

Up to Now

Newsletter of the St. Margaret of Cortona Region of the Secular Franciscan Order
Covering the District of Columbia, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia,
and portions of West Virginia and Pennsylvania



Fr. Philippus Philippus, OFM Cap

Volume 12, Issue 2

Let us begin again, for up to now we have done nothing.

November 2008

Novena of Intercession

As agreed at the recent NAFRA meeting, the SFO in the United States would like to institute a “perpetual” novena for at least one year on behalf of suffering people both home and abroad, especially for those in Orissa, India, as we did in 2007 for Darfur.

Every day for the next year, members of the SFO will be praying the novena prayer. For this to happen, five Regional fraternities are assigned to cover each month. To make sure we cover the entire month, there will be four to five “waves” of the novena, each starting on Sunday. People are assigned to these waves by Region, as noted below. For example, the first Sunday of December, members of St. Elizabeth of Hungary Region will begin praying the novena; the second Sunday of the month Lady Poverty will begin the novena. In this way the people of Darfur will be held in prayer by the SFO for the entire year.

In the event that there are only four Sundays in the month, the fifth Region can pray week one, or choose another week. Individuals may start and end their novena on other days if necessary, or do a different week. If you want to continue to pray before or after your week/month you can certainly do that! You are also encouraged to share the novena with people in your parish, youth groups, or other organizations to which you belong.

A novena allows us to hold a particular concern before God in a special way. The name “novena” comes from the Latin for “nine.” Traditionally we pray a novena every day for nine days, and the prayer is usually a bit longer than a brief intercession. This allows us to give more of ourselves to our prayer for the concern we are bringing before God.

See “Novena” continued on page 7

From the Editor

After a hiatus of more years than I care to think about, it is again my privilege to serve as the editor of the regional newsletter.

We owe debt of deep gratitude to Sharon Hare for her years of wonderful creativity in bringing us the newsletter.

It is my intention to carry on her tradition of excellence insofar as I am able — but I’m going to need a lot of help.

I’ll be more than happy to include original articles or reprints from the newsletters you send me. We can use spiritual reflections, reports of events, book reviews, descriptions of the ministry of your fraternity — whatever you think would be of interest to our readers around the region.

Please e-mail copies of your newsletters or more specific items to me at marylousfo@verizon.net, or send them by mail to Mary Lou Coffman, 2862 Beechtree Lane, Woodbridge, VA 22191. I look forward to your input.

*Pace e bene,
Mary Lou Coffman, sfo*

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By Francisco de Zurbaran

The 800th Anniversary in 2009

What's it all about?

By Fr. Stephen Gross, OFM Conv. CNSA President-In-Turn

Each of the 30 Regions of our country is at some stage of preparation for celebrating the 800th Anniversary of the Founding of the Franciscan Movement in 2009. The International Conference of the Franciscan Family published a letter to the Franciscan Family entitled *Living According To the Gospel*. The leaders of our Franciscan Family make important observations. They say (in part):

- It is not a question of commemorating a figure, a Francis, Clare or any other person, but rather the calling to mind of the origins of the Franciscan Charism.
- The text presented by Francis to Pope Innocent III was a plan and a description of a life-style, rather than a regulation.
- Faced by a technological and computerized world, by its crisis of creeping wars, terrorism, poverty and globalization, the Christian faith is exposed to all the questions and challenges about God, about His entering into history in the Person of Jesus, about the diversity of religions and their relationships, about the nature of the human being and about the meaning to be given to life and death. This situation of crisis is, at the same time, a great challenge to the Church to live the new evangelization, and for the Franciscan Family to live its own identity, aware that its place and influence have become fragile and questioned.
- Our Franciscan Family has been weakened, particularly in the European world, because of its numerical
- reduction, of the uncertainty of our identity and through the temptation to turn in on self and to become discouraged. The same Franciscan identity, however, is still a challenge to the world! It is our reference of self to the Gospel, of which the Rule is like a summary, which alone can help us to respond with trust, imagination and courage to the many and multiple challenges.
- The Franciscan spiritual current, like a river, broadening and being enriched in the course of centuries through a variety of contributions, never ceases to irrigate us and the Church itself.
- For all this and more, we communally join together in a joyful Act of Thanksgiving. It is also necessary to add the humble recognition of the distance between the Gospel proposal of Francis and the way it has been lived during the course of our long and tumultuous history.
- Despite the ongoing efforts at beginning again and at reform, our Franciscan Movement is not yet up to the demands of the Gospel. This dual moment, the act of thanksgiving for being called to live the Gospel and the purification of our memory, as recognition of the shadows present in our Family, should lead us all to face the challenge of re-foundation.
- We must find the roots, the foundations, i.e., discover in wonder the power of God, the Gospel, the Good News of the Love of God for us and of the communion with Him offered to us. Only on such a foundation can a solid structure be built, a true community in mission in the Church and in the world. This moment of grace, a *kairos*, which we are experiencing at present, tests us by revealing weaknesses to us, but it also invites us to rely on the power of God.

How will your region/local fraternity Celebrate the Anniversary?

Reprinted from TAU USA Fall 2008

2008 Regional Retreat

The 2008 Regional Retreat was held Friday-Sunday, October 10-12, at the Priestfield Pastoral Center in Kearneysville, West Virginia, with 75 attendees from the region.

The retreat director was Father Richard Trezza, OFM, Provincial Spiritual Assis-

tant for the Most Holy Name of Jesus Province, who presented the theme "Cramming Earth with Heaven — Making the Divine Accessible the Franciscan Way." (See Ann Corro's notes on page 4.)

The 2009 Regional Retreat will be held Friday-Sunday, October 10-12, again at the Priestfield Pastoral Center. The retreat director has not yet been chosen.

Please mark your calendars.



Father Richard Trezza, OFM



WORDS TO LIVE BY

Notes on the Regional Retreat



Prayer Guidance

In the recent regional retreat at Priestfield Spiritual Center in wild and wonderful West Virginia, Fr. Richard Trezza, OFM, our retreat master, had some thought-provoking advice on prayer I want to share with you.

In the overall theme "Cramming Earth with Heaven," he spoke about the lack of division between the sacred and profane and suggested that we think and live in the presence of God at all times. The intimacy and trust that prayer conjures up is like falling in love. We are gradually letting God draw us in — let go, let God. Don't resist his entreaties for fear that he may demand something we don't want to do, but be open-handed and embrace Him. Grace is a gift from God and makes us aware of his presence.

Obstacles to prayer include

- Routine — Life changes: patterns of prayer need to change as they can be too safe and become stale.
- Looking back — He is a God of history and continually moves us. He will love us tomorrow, next year, and forever.

- Trying too hard — Keep it in God's time; don't be impatient.
- Self-absorption — Prayer is all about God, not about you.
- Pattern of sins — Habitual sin: unresolved sins block our path to God.
- Guilt — Hidden: the more we know ourselves, the more we know God.

I guess, as we struggle with our real selves, not the false selves, we continually need to be open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit to lead us down by-ways, across meadows, and into dark glades that we may be fearful of entering. But as Secular Franciscans, we have our standard bearers Francis and Clare as beacons to light the way.

Ann Corro, SFO

Reprinted from *The Franciscan Sun-Herald*
St. John the Beloved Apostle Fraternity
 Alexandria, Va.



Mark Your Calendar

February 15, 2009 — next issue of *Up to Now*

March 27-29, 2009 — Regional Election/Regional Fraternal and Pastoral Visitations Priestfield Pastoral Center, Inwood, West Virginia.

Saturday, March 28, 2009, at Priestfield, Regional Election.

October 10-12, 2009 — Regional Retreat, Priestfield, West Virginia.

Franciscan Social Concerns

Secular Franciscans Exhort U.S. Officials to Remember the Poor in Economic Crisis

The Secular Franciscan Order in the United States, at its national chapter in Nashville Oct. 14-19, called on government leaders to remember the poor as they deal with the current economic crisis in the U.S.

"Secular Franciscans exhort our government leaders to remember the poor, who suffer most in times of economic downturn," said a statement unanimously approved by the delegate body.

Secular Franciscans also expressed support for the Catholic bishops' call to government officials to remember the values of Catholic Social Teaching in dealing with the economic crisis and echoed their call for justice.

They, like the bishops, recalled the words of Pope John Paul II: "Our Catholic tradition calls for a 'society of work, enterprise and participation' which 'is not directed against the market, but demands that the market be appropriately controlled by the forces of society and by the state to assure that the basic needs of the whole society are satisfied' (*Centissimus Annus*)."

"These words of John Paul II," the statement said, "should be adopted as a standard for all those who carry this responsibility for our nation, the world and the common good of all."

Pro-Life Petition Before the United Nations

On December 10, pro-abortion groups will present petitions asking the United Nation's General Assembly to make abortion a universally-recognized human right. The Catholic Family and Human Rights Institute has created an alternate petition drive, which calls for government to interpret the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* as protecting the unborn child from abortion. They need at least 100,000 signatures by December 10th, the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

If this issue is of concern to you, you can go to the Institute's Web site:

<http://www.c-fam.org/publications/id.95/default.asp> to sign the petition.

If you know anyone who would be interested in doing the same you are welcome to forward this on.

The Position of the Catholic Church on Immigration Policy

Why does the church care about immigration policies?

The Catholic Church has historically held a strong interest in immigration and how public policy affects immigrants seeking a new life in the United States. Based on Scriptural and Catholic social teachings, as well as her own experience as an immigrant Church in the United States, the Catholic Church is compelled to raise her voice on behalf of those who are marginalized and whose God-given rights are not respected.

The Church believes that current immigration laws and policies have often led to the undermining of immigrants' human dignity and have kept families apart. The existing immigration system has resulted in a growing number of persons in this country in an unauthorized capacity, living in the shadows as they toil in jobs that would otherwise go unfilled. Close family members of U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents must wait years for a visa to be reunited. And our nation's border enforcement strategies have been ineffective and have led to the death of thousands of migrants.

The Church has a responsibility to shine the message of God on this issue and help to build bridges between all parties so that an immigration system can be created that is just for all and serves the common good, including the legitimate security concerns of our nation.

Editor's Note: This information on immigration is part of an ongoing presentation. Additional information will be included in future issues of Up to Now.

Franciscan Peace Award Goes to Advocate for Marginalized People



Marie Dennis

Marie Dennis, a Secular Franciscan who is director of the Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns, received the National Peace Award from the U.S. Secular Franciscan Order during its annual chapter held October 14-19 in Nashville, Tenn.

Dennis is the first lay co-president of Pax Christi

See "Dennis" continued on page 6

"Dennis" continued from page 5

International, a founding member of the Assisi Community in Washington, D.C., mother of six children, grandmother of seven children, and author of seven books. She resides in the Washington, D.C. area.

"Marie Dennis has immersed herself in missionaries' work among the poor and suffering around the world and in advocating on behalf of people marginalized by society, by poverty, by abuse, by war, by violence, by human trafficking," noted Peace Award Chair Deacon Tom Bello, SFO.

"As Franciscans, we are called to be instruments of peace, so likewise we want to recognize and support individuals whose work has an impact on peace and justice in their communities or their nation or around the world," he continued.

The award comes with a St. Francis trophy and a \$2,000 prize.

Dennis said she was "really touched to be honored by an order so intimately associated with peacemaking."

The annual award was revived in 2007 after a lapse of several years. The 2007 award recognized the work of Dr. Tony Lazzara, an American physician and Secular Franciscan who operates a clinic and shelter for ailing children in Peru. Other previous recipients included, among others, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Mother Teresa of Calcutta.



U.S. Secular Franciscan Order National Peace Award

Secular Franciscans Condemn Violence in Orissa, India, Call for International Action and News Media Attention



The U.S. Secular Franciscan Order, at its national chapter in Nashville Oct. 14-19, condemned the violence against Christians in Orissa, India, and called for immediate international attention and action.

"Christians are being persecuted in a shocking display of a type of 'religious' cleansing," said a statement unanimously approved by the delegate body. "According to impartial observers, there is a systematic attempt to remove all Christians from

the area. Many Christians have already been killed. In addition, thousands of homes have been burned, and Catholic and other Christian churches have been targeted in an organized manner, burned and looted.

"We Secular Franciscans stand in solidarity with our suffering brothers and sisters in India and pledge our continued prayers," the statement said. "We denounce all violence."

They commended Franciscans International for speaking out against the atrocities, noting: "This situation merits increased coverage in the national and world media."

A Semi-Silent Retreat...

Seton Center , Emmitsburg , Maryland
December 5-7, 2008

Directed by Fr Jack Lombardi
Chaplain of the Grotto, Emmitsburg , Maryland

Conferences and topics include:
From sinner to saint — St Paul's Christ-centeredness... How Paul makes us courageous...
The "Drama of Dogma" and how we need it today... Mysticism or mayhem — which one are you choosing?... Morality and St. Paul's counsels for today...

Includes Masses, confessions, adoration of Blessed Sacrament, healing service, meditation and free time to walk on the historic Grounds of Mother Seton's Home and Basilica in Emmitsburg , MD

Cost \$190

Contact for more information... Fr Jack Lombardi :
lombardi@msmary.edu
301-447-5318



"Novena" from page 1

	Dec/June	Jan/July	Feb/Aug	Mar/Sept	Apr/Oct	May/Nov
Week 1	St. Elizabeth of Hungary	Bl Kateri Tekakwitha	Fr Solanus	The Tau Cross	Our Lady of the Angels	St. Katharine Drexel
Week 2	Lady Poverty	St. Margaret of Cortona	Brothers and Sisters of St. Francis	Five Franciscan Martyrs	St. Maximilian Kolbe	Holy Trinity
Week 3	Divine Mercy	Our Lady of Indiana	La Verna	Mother Cabrini	Franciscans of the Prairie	St. Clare
Week 4	St Joan of Arc	Queen of Peace	Juan de Padilla	Los Tres Companeros/ Three Companions	Our Lady of the Rockies	Santa Maria de las Montanas
Week 5 or Week 1*	Our Lady of Guadalupe	Troubadours of Peace	Bl. Junipero Serra	St. Francis	St. Thomas More	Ohana O Ke Aneunue

The prayer follows:

Novena Prayer of Intercession

Merciful Father, Prince of Peace, Spirit of Wisdom and Compassion, please look with mercy upon our suffering brothers and sisters here at home and around the world, [particularly in Orissa*]. We humbly pray:

- For those who have been subjected to violence and their families, we ask for healing, consolation and relief of further suffering.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

- For those who have done violence, we ask for healing, forgiveness and the grace of conversion.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

- For those in authority throughout the world, we ask wisdom, creativity, compassion and courage in addressing these situations.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

Lord Jesus, Your Sacred Heart burns for love of all your people. Please place in our hearts that same love and inspire us to have the courage, wisdom and ingenuity to take what measures we can personally to relieve the suffering of our brothers and sisters. We pray this in the Name of Jesus, our Lord, through the intercession of the sorrowful and immaculate Heart of Mary.

Memorare: Remember, oh most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence I fly unto thee, oh Virgin of Virgins, my mother. To thee to I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. Oh Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen

*Insert additional specific concerns for which you would like to pray.

What Are We Reading?

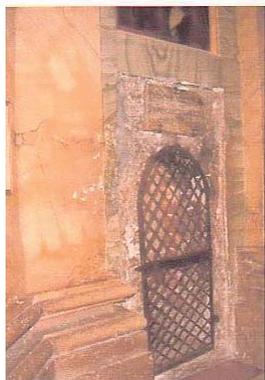
The St. Francis of Assisi Fraternity in Triangle, Va., is using *Instruments of Christ, Reflections on the Peace Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi* by Albert Haase, OFM, as its formation material.

Haase discusses how as Franciscans we can incorporate the peace prayer into our daily lives. The book is short — 12 chapters, 81 pages — and has discussion

questions at the end of each chapter, making it suitable for a year-long discussion.

It can be obtained from St. Anthony Messenger Press, <http://catalog.americancatholic.org/> or +1.800.488.0488 for \$7.95. Discounts are available on orders of more than 50. Or order it at www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_ss_gw?url=search-alias%3Dstrip-books&field-keywords=instruments+of+christ and receive a five-books-for-the-price-of-four discount.

What Are We Doing?



St. Francis's place of "imprisonment" by his father, in Chiesa Nuova, Assisi

Joanne Shanley and Bill Cornelius spoke to St. Conrad's Fraternity on November 15, 2008, about their volunteer prison ministry at the Patuxent Institute for Women and for Men respectively. Judith Tyrrell, SFO, followed their talk with a sharing about the episodes from St. Francis' life relating to prison and prisoners.

Joanne spoke of her call to the prisons as inspired by the Holy Spirit, who had been leading her to read articles about prisons. When she heard of a need for people to minister in the prisons Joanne said "yes." Joanne has been doing Jeff Cavins' Bible Study "Genesis to Jesus" with as many as 10 women. Bishop Mitch Rozanski of the Archdiocese of Baltimore has been there for Baptisms and Confirmations and has been very supportive of the ministry. Priests celebrate Mass twice a month. Father Doran from St. Lawrence and Msgr Auer from St. John's have participated. She spoke of the strict process of ID, fingerprinting, airport-style frisking and clothes requirements. She said it can be difficult to meet all the restrictions but she said "we go in like doves expecting foul-ups". She

gave us a handout on "Restorative Justice" and spoke of the new concept of prisoners meeting with the people they have injured for healing and reconciliation.

Bill spoke of the cooperative effort of St. Vincent de Paul Society and the Archdiocese of Baltimore in funding and responsibility for the program for the prisoners. Bill has a Communion Service for the men when Mass is not celebrated and gives a teaching homily. He too feels it was the Holy Spirit who got him going into this prison ministry. He spoke of the safety issues involved in volunteering in the prison. He feels he is as safe as going to the Mall and then chuckled. The prisoners allowed into his Service are screened. He said that the volunteers do not do one-on-one counseling. This is done by people with more training. Sr. Dolores from St. Vincent De Paul helps with this ministry.

Judith spoke of the virtues St. Francis displayed in prison—his gratitude to God for everything; his perseverance in the path of good he had chosen and the strength he had gained from suffering trials and temptations; his joy in the Lord, even laughing at his chains; his patience with difficult prisoners; and the peace he brought to others in jail with him. The handout she distributed is included below.

Episodes from St. Francis' Life Relating to Prison and Prisoners

This event happened after Francis had heard Jesus speaking to him from the cross of San Damiano and he began a life of penance working to rebuild the falling-down church.

When his friends and relatives saw him, they covered him with insults, calling him a fool and a madman, and hurling stones and mud at him. Seeing him so changed, they thought he must be out of his mind. But God's servant paid no heed to all this; unmoved by insults, he thanked almighty God for everything. Finally, the news reached his father; and, hearing of Francis' reception at the hands of his fellow citizens, he hurried out to find him, not indeed to set him free, but to chastise him. Throwing moderation and discretion to the winds, he sprang on his son like a wolf on a lamb; and his face furious, his eyes glaring, he seized him with many blows and dragged him home. Francis was then shut up in a dark cellar, and for many days, his father used threats and blows to bend his son's will, to drag him back from the path of good he had chosen, and to force him to return to the vanities of the world.

All this strengthened Francis in alacrity to carry through his resolution and he patiently endured the blows and hard words. When his father had to leave home on urgent business, his mother, who disapproved of her husband's action, reasoned gently with her son. But when she saw that nothing would move him from his good



Pica, holding chains, and Bernadone, Francis' parents

See "Prison" continued on page8



Pica shown releasing St. Francis at the Chiesa Nuova, Assisi

"Prison" continued from page 7

resolution, she was filled with tender pity, and breaking his bonds, she set him free. Giving thanks to almighty God, Francis went back to his former refuge; but now enjoyed the greater liberty of one who had been tried and strengthened through having suffered trials and temptations.

Legend of the Three Companions 18-19

This is the story from Francis' life when he was imprisoned after the bloody battle between the citizens of Perugia and Assisi.

Francis was made captive with several others and endured the squalors of prison. His fellow captives were consumed with sorrow, bemoaning miserably their imprisonment; Francis rejoiced in the Lord, laughed at his chains and despised them.

His grieving companions resented his happiness and considered him insane and mad. . . . There was at that time among his fellow prisoners a certain proud and completely unbearable knight whom the rest were determined to shun, but Francis' patience was not disturbed. He put up with the unbearable knight and brought the others to peace with him. . . . Freed from his chains a short time later, he became more kindly toward the needy. He now resolved not to turn his face away from any poor man who in begging asked for the love of God.

Celano, Second Life, 10-11

See also *Celano First Life, 5-6-7; Celano, Miracles 93; Legend of Perugia 90*

Web Resources for Prison Ministry in Maryland

The Catholic Community of St. Ignatius

740 N. Calvert St., Baltimore

<http://www.st-ignatius.net/pages/ministries.html>

- ANGEL TREE ministry arranges for and delivers Christmas gifts for children whose parents are in prison.
- PRISON MINISTRY conducts bible study in the women's detention center several times a week

Visiting Prisons, Volunteers Live Gospel Message-

<http://www.vincentbaltimore.org/pdfs/Catholic%20Review%201.31.08%20-%20Visiting%20prisons.pdf>

Sister Dolores Chepiga, S.S.J. IS coordinator of prison outreach for St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore. Bishop Mitchell Rozanski, eastern vicar, supports those who minister in prisons, with Masses at retreats and enrichment days.

It can take a year to go through the screening process, including fingerprinting, tuberculosis test. Screening is more rigorous to work with youthful offenders... and that is where Sister Dolores notes, we have the fewest volunteers.

Range of volunteer activities: Communion and prayer services, tutor (learning to read and GED), Bible study, organize book club.

Christian Jail Ministry

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

At the Howard County, MD, Detention Center since 1979, meets spiritual, personal and social needs of jail and prison inmates, former inmates, their families, corrections personnel, and those involved in ministry to prisoners through an effective Christ-centered, faith-based approach. About 300 volunteers from several dozen churches provide Sunday and special worship services, Bible classes, discipleship training, counseling, and 12-step help for addictions.

CJM also encourages churches to better address the social needs of former prisoners and inmate families and encourages social justice. The many ministries include a poetry program, gift cards for inmates to send, Christmas for inmates' children, volunteer training and a newsletter available by e-mail and designed to fit church bulletins.

See "Prison Ministry" continued on page 10

"Prison Ministry" continued from page 9

The Community of St. Dymas

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

A Lutheran congregation within the Maryland correctional system, operating independently of the state

government. The congregation is a member of the Delaware-Maryland Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, (ELCA) and Prison Congregations of America.

Report on Annual Regional Meeting

The St. Margaret of Cortona Region's annual meeting was held on Saturday, November 8, with all but seven local fraternities attending.

Highlights of the meeting were:

- Presentation of guidelines for the election of council officers.
- Introduction of Deacon Tom Bello as Regional Spiritual Assistant and Anne Mulqueen as Spiritual Assistant of Padre Pio Fraternity.
- Presentation on the Franciscan Action Network (FAN) by Peter Sloan, FAN Development Director. Information on FAN can be found at franciscanactionnetwork.com
- Discussion of formation requirements and activities.
- Discussion about future direction of commissions and Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) activity.

Fr. Martin Day gave a talk on "Empowerment of the Local Fraternity." He summed up his remarks by saying "We start from the belief that each member is called to participate in the prayer, witness, service and community building of this small Christian community and we commit ourselves to finding ways to help them do that. We give priority to the relationships among us that need to be fostered and then [use] the structures available or find new structures to bring that about. And we act in a spirit of servanthood, knowing that when our time in leadership is finished, another will need to take our place. We begin now to equip those persons for that leadership by sharing ourselves with them, providing them with good modeling, and above all, never forgetting that the work we do is always Christ's work and not ours. We take our cues from him, the empowering leader par excellence."

Nominations for Regional Council

In March 2009, St. Margaret of Cortona Region will elect new officers. We need each fraternity to submit nominees for the offices of Minister, Vice-minister, Secretary, Treasurer, Formation Director, Area Councilor MD/PA; Area Councilor Metro D.C.; Area Councilor VA/WVA.

When submitting a name, give the fraternity name and the office to which the person has agreed to run. Those nominated for office must consent to the nomination. Submit the names of any nominees or questions to Angela Gill at agill3@verizon.net.

Those nominated will be asked to submit a short biography, which is to include SFO experience, etc.

Franciscan Saints, Blesseds and Feasts

(click on the name to go to a Web link)

November

- 17 [St. Elizabeth of Hungary](#)
- 18 [Blessed Salome](#)
- 19 [St. Agnes of Assisi](#)
- 24 Commemoration of All Deceased of the Franciscan Orders
- 26 [St. Leonard of Port Maurice](#)
- 27 [St. Francis Anthony Fasani](#)
- 28 [St. James of the March](#)
- 29 All Saints of the Franciscan Orders



St. Agnes of Assisi

December

- 8 [Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary](#)
- 12 [Our Lady of Guadalupe](#)
- 15 [Blessed Mary Frances Schervier](#)



January

- 1 [Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God](#)
- 3 [Holy Name of Jesus](#)
- 7 [Blessed Angela of Foligno](#)
- 12 [St. Bernard of Corleone](#)
- 16 [Sts. Berard and Companions](#)
- 24 [St. Francis de Sales](#)
- 27 [St. Angela Merici](#)
- 30 [St. Hyacintha Mariscotti](#)
- 31 [St. John Bosco](#)

February

- 3 [Blessed Odoric of Pordenone](#)
- 4 [Sts. Peter Baptist and Companions](#)
- 7 [St. Colette](#)

Around the Region (cont'd.)

Received as Candidates

- Margy Carlson, sfo, St. Francis Assisi Fraternity, Triangle, Va., September 13, 2008
- Jeanne Carter, sfo, St. Francis Assisi Fraternity, Triangle, Va., September 13, 2008
- Jessica Gavilan, sfo, Del Camino Fraternity
- Mary Hannon, sfo, St. Conrad Fraternity, Annapolis, Md., October 18, 2008
- Mary Rita Rossi, sfo, St. Conrad Fraternity, Annapolis, Md., October 18, 2008
- Jenny Wilbourne, sfo, St. Conrad Fraternity, Annapolis, Md., October 18, 2008

Newly Professed

- Joseph Bezila, sfo, St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity, Ellicott City, Md., October 15, 2008
- Cecilio Borrayo, sfo, Del Camino, Fraternity, Rockville, Md., October 4, 2008
- Laurie Chase, sfo, St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity, Ellicott City, Md., October 15, 2008
- Al Giral, sfo, Little Flower Fraternity, Baltimore, Md., October 26, 2008
- Violet Novotny, sfo, St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity, Ellicott City, Md., October 15, 2008
- Jorge Quinde, sfo, Del Camino, Fraternity, Rockville, Md., October 4, 2008
- Margee Williams, sfo, Little Flower Fraternity, Baltimore, Md., October 26, 2008

Losses in the Family

- Mary Catherine Busch, sfo, St. Francis Fraternity, Washington, D.C., August 7, 2008
- Pat Donohoe, sfo, St. Conrad Fraternity, Annapolis, Md., professed June 3, 1961; died May 7, 2008. Local provincial representative 1984
- Marshall Love, sfo, St. Conrad Fraternity, Annapolis, Md., professed May 9, 1979; died May 22, 2008. Served as fraternity minister 1981-83, provincial minister 1989-1990
- Mary Ellen McGeehan, sfo, St. Conrad Fraternity, Annapolis, Md., professed May 9, 1978; died on March 4, 2008
- Genevieve Welle, sfo, St. Conrad Fraternity, Annapolis, Md., professed September 17, 1987; died March 19, 2008. Formation Director 1990
- Virginia Wise, sfo, St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina Fraternity, Forrest Hill, Md., August 5, 2008

Around the Region

Newly Elected

Our Lady Queen of Angels, Lancaster, Pennsylvania
 MINISTER: Ken Giovanelli, sfo
 VICE MINISTER: Kathy Arndt, sfo
 SECRETARY: Julie Rasp, sfo
 TREASURER: Mark Agen, sfo
 FORMATION DIRECTOR : George R. Garbrick, sfo
 SPIRITUAL ASSISTANT: Diane D. Gautney-Buckley