



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

DEUS MEUS ET OMNIA

IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY
GATHERINGS

Sept 20

Franciscan Family Gathering
 "Bring God's Love to All"

Sept 26, 27, 28

San Damiano Retreat

Oct. 3rd, 4th

Transitus and Feast Day

Oct. 25

Nov. 22

Il Poverello Fraternity
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Kathleen Robbiano, OFS

Vice Minister:

Eunice Edgington, OFS

Treasurer:

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Noreen & Edd Ringlein

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Minister's Letter
September 2014

May the Lord give you peace!

We are so blessed to live in a community where we can enjoy quiet in our homes, prayer time, and the beauty of creation. On the same Earth we walk each day, human to human violence and human to Creation violence continue. Tears come to me when I dare let down my defenses and read of atrocities against human beings, animals and the environment we struggle to hold habitable.

This brings attention to our call as Franciscans to be peacemakers. As I receive emails from the group Pace Y Bene about nonviolent actions they are organizing for the end of September, I wonder what I am doing daily for the cause of peace. Am I willing to grow in my own capacity for nonviolent behavior and compassion that I may extend my care to the world I encounter with its challenges and turmoil? Can I encounter my wounds and open to the grace God gives for healing, so I may reflect Jesus to others? Can I confront injustice with care?

Time for reflection on the beautiful and radical lesson from Jesus in Matthew 5:38-42. This is truly the peacemakers response. In the book "Personal Nonviolence- A Practical Spirituality For Peacemakers" Dr. Gerard Vanderhaar points out the cultural implications of this scripture at the time of Jesus, showing that Jesus was suggesting a "Third Way" of nonviolent resistance in how he instructed the disciples to act.

This September we have several opportunities to share time with the greater Franciscan community and grow in our understanding of our vocation. These times are rich with possibility! Let Jesus lead us more deeply as followers, not only "fans", so we may learn how love touches and transforms in the most unexpected ways and situations, and be instruments for the peace only Jesus can give.

Kathleen Robbiano
 Minister for Il Poverello Fraternity

Matthew 5: 38-42

You have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth. But I say to you not to resist evil**: but if one strike thee on thy right cheek, turn to him also the other: And if a man will contend with thee in judgment, and take away thy coat, let go thy cloak also unto him. And whosoever will force thee one mile, go with him other two, Give to him that asketh of thee and from him that would borrow of thee turn not away.

**[Not to resist evil: What is here commanded, is a Christian patience under injuries and affronts, and to be willing even to suffer still more, rather than to indulge the desire of revenge: but what is further added does not strictly oblige according to the letter, for neither did Christ nor St. Paul turn the other cheek. St. John 18., and Acts 23.]

Christ's sermon upon the mount. The eight beatitudes.

And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain, and when he was set down, his disciples came unto him. And opening his mouth, he taught them, saying: Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are the meek: for they shall possess the land. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after justice: for they shall have their fill. Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the clean of heart: for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called children of God. Blessed are they that suffer persecution for justice' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are ye when they shall revile you, and persecute you, and speak all that is evil against you, untruly, for my sake: Be glad and rejoice, for your reward is very great in heaven. For so they persecuted the prophets that were before you. You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt lose its savour, wherewith shall it be salted? It is good for nothing any more but to be cast out, and to be trodden on by men. You are the light of the world. A city seated on a mountain cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle and put it under a bushel, but upon a candlestick, that it may shine to all that are in the house.

So let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven. Do not think that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets. I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill. For amen I say unto you, till heaven and earth pass, one jot, or one tittle shall not pass of the law, till all be fulfilled. He therefore that shall break one of these least commandments, and shall so teach men, shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven. But he that shall do and teach, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, that unless your justice abound more than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order

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

- Rule 19 -

Mindful that they are bearers of peace which must be built up unceasingly, they should seek out ways of unity and fraternal harmony through dialogue, trusting in the presence of the divine seed in everyone and in the transforming power of love and pardon.

Messengers of perfect joy in every circumstance, they should strive to bring joy and hope to others.

Since they are immersed in the resurrection of Christ, which gives true meaning to Sister Death, let them serenely tend toward the ultimate encounter with the Father.

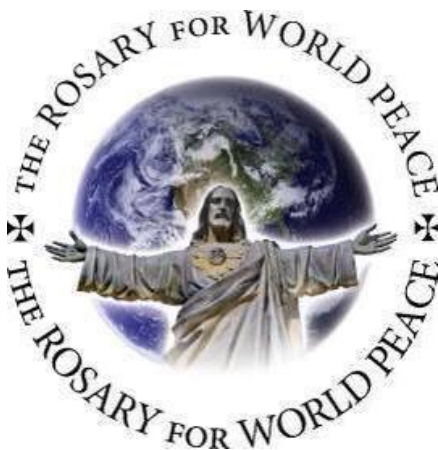
The Holy Father's universal prayer intentions for the month of September:

Universal intention - That the mentally disabled may receive the love and help that they need for a dignified life.

Evangelization intention - That Christians, inspired by the Word of God, may serve the poor and suffering.

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 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

Cindy Cunningham - Birth date: 9/15

Evelyn Stateler, OFS - Birth date: 10/19

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 Campososso**, 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

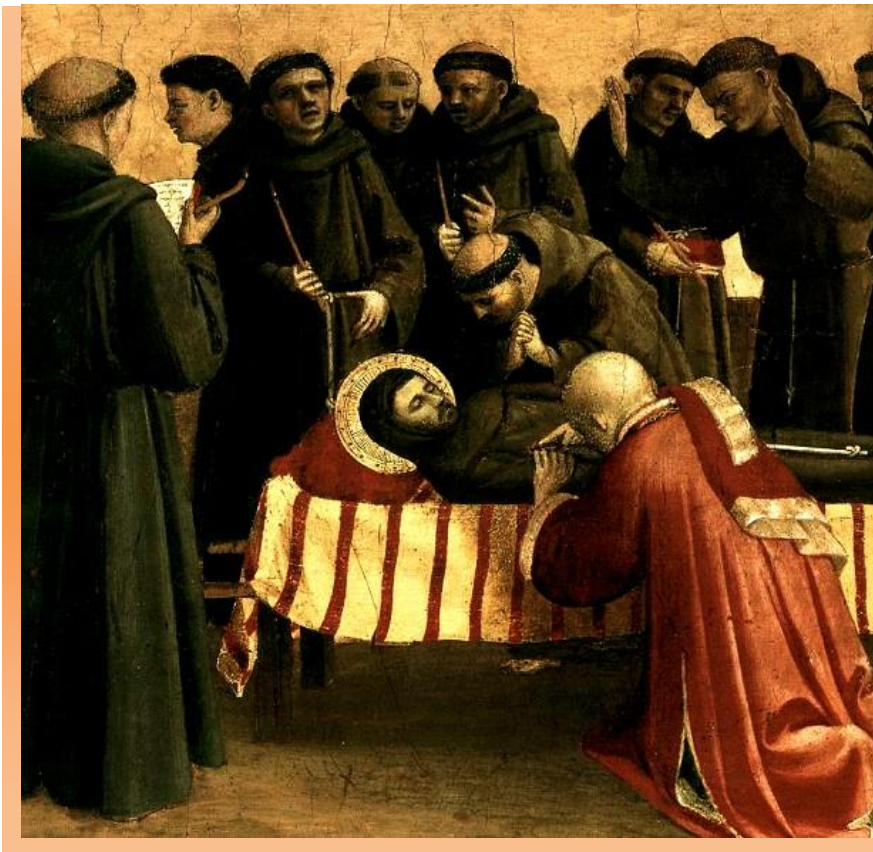


**Appearance of the Stigmata
of Holy Father Francis
9/17**

**St. Francis of Assisi
Feast Day
10/4**

Lord, I ask you for two graces before I die: to experience in myself, as much as possible, the sufferings of your cruel Passion, and to feel for you the same love that drove you to sacrifice yourself for us.

My Lord Jesus Christ, I beg thee to grant me two graces before my death: first, that for the rest of my life I may experience in my soul and in my body, as much as possible, the same pain that you suffered, O sweet Jesus, during the time of thy most cruel Passion; and second, that I may feel in my heart, as much as possible, the same love which inflamed thee, the Son of God, and led thee to suffer thy passion gladly for us sinners.



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."

Upcoming Events

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



Come to the family reunion!

The 3rd All Franciscan Family Gathering

September 20, 2014

Keynote speakers:

BISHOP RICHARD JOHN GARCIA,
Bishop of the Diocese of Monterey 2006 – Present

Sr. Maria Elena Martinez, OSF

Place:
Napredak Hall
770 Montague Expressway
San Jose, CA 95131

8:30am Registration check-in and gathering
(see attached Program and Speaker Bio)

More information: *Cindy Wesley OFS*
cwesley@mcn.org or 805-714-6249

Message from Regional Minister Kathleen Molinaro:

Sept. 13 Day of Reflection in Area 2.

The day will be from 10:00-3:00 at Dorothy Voigt's house, 4651 Mount Pleasant Rd., Lincoln, and conducted by lay Spiritual Assistant, Jay de la Cruz. The topic is "A Reflection on Franciscan Spirituality." Please RSVP to Dorothy, 916-645-8883, or dvoigt39@gmail.com.

Sept. 20 St. Francis Fraternity of Reno, NV

will celebrate their 75th anniversary of Establishment: The day will begin with an 11:00 am liturgy with Bishop Calvo presiding, at the St. Thomas Aquinas Cathedral, in Reno. A simple luncheon will follow in Reghini Hall for all Secular Franciscans and their families. The donation of \$5.00 per person would be appreciated." Reservations for each attendee may be left with Audrey Tellers, OFS, at [\(775\) 355-6720](tel:7753556720)."

Transitus Opportunities, Oct. 3

The Transitus will be held in the Porziuncola Chapel portion of the National Shrine at 6:00pm. Our Lady of the Angels Church in Burlingame invites you to theirs at 7:00 pm. I've been told that San Damiano Retreat Center in Danville is conducting one this year, and usually both St. Francis Church in Sacramento and St. Thomas Aquinas Cathedral in Reno, Nevada hold one.

Message from Patricia Dolan (San Francisco):

Fr Isaiah Mary from St Dominics has confirmed that he will give his talk on the Liturgy of the Hours at our fraternity meeting on Sunday, Nov 2. Save this date!

Time and Place TBA



"Franciscans, Pope Francis, and the Joy of the Gospel" **Franciscan Spirituality Retreat September 26-28, 2014**

Taking the papal exhortation "The Joy of the Gospel" as a starting point, the retreat will reflect on some major themes joining the papal program of ecclesial and social renewal with the vision of Francis and Clare of Assisi. Reflections on the providence of God, the pursuit of peace, the temptations the pursuit of peace, the temptations confronting the contemporary Franciscan, the importance of popular piety, and the tools for perseverance will lead participants more deeply into an experience of the "joy of the Gospel."



Fr. Joseph P. Chinnici, OFM, currently Academic Dean at the Franciscan School of Theology, now in Oceanside, CA, has been a Franciscan friar for over thirty five years and a human being for even longer! A specialist in the history of the church in the United States, he gives retreats, lectures, and writes in the field of Franciscan spirituality. He currently chairs the Commission for the Retrieval of the Franciscan Intellectual Tradition.

Friday: Registration 4:00 pm - 6:30 pm, social at 6:00 pm, dinner at 7:00 pm.
First Session: 8:00 pm & concludes with lunch on Sunday.