

# 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 22 Issue 1

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

August 2018

## 2018 Chapter of Mats

About 70 Secular Franciscans gathered at Priestfield Retreat Center the first weekend of July to participate in The Chapter of Mats which is held every three years. The main focus of the chapter was reflecting and praying the Secular Franciscan Rule on its 40th anniversary. Participants included those preparing for profession, those professed for a few years and those professed for more than 40 years.

Patrick Martin led those gathered in liturgical prayer from various sources each morning and evening in addition to traditional Liturgy of the Hours. The first presentation was a video by Father Richard Trezza, OFM, on the meaning of profession <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tZgowg5egpU>. Anne Mulqueen, OFS, Regional Spiritual Assistant, presented the history of the rule and how it relates to the life of a secular. We all enjoyed her "history" lesson. Bob Longo, OFS, Regional Minister, provided insight on praying the rule. Talks were followed by small group discussions that brought together seculars from different fraternities. The first session began with a reading of the rule, followed by a discussion on what aspect of the rule challenged each person.

There was a lot of fun and sharing on the weekend through meals, evening socials, and a Scavenger Hunt and Franciscan Jeopardy. Seculars had fun exploring the nooks and crannies of Priestfield looking for clues to questions such as "Who was the last Pope to be a Secular Franciscan?" (Pope John XXIII), and "How long does a fraternity exist?" (99 years after the last person dies). Being a community, we helped each other out. (Photos can be seen on [page 10](#).)

—Laura Britto, OFS

St. Francis of Assisi Fraternity, Triangle, Va.



Photo by Bob Traub

## Regional Council St. Margaret of Cortona Region

<b>Minister:</b> Bob Longo, OFS	<b>Regional Spiritual Assistant:</b> Fr. Charley Miller, OFM
<b>Vice Minister:</b> Michael Huether, OFS	<b>Regional Spiritual Assistant:</b> Br. Matthew Hindelang, OFM Cap
<b>Secretary:</b> Peggy Gregory, OFS	<b>Regional Spiritual Assistant:</b> Fr. Kevin Treston, OFM Holy Land
<b>Treasurer:</b> Peter Noyes, OFS	<b>Regional Spiritual Assistant:</b> Fr. Kevin Queally, TOR
<b>Formation Director:</b> Monica Zevallos, OFS	<b>Regional Spiritual Assistant:</b> Anne Mulqueen, OFS (OFM Conv delegated)
<b>Regional Councilor (MD/PA):</b> Peggy Nicholson, OFS	<b>Regional Youth and Young Adult Commission Chair:</b> Harry Ford, OFS
<b>Regional Councilor (VA):</b> Rita Collieran, OFS	<b>Regional JPIC Chair:</b> Gil Donahue, OFS
<b>Regional Councilor (MD/DE):</b> Barbara Countryman, OFS	<b>Regional Newsletter Editor:</b> Mary Lou Coffman, OFS
<b>Regional Councilor (DC/Metro):</b> Mary Catherine Bibro, OFS	

St. Margaret of Cortona Region Website has a new url:

<http://saintmargaretof cortona.org/>

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## Regional Minister's Message



### PRAYING THE RULE

*Be solicitous to make your call and election permanent, surely those who do so will never be lost. - 2 Peter 1:10*

Sisters and Brothers in Francis and Clare,

May the Lord give you His peace!

From June 29 to July 1, our region held its Chapter of Mats at Priest Field, West Virginia. The chapter was devoted to the celebration of the 40th Anniversary of our Rule, along with a weekend of fun, with a scavenger hunt and an evening of Franciscan Jeopardy. According to the evaluation forms filled out by those who attended, the weekend Chapter was a time of learning, laughter and Franciscan fellowship.

During the Chapter weekend, several topics on our Rule were presented; my presentation topic was "Praying the Rule." You must be asking yourself, how do I "Pray the Rule?" First, we must define what prayer is:

- a devout petition to God
- a spiritual communion with God
- a personal, intimate relationship with God
- a line of communication between God and man
- a thought and an action
- the act or practice of praying

After much prayer and meditation, I came up with some definitions of what "Praying the Rule" means to me.

- Praying the Rule is an act of humility before God
- Praying the Rule supports the very foundation on which our Rule is built
- Praying the Rule holds us accountable to the Rule, our Franciscan way of life
- Praying the Rule, we become the Rule
- Praying the Rule creates our Franciscan identity in a confused and depraved world
- Praying the Rule produces food for the journey
- Praying the Rule allows us to stand out as being different and helps us to be better caretakers of God's daily new creations
- Praying the Rule unites us in communion with our sisters and brothers and all of God's creation
- Praying the Rule sets us free from a stressful world and takes us beyond the mundane

- Praying the Rule gives us the freedom to be Christ to others
- Praying the Rule gives us inner peace and a restful heart

I like to think of "Praying" and "Rule" as two people dancing the waltz in the moonlight, moving together in concert with each other. "Praying the Rule" leads us in concert with all of God's creation.

Our Rule calls us to become a living Gospel for each other, "going from gospel to life and life to gospel." Now let us live our Rule with prayer as our guide.

I would like to leave you with a few thoughts for meditation:

- Rule 8 - "As Jesus was the true worshipper of the Father, so let prayer and contemplation be the soul of all they are and do." Are we actively "Praying the Rule"?
- Prayer for our Spiritual Journey requires action. How do I respond?
- By living our Rule, we spiritually strengthen our sisters and brothers. How do I participate?
- Do I believe "Praying the Rule" helps me better understand the Rule and its purpose?
- Is the Rule easier to live when I have a good prayer life?
- Am I living the Rule, or am I just reading the words of the Rule?
- How do I pray the Rule?

Your Franciscan brother in Christ,

**Bob Longo, OFS**

Regional Minister, St. Margaret of Cortona Region

### *Celebrating World Youth Day Panamá Locally*

On January 26, 2019, at the Catholic University of America, thousands of Young Adults will be present, along with dozens of organizations that minister to young adults. The Secular Franciscans need to be there. You can find information at <http://wyddc.org>. Please think about it and let me know if you are interested. I will give out more information as I have it.

Harry Ford, OFS  
[hmford1010@gmail.com](mailto:hmford1010@gmail.com)

## ***Regional Formation Director's Message***

### **GOING FORTH AS WITNESSES**

Brothers and Sisters,

Our rule, Article 6 says:... Therefore, they should go forth as witnesses and instruments of her mission among all people, proclaiming Christ by their life and words.

Pope Francis persistently invites us to leave our comfort zones and go out to the peripheries in search of the brothers who are waiting for someone to announce Jesus Christ and His love for them.

I feel that this summer is moving very quickly, maybe because of the many activities I have had. But there is one that has given me the opportunity to live this article of our rule in a special way.

A few day ago, we returned from a mission experience\* in El Salvador and Honduras. We left the United States and arrived in San Salvador, our initial destination. Upon arrival we departed to our mission destination, which was, as is our custom, a secluded and forgotten small village called a "caserios."

There are many aspects of our missions, but my favorite is the house-to-house visits. That experience enables us to meet many people and to encounter Christ in the homes of the people. It is the opportunity to look into the face and the eyes of another and hear them tell you that here I am, that young Christ who cries out for a chance to get ahead. He tells you his frustrations and dreams to get his families out of poverty, but does not give up and does the best that he can. There is the face of Christ in the innocent child who does not realize the poverty that he is living and who enjoys being a child, laughs and plays without adult worries. There is another face of Christ in the elder, who depends on the charity of a neighbor to bring him his food every day or for someone who just wants to visit him because he lived many years ago without anyone to see it. There is the face of Christ in the patient who knows that every day is a gift, but is able to get by even though he has no money or the most basic medicines. There is the face

of Christ in the mother of the family that every day just hopes to be able to have a tortilla with salt to feed their children. It is hard to see all that and to try to take comfort in our God of love and mercy, his tenderness and his consolation, of that God who does not forget his younger children.

It is difficult, but that is the mission. To be God's presence in the midst of those our brothers. It is sometimes just a moment, it is a look of yours, a smile, a hug or a handshake, is other times to talk a while, or just listen to their anguish and their life.

It is that moment, that opportunity to be an instrument of God's peace and love. They are always grateful people for what they receive, they thank us for coming to their village and sharing the word of God to encourage them to continue living our faith. They thank us for coming with a priest who celebrates the sacraments and Holy Mass for a few days when they only have it in some cases once or twice a month.

I do not know if they soon forget us; but what I do know is that we return to the comfort of our lives, and the great difference of opportunities that we have impacts me, and I have a feeling of guilt for not doing something else for my brothers. I feel sorry for not been as grateful as I should be for the life that God has given me, a life I think at times I do not deserve.

I return home and their faces are still in my mind, and I am sure that God has stayed with them, and that consoles me, but there is the constant question in my heart... Lord, what else can I do for you?

*Your sister in Christ  
Monica Zevallos, OFS  
Regional Formation Director*

\* This mission trip was a pastoral activity of the Del Camino fraternity.





## Anne Mulqueen's CoM Presentation

The 2018 Chapter of Mats has come and gone, and we are left with new and renewed relationships and lots of wonderful memories—actually 40 years of memories. And before I reminisce about the Chapter itself, let's think about the significance of 40 years.

Forty years generally symbolizes a period of testing and preparation. Moses lived for 40 years in Egypt. The Israelites wandered in the wilderness for 40 years. Elijah went without food or water for 40 days on Mount Horeb, and for 40 days, Jonah warned Nineveh of its destruction unless they repented. And most importantly, Jesus fasted for 40 days before beginning his ministry. We have had 40 years to study, live, and love our Rule. Now it is time to enter the promised land—and not a day too soon, because our world desperately needs the Franciscan charism. May we have the courage to step out and be a *light* for the world.

And now back to the Chapter of Mats. Those of you who attended know that I compared the Rule of 1883 to our present Rule. I thought that would be the main thrust of my talk; however, what happened to me between the hours of 11:00 p.m. Friday night and 4:30 a.m. Saturday morning changed everything I planned to say at 10:00 a.m. I thought I had control of the content, but now I know better.

As I prepared for bed, a thought kept flitting through my mind about our original identity as brothers and sisters of penance. Some of you may be aware that Fr. Bob Stewart, OFM, wrote in his book on the Secular Franciscan Rule of 1978 that if we consider the articles of the Rule through the lens of the primitive Rule (The Exhortation of Saint Francis to the Brothers and Sisters of Penance), they present us with a challenge to ongoing, fivefold conversion. I happened to have that book with me so I started flipping through the pages. Basically what I came to see was that the five areas of conversion could be applied to Chapter Two, our Way of Life. The rest of this article is a summary of my talk!

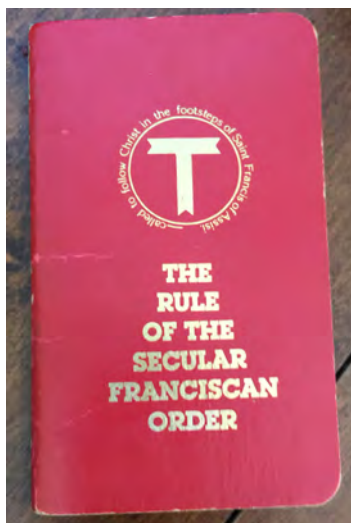
### THE FIVE AREAS OF CONVERSION AND A CORRESPONDING ARTICLE OF THE RULE

Affective conversion occurs through the radical transformation of our emotional life. Falling in love is an example of how our affective life can be transformed. It shifts the focus of attention to the other and involves both passion and commitment. In Article 19, we find that because of the vocation we have embraced and despite our circumstances we encounter affective joy that can come only from God

and, because it is a gift, we strive to share that joy and hope with others.

Intellectual conversion occurs when we realize that knowing is not simply seeing, but it is experiencing, understanding, judging, and deciding. In our Rule, and again in Article 19, we find the word “mindful”—mindful that we are bearers of peace. We realize, we understand, we decide that to be bearers of peace we must enter into dialogue with others, trusting in the transforming power of love and pardon because they, too, are children of God.

Moral conversion is the shift from making decisions and choices for personal satisfaction to basing them on moral values. It is to turn away from selfishness to a commitment of ethical norms. The golden rule is an example of moral conversion. I chose Article 11 as an example of moral conversion, since secular Franciscans seek a spirit of detachment from temporal goods because the gospel calls us to be stewards—not owners—of material goods for the benefit of all God's children.



Religious conversion is the shift from a finite focus to transcendent realities. It is otherworldly being in love. Persons who experience religious conversion understand, judge, and decide in terms of unrestricted love. It is a commitment. See Article 12, in that it takes a religious conversion to witness to the good yet to come—not here now—and to acquire that purity of heart that sets us free to love God and our brothers and sisters.

Socio-political conversion occurs when we choose to be responsible in a much broader area of concern. We choose to influence the decisions that shape the social and political structures of our world for the good of all persons. Our work for justice does not remain only on a personal level.

Article 15 exhorts us to be in the forefront in promoting justice both individually and collectively. We are called to engage in courageous initiatives and make choices in harmony with our faith.

In conclusion, I suggest that you go through the Rule and find other instances where our Rule calls us to the five areas of conversion, and may God bless your efforts.

Quoting St. Francis, “May whoever observes [the Rule] be filled in heaven with the blessing of the most high Father, and on earth with that of his beloved Son, together with the Holy Spirit, the Comforter.” (Blessing of St. Francis from the Testament).



## ***Learning, Changing, and Growing Past Fifty: Are We Able?***

*Editor's note: Tim Shelgren is a first-year missionary, serving with Franciscan Mission Service in Jamaica. Drawing on his 57 years of life experience, his training in counseling, and his time thus far in Jamaica, Tim ponders whether it is ever too late to change, suggesting exercises to help us reflect on this topic and to consider the experience of settling into a new culture. In addition to being a missionary, Tim is also a proud grandfather of five grandchildren. To learn more about Tim's varied ministries, including bread-baking, tutoring, and facilitating cello lessons, check out the FMS blog: [www.franciscanmissionservice.org/blog](http://www.franciscanmissionservice.org/blog).*

Once when I was in my mid-30s, my grandmother said to me, "I always wanted to learn how to play the piano." When I suggested that she take piano lessons, she laughed and said, "It's too late." I disagreed at the time, as I had just started college as a non-traditional student and was doing well. My brain at 35 was clearly intact.

Now, at 57, I continue to challenge my grandmother's dictum. As a missionary with Franciscan Mission Service, I have stepped out of my country for two years, and I have left behind my work and my perception of who I am. In this process, I am learning and discovering all sorts of new skills, and I am uncovering aspects of myself that I did not know existed.

To test your own ability—and willingness—to learn new things past 50, I invite you to try the following exercises in the areas of communication, transportation, clothing, food, and giving.

### **Communication**

For three days straight, go about your daily life, but try to speak as little as possible. Living in a different country with its own culture limits one's ability to communicate, and people seldom use English in my part of Jamaica, regardless of the fact that many people around me know English.

In the process, you may learn that body language, facial expressions, and appropriate touch are pleasant ways to communicate. Or you may also feel like you have spent three days stifling yourself!

### **Transportation**

Park your car and find other modes of transportation for one week. North Americans are often accustomed to being efficient, on time, and mobile. With no car, you may or may not enjoy the chance to slow down and figure out how to get from here to there, to be late, and/or to be inefficient.

### **Clothing**

Wear only two different pairs of pants and four shirts from Monday through Friday. Leave all your other clothes in the

closet. If you choose to wash any of your limited clothing items, do not use your clothes dryer to dry them. Hang them somewhere to dry and use no iron. You may find freedom in having to make fewer decisions about what to wear, or you may miss having options and a different style.

### **Food**

Eat rice for lunch every day for a week, and, if you want meat in your rice, use only turkey neck or chicken back (no regular pieces of meat or fish). Because meat can be scarce and extremely expensive in developing countries, local communities waste not. You may either develop a special appreciation for rice and meat morsels. Or you may feel slightly repulsed.

### **Giving**

Find a local food charity, nursing home, or children's home (or any local charity of your choice) and commit your time as a volunteer for one solid month. After each volunteer session, do an objective analysis and identify the ways in which you have touched someone's life—no matter how spectacular or insignificant that touch appears to you. Quality may outweigh quantity for you in this exercise.

These particular challenges are intended to create a reaction, and your reaction, I believe, can provide some insight into your ability and willingness to learn, change, and grow past 50.

For example, if you feel stifled in restricting your communication, overly anxious because you cannot make a meeting on time without your car, annoyed about wearing a limited wardrobe, disgusted by eating what would normally be throw-out meats, and disappointed because your volunteer contributions feel insignificant, then you may not be a candidate for change—at least not right now. On the other hand, if these experiments lead you to glimpses of liberation, newfound stimulation, and freedom from the norm, then you probably are a candidate for change, and may want to consider opportunities for change, including serving on mission.

Lest I give the impression that change and openness are always incredibly easy for me, I must admit that I experience a mix of all of the above emotions every single day. Still, I support my stance in the life-long debate with my now deceased grandmother and continue to say, "Nanna, it's never too late."

We are, indeed, able to learn new things past 50. We simply have to know how to deal with the challenges.





## ***Regional Council Appoints New Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) Chair*** **GIL DONAHUE**



Gil is a professed member of the Tau Fraternity, St. Joseph's Catholic Church, meeting at Herndon, Va. He served as Vice Minister of the Tau Fraternity 2011-2013, and is currently a member of the formation team for candidates.

He has had a lifelong interest in economic and social development, support of civil and human rights, and environmental sustainability.

During his professional career, he reported on human rights issues, consulted with the World Bank and other development institutions on projects, negotiated international trade agreements, held discussions with foreign governments on policy formation, and provided guidance to private sector corporations on appropriate investment.

Gil grew up in Northern Virginia and the Washington suburbs of Maryland. He studied International Relations at American University in Washington, D.C., and graduated in 1968. He entered the Peace Corps and spent two years in Nepal working on village agricultural projects. After returning to the United States, Gil entered the State Department Foreign Service in 1971 and was assigned as an Economic Officer to Mexico, Ivory Coast

(West Africa), Taiwan, Hong Kong, China, and finally Brazil. He retired from the State Department in 1998 and worked for a decade in the private sector on projects for the State, Commerce and Defense Departments.

Gil studied Economics and other subjects at the State Department Foreign Service Institute, George Washington University and the Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh, Scotland. He is fluent in Spanish, French, Portuguese and Mandarin Chinese.

As a member of Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Annandale, Va., Gil is an active member of the Legion of Mary, Secretary of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, a member of the Knights of Columbus Council and Assembly, and Secretary of the Men's Club. Gil participates in programs of the Institute of Catholic Culture, the Virginia Catholic Conference, the Franciscan Action Network, and Franciscans International. He previously served as a representative of the Arlington Diocese to LARCUM (ecumenical dialogue between the Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic and United Methodist Churches).

Gil strongly believes that all human beings are connected (indeed, as is all creation); however, many people fail to understand this. We are all impoverished to the extent that any one of us is impoverished. This principle underlies the need to advocate in all the areas where Franciscans have traditionally worked for justice, especially to eliminate extreme poverty, protect the environment, and actively pursue peace-building. It is important to keep these issues before the public, as well as to articulate ways in which the problem areas can be addressed and, in time, eliminated. It is paramount that Franciscans demonstrate solidarity with the less well off.

**Bring the Gospel to Life!**

**Order of Franciscans  
Secular - OFS**

- Would you like to be closer to God?
- Do you long for holiness, and feel a need for support in growing spiritually?
- Are you seeking holy simplicity, true peace and perfect joy?

Jesus may be calling you to explore the Secular Franciscan life. We would be happy to speak with you to share about the Franciscan journey.

**ORDO FRANCISCANUS SAECULARIS OFS**

- Justice
- Peace
- Integrity of Creation

**St. Margaret of Cortona  
Order of Franciscans  
Secular**

**saintmargaretof cortona.org**

**1-800-Francis**

**ST. MARGARET OF CORTONA REGION'S  
NEW BANNER**

*Thankyou, Rita Colleran*



## Stepping Out

The St. Margaret of Cortona Region participated in the Fifth Annual Holy Land Festival held by the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in Washington, D.C., on July 14.

The Monastery provided a table and awning, and members of the Regional Council handed out informational material and answered the questions of interested passersby.

Members of the St. Anthony of Nagasaki and Mount St. Sepulchre Fraternities also participated in the display. The event marked the first use of our new Regional Banner.



Above: Regional Minister, Bob Longo, OFS; Regional Secretary, Peggy Gregory, OFS; and Regional Area Metro DIC Councilor, Mary Catherine Bibro, OFS



Above: Members of St. Anthony of Nagasaki Fraternity, Mt. St. Sepulchre Fraternity, and Regional Council



Above: Mt. St. Sepulchre Fraternity and Regional Council Members



Right: Mosaic of the First Secular Franciscans at the main entrance of the Holy Land Monastery in Washington, D.C.





## ***Around the Region***

### **WELCOME TO OUR NEWLY ADMITTED**

Patrick Abbott, OFS, St. Anthony of Nagasaki Fraternity,  
Washington D.C.

Frances Gagliano, OFS, St. Thomas More Fraternity,  
Harrisburg, Pa.

Loretta Hanley, OFS, St. Clare Fraternity, Milford, Del.



*Holy Family Rite of Admission: Deacon Richard O'Connel, OFS;  
Candidates Mary Harkins, OFS, Maryellen Shea, OFS, Jerry Shea, OFS;  
Minister Peggy Gregory, OFS*



*St. Clare (Delaware) Fraternity's new admissions: Mary Moran, ofs,  
Formation Director; Loretta Hanley, ofs; Andrea Lipchak, ofs; Kevin  
Mumford, ofs; Pamella Russell, ofs; Andy Zampini, ofs, Minister.*



*St. Anthony of Nagasaki Fraternity's new admission: Bill Hunt, OFS,  
Treasurer (and Patrick's sponsor); Br. Paul McMullen, TOR, Spiritual As-  
sistant; Laura Rainey, OFS, Minister; Patrick Abbott, OFS; Mary Catherine  
Bibro, OFS, Vice-Minister; Lenny Garcia OFS, Formation Director.*

Mary Harkins, OFS, Holy Family Fraternity, Manassas,  
Va.

Thomas Kane, OFS, St. Thomas More Fraternity,  
Harrisburg, Pa.

Lisa Kaysar, OFS, St. Thomas More Fraternity,  
Harrisburg, Pa.

Andrea Lipchak, OFS, St. Clare Fraternity, Milford, Del.

Mary Moran, OFS, St. Clare Fraternity, Milford, Del.

Kevin Mumford, OFS, St. Clare Fraternity, Milford, Del.

Pamella Russell, OFS, St. Clare Fraternity, Milford, Del.

James (Jerry) Shea, OFS, Holy Family Fraternity,  
Manassas, Va.

Maryellen Shea, OFS, Holy Family Fraternity, Manassas,  
Va.

Ruth Tierney, St. Thomas More Fraternity, Harrisburg,  
Pa.

### **NEWLY PROFESSED**

Sabrina Buckley, OFS, St. Thomas More Fraternity,  
Arlington, Va.

Bob Eves, OFS, St. Francis of Assisi Fraternity, Triangle,  
Va.



*St. Thomas More (Arlington) Fraternity's newest members: Sabrina  
Buckly, OFS, professed June 10, 2018, and Judy Marie Manuel, OFS,  
professed September, 30, 2017.*



*Sacred Heart Fraternity Newly Professed: Gerri Nojadera, OFS, and  
Theresa Peñalosa, OFS, accompanied by the Franciscan Sisters of  
St. Joseph, Deacon Kevin Morrison, Fr. Jim Connolly, and Deacon Mark  
Harriman.*

(See "Around" on page 9)



## ("Around" from page 8)

Mark Brubaker, OFS, Immaculata Fraternity,  
Fredericksburg, Va.  
Jan Floom, OFS, St. Francis of Assisi Fraternity,  
Triangle, Va.  
Marv Floom, OFS, St. Francis of Assisi Fraternity,  
Triangle, Va.  
Pat Koch, OFS, St. Francis of Assisi Fraternity, Triangle,  
Va.  
Harry Logel, OFS, St. Francis of Assisi Fraternity,  
Triangle, Va.  
Judy Marie Manuel, OFS, St. Thomas More Fraternity,  
Arlington, Va.  
Gerri Nojadera, OFS, Sacred Heart Fraternity, Virginia  
Beach, Va.  
Theresa Peñalosa, OFS, Sacred Heart Fraternity,  
Virginia Beach, Va.  
Margie Petrizza, OFS, St. Francis of Assisi Fraternity,  
Triangle, Va.  
Bobbie Ruiz, OFS, St. Francis of Assisi Fraternity,  
Triangle, Va.



*Fraternity of St. Francis of Assisi (Triangle) Newly professed:  
Front Row - Harry Logel, OFS; Jan Floom, OFS; Bob Eves, OFS.  
Back Row - Margie Petrizza, OFS; Bobbie Ruiz, OFS; Pat Koch, OFS;  
Marv Floom, OFS.*

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY ELECTED Immaculata Fraternity, Fredericksburg, Va.

Minister: Skip Wallace, OFS  
Vice Minister: Mark Brubaker, OFS  
Secretary: Barbara McCoy, OFS  
Treasurer: Ed Semeia, OFS  
Councilor: Irene Theriault, OFS  
Councilor: Terry Rinker, OFS



### *Immaculate Fraternity newly elected:*

*1st Row: Skip Wallace OFS, Minister; Mark Brubaker OFS, Vice Minister;  
Barbara McCoy OFS, Secretary; Irene Theriault OFS, Counselor; Rita  
Colleran OFS, Regional Councilor  
2nd row: John Wagner OFS; Ed Semeia OFS, Treasurer; Terry Rinker Jr.  
OFS, Counselor (and his daughter)*

## LOSSES IN THE FAMILY



Connie Cobado, OFS, June 3, 2018. Connie professed in 1993 and then was excused for health reasons. She was a member of St. Thomas More Fraternity, Arlington, Virginia.



Daphne Pritchett, OFS, June 27, 2018. She was a member of the Fraternity of Our Lady of the Rosary and professed in 2010. She was 76 years old and died after a long struggle against cancer.



Mildred Wray, OFS, July 11, 2018. Mildred was a member of Mount Saint Sepulcher Fraternity and was professed in 2015.

## Websites of Interest

The last Mass of St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qn1y1-nTouM>

Newly discovered Civil War battlefield remains at  
Manassas National Battlefield Park  
[https://wtop.com/prince-william-county/2018/06/  
remains-of-civil-war-soldiers-and-field-hospital-found-  
at-virginia-battlefield/](https://wtop.com/prince-william-county/2018/06/remains-of-civil-war-soldiers-and-field-hospital-found-at-virginia-battlefield/)  
[https://www.npr.org/sections/health-  
shots/2018/06/20/620394034/civil-war-battlefield-  
limb-pit-reveals-work-of-combat-surgeons](https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2018/06/20/620394034/civil-war-battlefield-limb-pit-reveals-work-of-combat-surgeons)

As we continue to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of our Pauline Rule of 1978, I have downloaded "A Brief History of the Secular Franciscan Order and its Rules" to the St. Margaret of Cortona Region website. The author, Bill Wicks, OFS has granted permission for me to share this 34-page document with you. You can view the document at  
[http://saintmargaretofcortona.org/books-  
documents/](http://saintmargaretofcortona.org/books-documents/)



*"Monk at Computer" from the Centre for the History of the Book, University of Edinburgh*



2018 Chapter of Mats

photos by Bob Traub



## JPIC Local Contacts Retreat 2018

On the weekend of July 13-15, 2018, members of the Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) ministries from throughout the Holy Name Province (HNP), gathered for an annual contacts retreat at the Saint Francis Springs Prayer Center, located in Stoneville, N.C. The attendees came from all over the geographical area of the HNP, and they participate in JPIC initiatives and activities in their local parishes, mission locations, and Secular Franciscan Fraternities. The purpose of the annual retreat is to learn new skills to support the JPIC activities performed throughout the HNP, discuss important current issues, review the initiatives from the previous year, establish strategy for the coming year, build a sense of fraternity among the JPIC members, and strengthen the relationship between the HNP's JPIC Council, Directorate, and local members.

The agenda for this year featured Marie Dennis, co-president of Pax Christi International. She has worked with the Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns to help shape public policy in the United States, is the author or co-author of seven books, and is a contributing editor to *Sojourners* magazine. She is the editor of a recent book, *Choosing Peace: The Catholic Church Returns to Gospel Nonviolence* from Orbis Press, which chronicles the work of the conference held in April 2016 at the Vatican in Rome and hosted by the Pontifical Council on Justice and Peace and Pax Christi International.

Also on the agenda were presentations from the JPIC Animator, Russell Testa, and Friars Julian Jagudilla, OFM

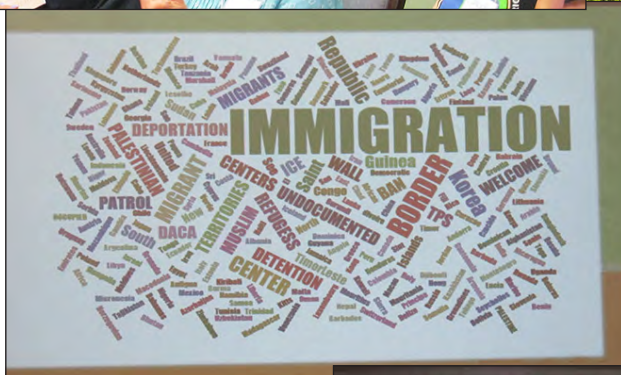
Juan Taurisco, OFM, on the important work they conduct at the Migration Center in New York City co-located at the Holy Name Provincial church, friary, and offices. Additionally, Father Bob Menard, OFM, of Clemson University Campus Ministry provided an update on the consolidation of the six Franciscan Provinces in the United States into one province.

Attending the retreat were JPIC members from St. Francis of Assisi Parish and Secular Franciscan Fraternity, Triangle, Va.; Mt. Irenaeus Community and Fraternity, Olean, N.Y.; Immaculate Conception Parish, Durham, N.C.; St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Raleigh, N.C.; Saint Francis of Assisi Parish, Long Beach Island, N.J.; St. Francis Springs Fraternity, Stoneville and Greensboro, N.C.; St. Camillus Parish, Silver Spring, Maryland; St. Andrews Parish and Fraternity, Andrews, S.C.; University of Clemson Campus Ministry of Clemson, S.C.; St. Mary's Parish, Pompton Lakes, N.J.; and Chicago Theological Union, Chicago, Ill.

The retreatants worked hard attending workshops that featured both large and small group discussions. Morning and evening Liturgy of the Hours were prayed as a retreat community, and Sunday Mass was celebrated by Friar Ignatius Harding of St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Triangle, Va. The retreat ended after Mass, where the retreatant said their farewells and shared lunch before departing.

— Gary Burton, OFS  
St. Francis of Assisi Fraternity  
Triangle, Va.

For more information, go to: [https://hnp.org/justice-and-peace-retreat-focuses-on-hope-and-learning-about-peacemaking/?utm\\_source=August+8%2C+2018+HNPT+-for+Public&utm\\_campaign=HNPT+Public+Aug.+9%2C+2018&utm\\_medium=email](https://hnp.org/justice-and-peace-retreat-focuses-on-hope-and-learning-about-peacemaking/?utm_source=August+8%2C+2018+HNPT+-for+Public&utm_campaign=HNPT+Public+Aug.+9%2C+2018&utm_medium=email)



## **What Are We Doing?**

### ***2018 Summer of Service***

The summer of 2018 has been an exciting and busy time for the Sacred Heart Fraternity in Virginia Beach.

First, in June we hosted/supported a Sunday afternoon dinner for the Women of the Burfoot House, a transitional home and comprehensive program designed for homeless single women to achieve self-sufficiency. Twelve fraternity members, family members, and five women living at the Burfoot House shared a wonderful Sunday meal together. We provided the meal, and the women provided stories of their struggles and their successes. It was a great day of talk, listening, bonding, and fellowship. Thanks DJ!



Our second summer adventure in July was at the Spirit House in Virginia Beach. This is a transitional house for homeless women with mental disabilities. The house can accommodate four women and one resident staff person. Ten fraternity members, family members and three women living at the Spirit House shared a meal and fellowship.



Thanks Charlotte!

Our last trip of the summer was in August to the Bethlehem Monastery, housing the Poor Clares of Barhamsville, Va., a monastic community following the inspiration of St. Francis and his faithful disciple, St. Clare. Twenty fra-

ternity members and family members spent time at the monastery, touring the grounds and speaking with Sister Clare. The fraternity provided food donations to the nuns. Thanks Sister Clare!



During this great summer of service, many of our fraternity members said that these events allowed them to strengthen their personal spiritual growth, increasing their awareness of God's presence in the work they do while serving and opening their eyes wider and brighter both to the faithful among us and to some of the most marginalized among us.

*Mike Coleman, OFS  
Vice-Minister, Sacred Heart Fraternity*

### ***Mark Your Calendar***

**September 16, 2018 - Multi-Fraternity Mass and Franciscan Picnic at the Shrine of St. Anthony.** Sponsored by the St. Joseph of Cupertino Fraternity. Mass at noon in the Chapel followed by picnic from 1-4:00 PM. Food will be provided, but if you wish, feel free to bring a dish to share. [12290 Folly Quarter Road, Ellicott City, MD 21042](https://www.google.com/maps/place/12290+Folly+Quarter+Road,+Ellicott+City,+MD+21042/@39.275,76.85,15z). Contact France Staudenmann at [mfstaudenmann@comcast.net](mailto:mfstaudenmann@comcast.net) by September 9 to let her know you're coming.

**October 3, 2018 - Celebration of the Transitus.** Services will be announced individually.

**November 3, 2018 - Chapter of Ministers.** All Saints Catholic Church, 9300 Stonewall Rd., Manassas, VA 20112 [Directions to All Saints Catholic Church](#).

**January 21-28, 2019 – World Youth Day Pilgrimage in Panama.** For more information go to <http://saintmargaretofcortona.com/newsevents/>.





## Franciscan Saints, Blesseds and Feasts

(Click on the name to go to a Web link.)

### AUGUST

- 16 [Bl. Francis Chici of Pesaro](#), Third Order Secular, hermit (d. 1350)
- 17 [St. Roch of Montpellier](#), Confessor, Third Order Secular (c. 1295-August 16, 1327)
- 18 [Bl. John Louis Loir and Companions](#), Priests and Martyrs of Rochefort
- 19 [St. Louis of Toulouse](#), Bishop, Order of Friars Minor (February 9, 1274-August 19, 1297)
- 21 [St. Pius X](#), Pope, Third Order Secular (June 2, 1835-August 20, 1914)
- 23 [Bl. Bernard of Offida Friar](#), OFM Capuchin (November 7, 1604-August 22, 1694)
- 25 [St. Louis IX](#), King of France, Patron of the Third Order Secular (April 15, 1214-August 26, 1270)
- 25 [Bl. Maria del Transito Cabanillas](#), Founder, Franciscan Tertiary Missionary Sisters (August 15, 1821-August 25, 1885)
- 28 [St. Junipero Serra](#), Priest, Alcantarine Friars Minor, missionary (November 24, 1713-August 28, 1784)

### SEPTEMBER

- 1 [St. Beatrice of Silva](#), Founder, Conceptionist Poor Clares (c. 1424-August 9, 1492)
- 2 [Bl. Apollinaris of Posat](#), [John Francis Burté](#), [Severin Girault](#), Priests, and companions, martyrs, First and Third Orders (d. 1792)
- 4 [St. Rose of Viterbo](#), Third Order Secular (c. 1233-March 6, 1251)
- 5 [Bl. Gentle of Matelic](#), Priest, First Order, martyr (d. September 5, 1340)
- 6 [Bl. Liberatus of Lauro](#), Priest, First Order (d. 1260)
- 9 [Bl. Seraphina Sforza](#), Poor Clare Nun (1434-September 8, 1478)
- 11 [Bl. Bonaventure of Barcelona](#), Friar, Founder Convent of St. Bonaventure (d. 1684)
- 13 [First Order, Third Order Regular and Secular Franciscans](#), martyrs of Japan (d. 1617-1628)
- 17 [Feast of the Stigmata of our Holy Father Francis](#)
- 18 [St. Joseph of Cupertino Friar](#), Order of Friars Minor Conventual (June 17, 1603-September 18, 1663)
- 20 [St. Francis Mary of Camporosso Friar](#), Order of Friars Minor Capuchin (December 27, 1804-September 17, 1866)

- 21 [Bl. Elizabeth Amodei](#), Third Order Secular (1475-February 4, 1498)
- 22 [St. Ignatius of Santhia](#), Priest, Order of Friars Minor (June 1686-September 22, 1770)
- 23 [Finding the Body of St. Clare](#)
- 23 [St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina](#), Priest, Order of Friars Minor Capuchin (May 25, 1887-September 23, 1968)
- 24 [St. Pacificus of Severino Priest](#), Order of Friars Minor (March 1, 1653-September 24, 1721)
- 26 [Bl. Aurelio of Vinales and Companions](#), Priest and Martyrs of Valencia (d. 1936)
- [Bl. Lucy of Caltagirone](#), Third Order Regular (d. c.1400)
- [St. Elzear of Sabran](#), (1285-September 27, 1323)
- [Bl. Delphina of Glandenes](#), (1284-November 1358) Husband and Wife, Secular Franciscans
- 28 [Bl. Bernadine of Feltre](#), Order of Friars Minor, missionary (1439-September 28, 1494)
- [St. John of Dukla](#), Priest, Order of Friars Minor Conventual (1414-1484)
- 29 [Feast of Saint Michael the Archangel](#)
- 30 [Bl. Charles of Blois](#), Third Order Secular (1319-September 29, 1364)



### OCTOBER

- 1 [Bl. Nicolas of Forca Palena](#), Priest, Third Order Regular (September 10, 1349-October 1, 1449)
- 3 [Commemoration of the Transitus of St. Francis of Assisi](#)
- 4 [Solemnity of our Seraphic Father Saint Francis](#)
- 5 [Bl. Felicia Meda](#), Order of Poor Clares (1378-September 30, 1444)
- 6 [St. Mary Frances of the Five Wounds](#), Third Order Secular (March 25, 1715-October 7, 1791)
- 10 [St. Daniel and Companions](#), Priests, Order of Friars Minor, Martyrs (d. October 10, 1227)
- [Bl. Marie-Angela Truszkowska](#), Founder, Third Order Regular (May 16, 1825-October 10, 1899)
- 11 [St. Pope John XXIII](#), Pope, Third Order Secular (November 25, 1881-June 3, 1963)
- 12 [St. Seraphin of Montegranaro](#), Religious, Order of Friars Minor Capuchin (1540-October 12, 1604)

- 13 **Bl. Honorat Kozminski**, Friar, Order of Friars Minor Capuchin (October 16, 1829-December 16, 1916)
  - 17 **Bl. Balthazar of Chiavari**, Priest, Order of Friars Minor (1420-October 17, 1492)
  - 18 **Bl. James of Strepur**, Archbishop, Order of Friars Minor (c. 1340-October 1409)
  - 19 **St. Peter of Alcántara**, Priest, Franciscan Stricter Observance (1499-October 18, 1562)
  - 20 **Bl. Contardo Ferrini**, Third Order Secular (April 5, 1859-October 17, 1902)
  - 23 **St. John Capistrano**, Priest, Order of Friars Minor (June 24, 1386-October 23, 1456)
  - 23 **Bl. Josephine Leroux**, Poor Clare, martyr (January 23, 1747-October 23, 1794)
  - 25 **Bl. Maria Jesus Ferragut**, virgin, and companions, martyrs of Valencia [Maria Veronica Masiá, Maria Felicity Masiá Ferragut, Isabel Claduch Rovira, Milagros Ortells Gimeno], Poor Clares, d. 1936
  - 26 **Bl. Bonaventure of Potenza**, Priest, Order of Friars Minor Conventuals (d. October 26, 1711)
  - 29 **Bl. Thomas of Florence**, Friar, Order of Friars Minor (1370-October 31, 1447)
  - 30 Anniversary of the Dedication in Consecrated Churches of the Seraphic Order
  - St. Angelo of Acri**, Priest, Order of Friars Minor Capuchin (October 19, 1669-October 30, 1739)
  - 31 **Bl. Christophe of Cahors**, Friar, Order of Friars Minor (c. 1172-October 31, 1272)
- Bl. Teresa Manganiello**, Third Order Secular, (January 1, 1849-November 4, 1876)
  - 6 **Bl. Marguerite de Lorraine**, Poor Clare Nun (1463-November 2, 1521)
  - 7 **St. Didacus of Alcalá**, Friar, Order of Friars Minor Observant (c. 1400-November 12, 1463)
  - Bl. Raynier of Arezzo**, Friar, Order of Friars Minor (d. 1304)
  - 8 **Bl. John Duns Scotus**, Priest, Order of Friars Minor, Doctor of the Church (c. 1266-November 1308)
  - 9 **Bl. Gabriel Ferretti**, Priest, First Order (1385-November 12, 1456)
  - 11 **Bl. Mary Crucifixa**, Secular Franciscan Order (February 19, 1782-December 16, 1826)
  - 12 **Bl. Giovanni della Pace**, Third Order Secular (1353-November 12, 1433)
  - 14 **St. Nicholas Tavelic and Companions**, Croatian Friar, Order of Friars Minor Martyrs of Palestine (c. 1340-November 14, 1391)
  - 15 **Bl. Mary of the Passion**, Founder Franciscan Missionaries of Mary (May 21, 1839-November 15, 1904)
  - 17 **St. Elizabeth of Hungary**, Secular Franciscan, Patroness of the Third Order (July 7, 1207-November 17, 1231)



## NOVEMBER

- 3 **Bl. Helen Enselmini**, Poor Clare Nun (1208-November 4, 1242)
- 4 **St. Charles Borromeo**, Secular Franciscan Cardinal, Protector of the Franciscan Order (October 2, 1538-November 3, 1584)

Toaster ovens are a lot cheaper and less wasteful than conventional ones. They're also faster, requiring none of the "pre heating" nonsense of those clunky, power-mad ovens. In fact, using smaller versions of traditional appliances is practically always cheaper, faster, and more environmentally friendly: A toaster beats a toaster oven (for toasting, at least) and using an electric kettle beats boiling water on a stovetop.





## ***Results of the General Chapter (CIOFS) Conclusive Documents***

*(This article originally appeared in the April, 2018 issue of [News from the NEC](#))*

Early in 2014 the International Council of the OFS (CIOFS) asked all National fraternities to consider “how should an Order like the OFS be managed at all its levels?” As part of a process of reflection, and in preparation for the 2017 General Chapter we studied various proposals set forth in the [Instrumentum Laboris](#) and submitted our responses.

This great undertaking has borne fruit. Our leadership at the XV General Chapter approved specific projects for each area of priority – Formation, Fraternal Life, Building a More Fraternal and Evangelical World (JPIC), Leadership, Communications and Finance. Each project has specific goals, and a timeframe. Budgets will soon be developed. **The impact of these projects will be significant.**

The Conclusive Documents of the General Chapter describe each project in detail. Additionally, these documents include the Minister General’s accompanying letter and the CIOFS Report on the State of the Order. Please read and share these important documents which can be found on [this page on our new website](#).

2017 General Chapter Conclusions:

- [Letter from General Minister Tibor Kauser RE: General Conclusions of Chapter](#)
- [Combined conclusions document in English](#)
- [Combined conclusions document in Spanish](#)
- [Minister General’s Final Report to Chapter](#)
- [Final Message of the Chapter](#)

**From our Minister General, Tibor Kauser’s letter,** “These documents are the ones that the International Fraternity intends to use as a basis of our work during the next three years. *Therefore, it is very important, that each and every sister and brother...has the opportunity to study them. Also, I invite all the councils on each level to study and work on these documents, so that the intentions and decisions of the General Chapter can be implemented.*” (Emphasis added.) The NEC agrees that these innovative projects will help to strengthen and renew life in the fraternities on the various levels. Moreover, they will help our Order to meet the expectations of our Church, to “be a great service in the cause of the Kingdom of God in our world today...a model of organic, structural and charismatic unity.” ([Message of the Holy Father St. John Paul II to the Secular Franciscan Order, November 2002](#))