formation time

(Those who will not be at meeting please contact Kathleen with your comments that you wish to have included in fraternity discussion. This discussion will most likely continue into November, since it appears that Brother Bob, Eunice and Margaret will be away on 10/25)

Revelation 22: 1-21

Then the angel showed me the river of life-giving water, sparkling like crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of its street. On either side of the river grew the **tree of life*** that produces fruit twelve times a year, once each month; the leaves of the trees serve as medicine for the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there anymore. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. They will look upon his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. Night will be no more, nor will they need light from lamp or sun, for the Lord God shall give them light, and they shall reign forever and ever.

And he said to me, "These words are trustworthy and true, and the Lord, the God of prophetic spirits, sent his angel to show his servants what must happen soon."

"Behold, I am coming soon." Blessed is the one who keeps the prophetic message of this book. It is I, John, who heard and saw these things, and when I heard and saw them I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed them to me. But he said to me, "Don't! I am a fellow servant of yours and of your brothers the prophets and of those who keep the message of this book, Worship God."

Then he said to me, "Do not seal up the prophetic words of this book, for the appointed time* is near. Let the wicked still act wickedly, and the filthy still be filthy. The righteous must still do right, and the holy still be holy."

"Behold, I am coming soon. I bring with me the recompense I will give to each according to his deeds. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." Blessed are they who wash their robes so as to have the right to the tree of life and enter the city through its gates. Outside are the dogs, the sorcerers, the unchaste, the murderers, the idol-worshippers, and all who love and practice deceit.

"I, Jesus, sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the root and offspring of David, the bright morning star."

The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." Let the hearer say, "Come." Let the one who thirsts come forward, and the one who wants it receive the gift of life-giving water.

I warn everyone who hears the prophetic words in this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, and if anyone takes away from the words in this prophetic book, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city described in this book.

The one who gives this testimony says, "Yes, I am coming soon." Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!

The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order

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

- Rule 14 -

Secular Franciscans, together with all people of good will, are called to build a more fraternal and evangelical world so that the kingdom of God may be brought about more effectively. Mindful that anyone "who follows Christ, the perfect man, becomes more of a man himself," let them exercise their responsibilities competently in the Christian spirit of service.

REFLECTIONS ON THE POPE'S MONTHLY INTENTIONS

Universal intention – Peace: That the Lord may grant peace to those parts of the world most battered by war and violence.

Scripture – Isaiah 11:1-9 On God's holy mountain there shall be no harm or ruin because the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord.

Evangelization intention – World Mission Day:

That World Mission Day may rekindle in every believer, zeal for carrying the Gospel into the entire world.

Scripture – 2 Corinthians 5:14-15 The love of Christ urges us on.

Prayer Requests

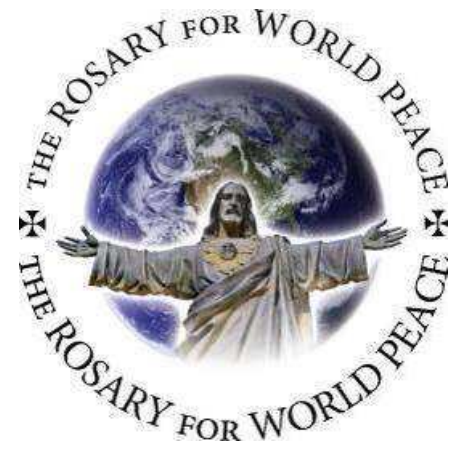
- + For world peace especially in the Middle East and the Ukraine;
- + Peace - moral guidance, dialogue, and compromise in decisions made by our nations' representatives and world leaders;
- + For Justice - immigration reform and the unification of families divided by current policies;
- + For those seeking work and needed financial relief;
- + For our Holy Father Pope Francis, Bishop Robert Vasa, and all priests and their intentions;
- + For the Synod of Bishops discussing family matters;
- + For Reconciliation and Unity in the church;
- + For our fraternity and fellow fraternities worldwide striving to live as St. Francis and St. Clare guides us through the Rule;
- + For family and friends for strength in their struggles: For Eunice's son, Ken, diagnosed with a brain AVM, and for his neurologist; for Evelyn, Mary Anne and Alice, John, Tim, Br. Mateo, and Mark; and all individual intentions.

Birthday and Profession Anniversaries

Br. Bob Brady OFM 11/4	Margaret Enea-Patrizi, OFS 11/16/2002
Evelyn Stateler, OFS 10/19	Julie A. Schaefer, OFS 11/16/2002
	J. Patch Guglielmino, OFS 11/16/2013

OCTOBER – Month of the Holy Rosary and the Holy Angels

1. **Bl. Nicolas de Forca**, Priest, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1449
2. **Bl. Antoine Chevrier**, Priest, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1879
3. **St. Therese of the Infant Jesus, Patron of France;**
St. Marie-Joseph Tossello, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1880
4. **Solemnity of our Seraphic Father St. Francis, d. 1226**,
Plenary Indulgence for tertiaries and cordbearers
5. **Commemoration of the establishment of the 3 Orders**
6. **St. Marie-Francoise des Cinq Plaies**, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular
7. **Feast of the Holy Rosary ****
8. **St. Brigitte de Suede**, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1373
9. **Bl. Marie-Angele Truskowska**, Virgin, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1899
10. **St. Francois Borgia**, Priest,
had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1572;
and **St. Daniel and Companions**, Religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, Martyrs, d. 1227
11. **Feast of the Divine Maternity of Our Lady**
12. **St. Seraphine de Montegrano**, lay brother, Capuchin religious, d. 1604
13. **Bl. Pacifique de Valence**, lay brother, Capuchin religious, martyr 1936
14. **St. Jean de Dukla**, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, martyr 1936
15. **Bl. Sebastien de Jesus**, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1734
16. **Bl. Anicet de Dbrzno**, Priest, Capuchin religious, martyr, 1941
17. **Bl. Balthazar de Chiavari**, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1490
18. **Bl. Jacques de Strepa**, Bishop, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1409
19. **St. Pierre de Alcantara**, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1512
20. **Bl. Contardo Ferrini**, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1902
21. **Bl. Martyrs of Polonais**, d. 1941-42
22. **Bl. Jean-Baptiste Bullaker**, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, martyr 1642
23. **St. Anthony Mary Claret**, Bishop,
had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1870
24. **Bl. Josephine Leroux**, Virgin, the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, martyr 1794
25. **Bl. Maria Veronica Masia Ferragut, Bl. Maria Felicidad Masia Ferragut,**
and **Bl. Jesus Masia Ferragut**, Virgins, Capuchin religious, Martyrs 1936
26. **Bl. Martyrs of the War of Spain**, 1936-37
27. **Bl. Bonaventure de Potenza**, Priest, Conventual religious, d. 1711
28. **Bl. Anne-Eugenie Picco**, Virgin,
had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1921
29. **Bl. Thomas de Florence**, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1447
30. **Bl. Ange d'Acre**, Priest, Capuchin religious, d. 1739
31. **Bl. Christophe de Cahors**, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1272



** The Battle of Lepanto was fought on Oct. 7, 443 years ago. To prepare for the impending sea battle, Pope Pius V urged European Catholics to pray daily the rosary asking for victory over the attacking Muslims. The attacking Ottoman fleet outnumbered the defending Christian fleet who never the less defeated their attackers. Pope Pius originally established this date as the "Feast of Our Lady of Victory", in 1571. It was Pope Gregory XIII who changed the name to "Our Lady of the Holy Rosary."

<http://www.aquinasandmore.com/blog/our-ladys-victory-at-the-battle-of-lepanto/>
- Listen to G.K. Chesterton's poem "Lepanto":
<http://www.aquinasandmore.com/blog/lepanto/>
- Encouraged to pray the rosary in our battles against all evil:

<http://www.wordonfire.org/resources/blog/our-lady-of-the-rosary-and-the-battle-of-lepanto/1220/>

Reflections on: The 3rd
All Franciscan Family Gathering

Franciscans in the World
"BE THE BRIDGE"
Bringing Christ's Love To All



Keynote Speakers: Bishop Richard Garcia of the Monterey Diocese,
Sr. Maria Elena Martinez, OSF and Br. John Boylan, OFI

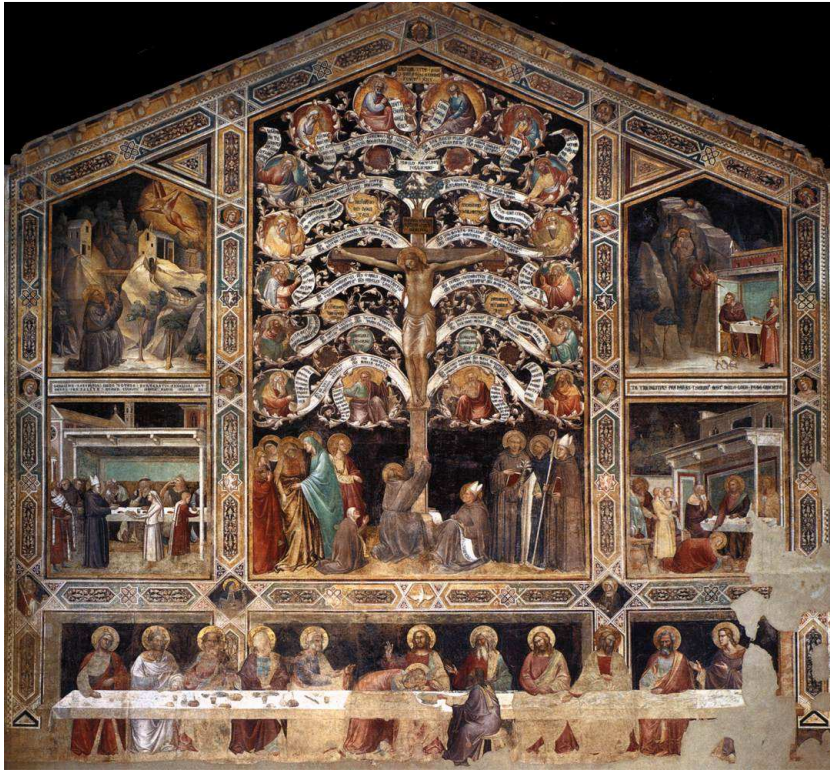
Pope Francis' papal exhortation, "Joy of the Gospel", reminds us of our baptismal and confirmation call to evangelization. That is a call to Franciscans to be "bridge builders", modern day apostles, living and teaching others as models of Christ's teachings.

A salient example occurs on the Road to Emmaus (Lk 24, 13-35) where the two disciples were met by the risen Jesus who explained scripture and how suffering and death is necessary. They were comforted by his words, however they did not recognize Him until at supper when he took the bread, blessed it, broke and shared it with them.

In this story we see that Jesus was a bridge to clarity and love in his own way, but that also he is calling each of us to be bridge builders. Just as He reached out to the apostles, we are called to be mentors to others, to bring others to Christ. Jesus was there present on the road to Emmaus and for the doubting Thomas who needed real presence and proximity He appeared in the flesh. Jesus shows us that we too can be present for people. We need to build love as a foundation for our families.

**“Franciscans, Pope Francis, and the Joy of the Gospel”
Franciscan Spirituality Retreat, San Damiano, Sept. 26-28
Presented by: Fr. Joseph P Chinnici, OFM**

The Cross as the Tree of Life



Fr. Joe introduced us to his talk with the two images of the Cross as the Tree of Life. In the fresco above seen in the church of Santa Croce in Florence, the cross is depicted as the culmination of the word given to us from the prophets in scripture.

The mosaic below is in the Church of San Clemente, Rome. This image depicts the cross as the vine from which all the branches derive their food for life growing in the Garden of God. Below it, the sheep represent Jesus, the sacrificial lamb, and the apostles.



An appropriate subject for the friars' dining hall, the Last Supper is a fresco painted by Taddeo Gaddi around 1328. Above the last Supper Gaddi painted a Tree of Life, a devotional subject derived from the writings of the Franciscan St. Bonaventure. The mystical tree is surrounded by a depiction of St. Francis's stigmatization and three holy events that take place at meals.

St. Francis is also depicted as clinging at the foot of the cross while St. Clare is consoling the women who were present. The images at the right are of the priest at his Easter Meal who receives the word of St. Benedict's hunger in the wilderness, and of Mary Magdalen washing the feet of Christ with her tears. To the left, below the Stigmatisation of St. Francis is St. Louis of Toulouse feeding the poor and sick.

The mosaic in the Church of San Clemente shows the cross with Mary and St. John beside it and the hand of God the Father above, offering a wreath of victory to Christ. The Apostles are represented as doves surrounding Jesus on the cross and as twelve sheep that face toward the Lamb of God.

The tree of life is a reference from Revelation 22:2. Branching out from the tree on both sides are swirling vines that cover the entire mosaic branching out to all of humanity. There are four streams of water coming out of the tree that signifies the four rivers of Eden. Two deer are drinking these waters. This scene comes from Psalms 42:1, "As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God." Behind the deer there are two peacocks. According to ancient beliefs, the Peacock had pure immortal flesh, which is why it became associated with the resurrection of Christ.

The mosaic represents Bethlehem on the left and Jerusalem on the right. In Bethlehem we see an image of the boy Christ and of another boy running down a flight of stairs; in Jerusalem a cross and a cock remind viewers that this city was the scene of the Crucifixion and of Peter's denial.

Above the two towns are Isaiah, St. Lawrence and St. Paul (left side) and Jeremiah, St. Clement and St. Peter (right side). The risen and reigning Christ is above the entire work, in a medallion over the highest point of the arch.

Link: http://catholicbiblical.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/B2-The-Apse-Mosaic-at-San-Clemente_web-13-Apr-03.pdf



Franciscan Family Gathering Sept. 20, 2014



San Damiano Sept. 26-28, 2014
Franciscan Spirituality Retreat

Upcoming Events

Message from Patricia Dolan:

Fr Isaiah Mary from St Dominics has confirmed that he will give his talk on the Liturgy of the Hours at our fraternity meeting. Save this date!

Sunday, Nov 2
1:30 in the Living Rm.,
350 Golden Gate Ave.,
San Francisco

Day of Reflection
Saturday December 20th, 2014
(Save this date)
St. Philip the Apostle Church
Occidental, CA

Speaker and Topic TBA

Web 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

Blessed Junipero Serra Regional Newsletter:
http://juniperoserraregion.com/juniperoserraregion.com/Regional_News/Entries/2014/10/MOJ_2014_Summer.pdf

The Franciscan Intellectual Tradition:
<http://www.franciscantradition.org/>

Franciscan Action Network (FAN):
<http://franciscanaction.org/> www.FranciscanEarthCorps.org

Radical call to New Evangelization:

<http://www.osservatoreromano.va/en/news/popes-radical-call-new-evangelization#.U8BVUpldXHQ>