



IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY

SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER

JOY FOR THE JOURNEY

JANUARY, 2018

IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY GATHERINGS

Jan. 28th

Feb. 18th

March 17th

Handicapables Luncheon Ministry

March 25th

IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY GATHERING

January 28, 2018

Council Meeting: 12:00 - 1:15

Fraternity Gathering: 1:30 - 3:30

Opening Prayer

Ongoing Formation

Break: Snack and Fellowship

Business: Old and New

Closing Prayer

IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY COUNCIL

Minister:

Mark Kroncke, OFS

Vice Minister:

Edd Ringlein, OFS

Secretary:

Noreen Ringlein, OFS

Treasurer:

Susan Forsyth, OFS

Formation Director:

TBA

Spiritual Assistant:

TBA

COUNCILORS

Dianne Prior, OFS

Cosmos Bacich, OFS

Margaret Enea-Patrizi, OFS

SPECIAL MINISTRIES

Librarian:

TBA

Newsletter Editors:

Edd & Noreen Ringlein

J P I C:

Noreen & Edd Ringlein

Minister's Letter January 2018

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

As we enter a New Year, we traditionally take a moment to reflect on the year past, and to rededicate ourselves to the coming year. It's not too late to amend these commitments, and I've attached a graphic that shares those commitments Pope Francis is placing before himself. As Franciscans, most - if not all! - of these are in line with our charism, and I hope we can find some way to bring these to life in the New Year . . . yours in peace!

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: THE POPE FRANCIS LIST

1. Don't gossip.
2. Finish your meals.
3. Make time for others.
4. Choose the 'more humble' purchase.
5. Meet the poor 'in the flesh'.
6. Stop judging others.
7. Befriend those who disagree.
8. Make commitments, such as marriage.
9. Make it a habit to 'ask the Lord'.
10. Be happy.



Mark Kroncke, OFS

Minister, Il Poverello Fraternity

Scripture reading for January 23rd

MARK 3:31-35

The mother of Jesus and his brothers arrived at the house.

Standing outside, they sent word to Jesus and called him.

A crowd seated around him told him, "Your mother and your brothers and your sisters are outside asking for you."

But he said to them in reply, "Who are my mother and my brothers?"

And looking around at those seated in the circle he said,

"Here are my mother and my brothers. For whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."

January Prayer Intentions of the Holy Father

Religious Minorities in Asia

Religious liberty is a hallmark of our American system. In Canada and the United States, such liberty is enshrined in law. It is protected legally, if not always in practice. The situation we enjoy here in the United States and in Canada is not the case universally. In places across Asia, as we sometimes see in our own societies, violations of religious freedom by individuals, groups, and institutions are of great concern to all humanity. In this month's intention, the Holy Father asks us to pray for the freedom of those in Asia to exercise this fundamental freedom, one which many of us here in Canada and the United States might take for granted.

Points for Meditation

Am I free to exercise my own religion as I see best? Do I restrict the rights of others to practice their religion in my personal, social, or work life? How do I bring the values of my faith to private and public discourse? What is the difference between the two?

Scripture

Ex 20:2-3 I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. You shall have no other gods before me.

cf. Dt 6:13 "You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve."



THE RULE OF THE SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER

AS SECULAR FRANCISCANS WE ARE CONSTANTLY CHALLENGED

TO MINDFULLY FOLLOW THE RULE OF ST FRANCIS

RULE 20

The Secular Franciscan Order is divided into fraternities of various levels – local, regional, national, and international. Each one has its own moral personality in the Church. These various fraternities are coordinated and united according to the norm of this rule and of the constitutions.

Art. 28, 2: "The OFS is divided into fraternities of various levels," the purpose being to promote, in an orderly form, the union and mutual collaboration among the brothers and sisters and their active and communal presence in both the local and the universal Church. The OFS shall also support the commitment of the fraternities in their service to the world, and specifically to the life of society.

Art. 28, 3: The brothers and sisters gather in local fraternities established in connection with a church or a religious house, or in personal fraternities, constituted for specific and valid reasons recognized in the decree of establishment.

Art. 29, 2: These fraternities, that each have their own juridical personality in the Church, should acquire, if possible, a civil juridical personality for the better fulfillment of their mission. It pertains to the national councils to give guidelines concerning the motivations and the procedures to be followed.

Art. 29, 3: National statutes should indicate the criteria for the organization of the OFS in the nation. The application of these criteria is left to the prudent judgement of the leaders of the fraternities concerned and of the national council.

Look Up!

THE BUZZARD:

If you put a buzzard in a pen that is 6 feet by 8 feet and is entirely open at the top, the bird, in spite of its ability to fly, will be an absolute prisoner. The reason is that a buzzard always begins a flight from the ground with a run of 10 to 12 feet. Without space to run, as is its habit, it will not even attempt to fly, but will remain a prisoner for life in a small jail with no top.

THE BAT:

The ordinary bat that flies around at night, a remarkable nimble creature in the air, cannot take off from a level place. If it is placed on the floor or flat ground, all it can do is shuffle about helplessly and, no doubt, painfully, until it reaches some slight elevation from which it can throw itself into the air. Then, at once, it takes off like a flash.

THE BUMBLEBEE:

A bumblebee, if dropped into an open tumbler, will be there until it dies, unless it is taken out. It never sees the means of escape at the top, but persists in trying to find some way out through the sides near the bottom. It will seek a way where none exists, until it completely destroys itself.

PEOPLE:

In many ways, we are like the buzzard, the bat, and the bumblebee. We struggle about with all our problems and frustrations, never realizing that all we have to do is look up! That's the answer, the escape route and the solution to any problem!

Just look up.

Sorrow looks back. Worry looks around. But faith looks up!

Fraternity Prayer Intentions

Let us pray

For Pope Francis, the church leaders, and all religious worldwide, guidance by the Holy Spirit in directing the faithful into the one true church;

For world leaders, may the national representatives govern wisely for the good of humanity, for the common-man;

For the souls of the faithful departed their families and friends who have gone before us, remembering those who have recently passed after their experiences with cancer: Steve, Jim, and Graham, also for those who are fighting the ravages of cancer including John K., Marian, Karlin, and Chuck;

For all members of our Franciscan Fraternities', their families and friends;

For our Il Poverello fraternity active and inactive members, their families and friends, especially for Alberto Cortez, OFS to return to good health, for Mary Anne and Alice, for Frances Cookson, for Br. Mateo, and for the Porter family, Michele Porter Ricard, Noreen and Edd brother- in law Lyle's sister, who lives in Nebraska, she suffered a brain aneurysm recently and was taken off life support. She had been an active, talented high school science teacher for many years;

For the homeless and the worldwide immigrant and refugee populations, especially for those fleeing natural and manmade disasters, especially the fire victims and their families of Sonoma, Mendocino, and Napa counties for those who have died and for those who are recovering from their losses;

For these and all our individual intentions;

We Pray to the Lord

A New Year's Wish ...

"Get up! Go into the world and live in the flow of love. Forgive, show mercy, be compassionate, care for the poor, tend to the earth as family; find your inner wholeness in the love of God and create new wholes in your midst, in your communities, your workplaces, at shopping malls, and jazz fests. Live in the energy of Spirit; let yourself be led into new patterns of wholeness, into new structures and languages that kindle life more abundantly."

- Ilia Delio, *Making All Things News*

January Birthdays

Blaise Cirelli	1-2
Margaret Enea-Patrizi, OFS	1-22
Noreen E. Ringlein, OFS	1-31

Franciscan Saint Days in January —

Month of the Holy Name of Jesus and His Holy Childhood

1. Feast of the Circumcision of Our Lord—Holy Day of Obligation; Plenary Indulgence possible (Chant in public Veni Creator)

2. Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus

3. Bl. Chriatiane Menaburi, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1310

4. Bl. Angele de Foligno, widow, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1310

5. Bl. Pierre Bonilli, priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1935

6. Feast of the Epiphany—Holy Day of Obligation

(Celebrated on Sunday; in the Latin and Eastern Rites, included with the Lord's baptism)

7. St. Charles de Sezza, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1670

8. Bl. Roger de Toddi, priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1237

9. Bl. Gilles de Lorenzana, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1518

10. Bl. Gregory X, Pope, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1276

11. St. Thomas de Cori, priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1729

12. St. Bernard of Corleone, lay brother, Capuchin religious, d. 1667

13. Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ

14. Bl. Oderic de Pordenone, priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1331

15. Bl. Jacques del Piebe, priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, martyr d. 1304

16. Sts. Berard and Companions, Protomartyrs of the Order, d. 1220

17. Sl. Matthieu d'Argrigente, Bishop, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1451

18. Bl. Jeanne of Saint Mary, virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1360

19. Bl. Marcel Spinola y Maestre, Bishop, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1906

20. Bl. Jean-Baptiste Triquerie, priest, conventual religious, martyr d. 1794

21. Bl. Joseph Nascimbeni, priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1922

22. St. Vincent Pallotti, priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1850

23. Feast of the Marriage of the Blessed Virgin Mary

24. Bl. Paule Gamgara Costa, widow, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1515

25. Bl. Emmanuel Dominguo y Sol, priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1909

26. Bl. Georges Matulwicz, Bishop, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1927

27. St. Angela Merici, virgin, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1540

28. Bl. Bienvenu de Recanati, priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1289

29. St. Francis de Sales, Bishop, Doctor of the Church, Cord bearer, d. 1622

30. St. Hyacintha of Mariscotti, virgin, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1640

31. St. John Bosco, priest, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1888



Remembrances of Day of Reflection

Advent: Journey with Mary

This Advent Poem offers a great synopsis of what was offered and discussed on this Day of Reflection:

An Advent Poem

By St. John of the Cross

If you want, the Virgin will come walking down the road
Pregnant with the holy, and say,
"I need shelter for the night,
Please take me inside your heart, my time is so close."
Then, under the roof of your soul,
You will witness the sublime intimacy,
The divine, the Christ, taking birth forever,
As she grasps your hand for help,
For each of us is the midwife of God, each of us.

Yes there, under the dome of your being
Does creation come into existence eternally,
Through your womb, dear pilgrim
- the sacred womb of your soul,
As God grasps our arms for help
For each of us is His beloved servant, never far.
If you want, the Virgin will come
Walking down the street
Pregnant with Light and sing.



Upcoming Events

January 27, Annual Walk for Life, West Coast

January 28, Il Poverello fraternity gathering

January 26-28, Franciscan Spirituality Retreat *

February 16-18, Franciscan Spirituality Retreat *

February 18, Il Poverello fraternity gathering

February 23-25, St. Junipero Serra Regional gathering *

March 17, Handicapables Luncheon Ministry **

March 25, Il Poverello fraternity gathering

* at San Damiano Retreat Center

** at Church of the Roses

Gathering formation topics and volunteer presenters:

January – Encyclicals of Catholic Social Justice

Edd Ringlein, OFS

February – The Life of St. Clare

Dianne Prior, OFS

March – Crucified Love – St. Bonaventure

Mark Kroncke, OFS and Sue Forsyth, OFS

Franciscan Connections:

The National Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order-USA:

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

Tau-USA- Newsletter (complete issues):

http://www.nafra-sfo.org/tau-usa/tau_newarticles.html

Il Poverello Fraternity Facebook page:

***Il Poverello Fraternity OFS - Petaluma, CA* OR**

www.facebook.com/IlPoverelloFraternity

Il Poverello Fraternity website:

www.ilpoverellofraternityofs.org

Franciscan Action Network (FAN):

<http://franciscanaction.org/>

www.FranciscanEarthCorps.org

Franciscans for Justice:

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

San Damiano retreats calendar:

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

