

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. Philipppus Philippus, OFM/Cap

Volume 22 Issue 2

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

November 2018

National Executive Council Election Results

After reflecting together on the needs of our Order, after spending time in prayer and formation, and after invoking the help of the Holy Spirit, the National Fraternity has chosen the team that will guide and animate the Fraternity for the next three years. The following servant leaders were elected to NEC positions:

- Jan Parker, OFS — Minister
- Mary Bittner, OFS — Vice Minister
- Jane DeRose-Bamman — Secretary
- Claudia Kauzlarich, OFS — Treasurer
- Awilda Guadalupe, OFS — International Councilor
- Josh Molidor, OFS — Councilor 1
- Dennis Ross, OFS — Councilor 2
- Donna Hollis, OFS — Councilor 3

Jane DeRose-Bamman was also elected Alternate International Councilor

Please keep all these brothers and sisters in your prayers.



From left: Awilda Guadalupe, OFS, International Councilor; Dennis Ross, OFS, Councilor 2; Claudia Kauzlarich, OFS, Treasurer; Jane DeRose-Bamman, Secretary; Donna Hollis, OFS, Councilor 3; Josh Molidor, OFS, Councilor 1; Mary Bittner, OFS, Vice Minister; Jan Parker, OFS, Minister

Regional Council St. Margaret of Cortona Region

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

St. Margaret of Cortona Region Website has a new url:
<http://saintmargaretofcortona.org/>



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Minister's Message



BE NOT AFRAID OF WHO WE ARE

Sisters and Brothers in Francis and Clare,

I attended our National Chapter in St. Louis Missouri last month and much discussion was focused on the current crisis in our Church. Once again, as it was in the year 2003, our Church is shaken

to its very core by new accusations of sexual abuse by priest and bishops, not only in our country but around the world. We are not unique in what is happening in our Church; other confessions of faith are experiencing the same problems. We can find this crisis in our public institutions and in families as well.

The priests who engaged in abusive acts need our prayers. We have many, many good priests who, through no fault of their own, are caught up in this crisis and need our encouragement, support and prayers, as this is the beginning of difficult times for them.

Just as important, we need to pray for the victims of all kinds of abuse. We need to be a voice for them, to be present for them by listening, being available to support them whenever and wherever possible, and if possible, to help them in their struggles. Let us also not forget the vulnerable and hurting young people who need healing and direction in their lives.

We can be a light in the world for those who continue to hide in darkness because some have no one to turn to for consolation.

Our Rule and General Constitutions tell us exactly what we need to do:

Rule 15

Let them individually and collectively be in the forefront in promoting justice by the testimony of their human lives and their courageous initiatives. Especially in the field of public life, they should make definite choices in harmony with their faith.

Rule 19

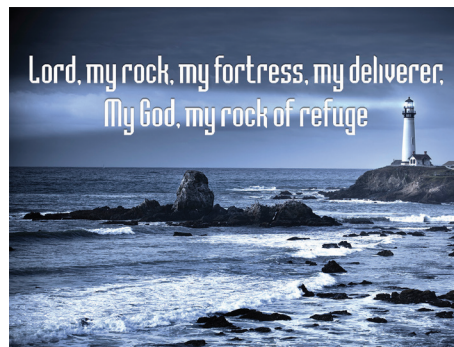
Mindful that they are bearers of peace which must be built up unceasingly, they

should seek out ways of unity and fraternal harmony through dialogue, trusting in the presence of the divine seed in everyone and in the transforming power of love and pardon. Messengers of perfect joy in every circumstance, they should strive to bring joy and hope to others...

Article 22 of our General Constitutions

1. Secular Franciscans should "be in the forefront ... in the field of public life." They should collaborate as much as possible for the passage of just laws and ordinances.

2. The fraternities should engage themselves through courageous initiatives, consistent with their Franciscan vocation and with the directives of the Church, in the field of human development and justice. They should take clear positions whenever human dignity is attacked by any form of oppression or indifference. They should offer their fraternal service to the victims of injustice.



We Franciscans are also hurting, but we need to be supportive of all our sisters and brothers who are feeling the pain of this crisis. We all need to stay focused on the real meaning of our faith, which is Jesus our Lord and the Holy Eucharist. He is our hope, and He will help us through the

trials and tribulations yet to come.

HOPE

"Let us not allow painful memories to take possession of our heart, even in the face of evil's repeated assaults; let us not surrender. Let us do, rather, as Noah did, who after the flood did not tire of looking at the sky and of releasing the dove many times, until once it returned to him carrying a tender olive leaf (Genesis 8:11): it was the sign that life could be taken up again and hope could rise again." Pope Francis

Yes, we are living in troubled times and our visibility as Secular Franciscans is needed more than ever. I say "DO NOT DESPAIR" and as St. John Paul II often said, "BE NOT AFRAID".

Your Franciscan brother in Christ,

Bob Longo, OFS

Regional Minister

St. Margaret of Cortona Region

Lessons Learned from a Not-So-Young Missioner

Editor's note: Cindy Mizes is a second-year missioner in Jamaica, serving with Franciscan Mission Service. Drawing on the experience of leaving her job and becoming a missioner in her late 50s, Cindy shares lessons learned about service, using one's gifts, and approaching life with love. To learn more about Cindy's varied ministries, including bread baking, teaching, and prison accompaniment, check out the FMS blog: www.franciscanmissionservice.org/blog. If you are interested in being a not-so-young missioner, please email meghan@franciscanmissionservice.org or call 202-832-1762x4. We'd be happy to help you discern whether our program is the right fit for you!

My life as a missioner began when my 30-year career as a professional administrator ended. My decision to become a missioner after retirement was an easy one. Being a missioner at the ripe age of 59, however, brought about some unique challenges. Mission work has not only made me see myself through a clearer lens, but it has also taught me several life lessons I would have not otherwise learned if I had simply slipped into retirement.

Here are the top five life lessons I've learned as an "older" missioner:

1. Forget the book skills you learned in your career and seek only your God-given talents.

Upon my retirement, I believed I had all the "learned" skills to become an exceptional missioner. I was seriously disappointed when I realized that those skills were of little value while on mission. Before I could fully appreciate this lesson, I had to recognize the fact that much of my mission training is "on the job" experience. I also learned that, as a missioner, failure is a good thing, because it makes room for God to fill in the blank spaces with a new talent (or gift) that will make me become a better missioner.

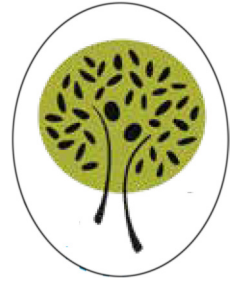
2. As a missioner, I am called to serve everyone I encounter with love.

Ego is a big thing to let go of, especially after years of workplace competition and being "the boss." In mission, I serve Christ and everyone I encounter. That means I serve the wealthy as well as the poor, the criminal as well as the victim, and the people who annoy me, despise me, and torment me daily. I serve them by responding out of love and not hate, out of compassion and not conceit, and out of devotion to a God who teaches me to forgive while commanding me to love my enemies.

3. There are no deadlines in mission work, only ideas that die because the missioner didn't heed God's call.

Discernment of ministry is an important aspect of mission life. It's similar to "strategic planning" in the workplace,

but with God calling the shots. Lots and lots of wonderful ministry ideas can arise while on mission, but not all of them come from God—many come from the ego. Also, God doesn't set deadlines. He does, however, expect me to complete the work he has set out for me while giving me the free will to determine how I will accomplish it.



4. Accomplish small things with great love.

In the workplace, success is normally determined by how well you impress the boss, satisfy your customers, or meet your quarterly goals. In many cases, success is also measured by how much profit the company makes in comparison with last year. In mission, faith is what measures the missioner. It is in accomplishing the small things with great love where true faith can be found, because things that don't seem very important are important in God's eyes.

5. At the end of the day, when I am short of energy, I know my day was a good one.

In the workplace, not meeting expectations is considered failure. During mission, when I work to exhaustion, I know I have done my very best, regardless of the outcome. God doesn't set expectations, he only commands that we do our best and trust that he will see us through: "Come to me all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will bring you rest."



New Youth/Young Adult Commission Co-Chair



Mike Coleman, OFS, has been named as the Youth/Young Adult Commission Co-Chair.

He was raised in Boston, but moved to Virginia and remained there after he retired from the U.S. Navy in 2002. He currently lives in Virginia Beach and is a member of Sacred Heart Fraternity in Virginia Beach.

He is active in his parish, the Catholic Church of St.

Mark, in Virginia Beach. He serves as a member of the parish council, is on the prison ministry team, and is a Catholic Worker volunteer.

For many years, he was an eighth grade catechist. During that time, the Diocese of Richmond instituted a catechist certification process known as Pathways. Upon completion of the program, he was asked to be a facilitator for middle school age catechists. When he left eighth grade catechesis, he became involved with the Just Faith program known as Just Waking, a youth program focusing on post-confirmation aged youth. He has completed many courses through the University of Dayton focusing on catechesis.

Currently, he has stepped away from being a full-time weekly catechist and is now more focused on Justice & Peace initiatives such as prison ministry, migrant worker ministry, the Catholic Worker movement, and Haiti. These issues are more closely in line with how he feels about many issues in the community, and speak to his heart.

Mike looks forward to working with the region as co-chair of the Youth/Young Adult Commission.

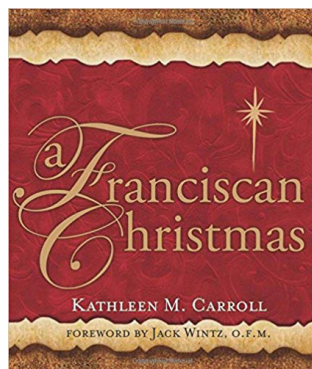


What Are We Reading?

A Franciscan Christmas

Kathleen M. Carroll; foreword by Jack Wintz, O.F.M. — Book 119 pgs. Publisher: St. Anthony Messenger Press (2010)
ISBN: 9780867169867

The true meaning of Christmas isn't found in the glitter and gifts. It's not on the tree or tucked under it. It won't be served with the cookies and eggnog. But it can be found in a place of honor in most Christian homes: the Christmas creche. Francis of Assisi first recreated the scene of the Nativity nearly eight hundred years ago, but it has endured as a favorite holiday tradition. Small creches grace humble homes and ornate versions appear in grander homes--even the White House. Families flock to life-size manger scenes with rustic timbers and live animals. Most feature elements from the gospel stories, and some add their own creative touch. Each piece of the Nativity has its own story and meaning in Franciscan history and Christian spirituality. Take a closer look at the creche and learn why Christmas is central to Franciscan spirituality and how you can find a deeper meaning in the simplest of seasonal decorations.



Mark Your Calendar

January 21-28, 2019 – World Youth Day Pilgrimage in Panama. For more information go to



<http://saintmargaretof cortona.com/newsevents/>.

January 26, 2019 – Local Celebration of World Youth Day. Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., Beginning at 11:00 a.m.. There will be thousands of Young Adults present, guest speakers, and many organizations that minister to young adults. Please encourage all the young adults you know to be there. You can find information at <http://wyddc.org>. If you have any questions, please contact Harry Ford, OFS, hmford1010@gmail.com



May 31-June 2, 2019 – Regional Retreat, Priest Field Pastoral Center, 4030 Middleway Pike, Kearneysville, WV 25430.

[Directions to Priest Field.](#)



Around the Region

WELCOME TO OUR NEWLY ADMITTED



Rev. William Cocco, OFS, St. Clare Fraternity, Rehoboth, Del.

Marinela Davis, OFS, St. Clare Fraternity, Rehoboth, Del.



Little Flower Fraternity Council: Barbara Countryman, OFS, President; Marge Lane, OFS, Councilor; Ann German, OFS, Secretary; Joan Kane, OFS, Formation Sirector; Kelly Frederick, OFS, Treasurer; Lisa Gough, OFS, Minister; Ann Amrhein, OFS, Councilor; Anne Mulqueen, OFS, Spiritual Assistant witness (not shown, Beth Dykton, OFS, Vice Minister)

NEWLY PROFESSED

Karan Bevers, OFS, St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity, Ellicott City, Md.

Denise Donaldson, OFS, St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity, Ellicott City, Md.

James Kim, OFS, St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity, Ellicott City, Md.

Richard Lam, OFS, St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity, Ellicott City, Md.

Theresa Lam, OFS, St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity, Ellicott City, Md.

Mick Michieli-Beasley, OFS, St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity, Ellicott City, Md.



Mount St. Sepulchre Fraternity Council: Adele Lewis, SFO (Formation Director), Vilma Camposano, SFO (Treasurer), Bill Richardson, SFO (Secretary), Michele Dunne, SFO (Vice Minister), Larry Bleau, SFO (Minister)



St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity newly professed: Karan Bevers, OFS; Denise Donaldson, OFS; James Kim, OFS; Richard Lam, OFS; Theresa Lam, OFS; Mick Michieli-Beasley, OFS



San Antonio de Padua Fraternity Council: Maria Rosa Barajas, OFS, Treasurer; Guadalupe Sidhu, OFS, Vice Minister; Omayra Acevedo Garcia, OFS, Secretary; Beatriz (Betty) Fromete, OFS, Minister; Ana Delgado, OFS, Formation Director

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY ELECTED

Little Flower Fraternity, Rosedale, Md.

Minister: Lisa Gough

Vice Minister: Beth Dykton

Secretary: Ann German

Treasurer: Kelly Frederick

Formation Director: Joan Kane

Councilor: Ann Amrhein

Councilor: Marge Lane

Mount St. Sepulchre Fraternity, Washington, D.C.

Minister: Larry Bleau

Vice Minister: Michele Dunne

Secretary: Bill Richardson

Treasurer: Vilma Camposano

Formation Director: Adele Lewis

San Antonio de Padua Fraternity, Harrisburg, Penn.

Minister: Beatriz Frometa

Vice-minister: Guadalupe Sidhu

Secretary: Omayra Garcia

Treasurer: Maria R Barajas

Formation Director: Ana Delgado

LOSSES IN THE FAMILY



Peter Wayne Askin, ofs, August 13, 2018. He was professed on January 4, 2003, in Divine Mercy Fraternity, Five Franciscan Martyrs Region, and transferred to Holy Family Fraternity, Manassas, Va., on June 1, 2007. He had been excused for some time because of illness.



Barbara Petrisko, ofs, October 31, 2018. She was professed on December 13, 1980, in the St. Conrad Annapolis Fraternity and was their minister from 1992 to 1995. She transferred to St. Clare Fraternity, Delaware in 2013.

Barbara Smyth, ofs, September 8, 2018, Holy Family Fraternity, Manassas, Va. She was professed on March 4, 1979, and was one of their founding members and their first Secretary. She had been homebound for a number of years, but she is fondly remembered by the members of her fraternity.

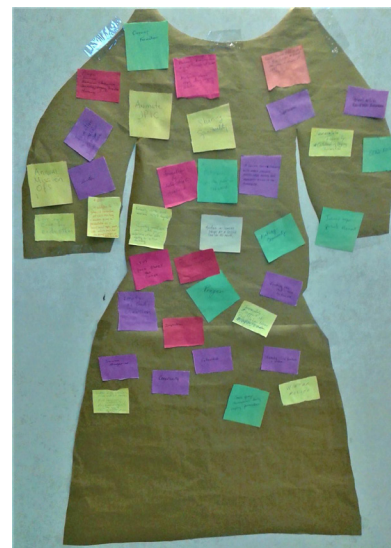
2018 Regional Chapter

The theme for the Chapter was "Many Parts - One Body."

In the morning session, Fr. Charlie Miller, OFM, gave a reflection on Francis. Then Peter Noyes, OFS, presented the proposed Treasury Budget for 2019. It was approved unanimously by the local fraternity ministers.

In the afternoon, the meeting broke out into small groups: seven tables of seven participants. The first session topic was "What Works in your fraternity"; 45 minutes were allotted for this discussion. A Franciscan robe poster was taped to a side wall where ministers could post an item that works well in their fraternity. The second session topic was "What is not working in your fraternity?" Here again, 45 minutes was allotted for discussion. Ministers also posted notes about what is not working in their fraternity.

The Chapter ended with a remembrance ceremony of those sisters and brothers who passed on between November 2017 and November 2018.



WHAT IS JPIC?

Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation

- Integral to the Gospel
- Fundamental to Catholic Social Teaching
- Both religious and lay people are important contributors

JUSTICE

1. Righting wrongs
2. Protecting the weak
3. Addressing systemic issues
4. Active healing of individuals and society

PEACE

1. Cessation of violence and chaos
2. Intermediation
3. Providing safety and security
4. Spiritual comfort

INTEGRITY OF CREATION

1. Kinship of all creation
2. Stewardship of the environment
3. Appreciation of nature

POVERTY

1. Material poverty vs. wealth
2. Spiritual poverty vs. blindness

LIVING JPIC AND THE SECULAR FRANCISCAN RULE DAY BY DAY A CALENDAR FOR THE PRACTICE

Explanation:

The first heading for each day of the month is based on the Secular Franciscan Rule, Chapter Two, paragraphs 4-19. Since some of the paragraphs contain more than one thought or action, some parts have been spread throughout the month.

The second heading suggests the JPIC arena in which the action may be applied. There are five arenas for action: family, community/fraternity, state, nation and world. Each of us has responsibilities for all the arenas, however, our individual scope of action may limit us to one or another.

How to use this calendar:

This calendar is meant to assist in developing a conscious application of the rule in our daily lives. Furthermore, the calendar suggests ways in which each rule can be applied to the JPIC theme in a specific arena. Using the calendar is one way to consider doing a good turn each day, and the suggested arenas of action may trigger specific activity for our engagement.

For example, the rules calling us to develop our individual spirituality may be best applied in the arena of the family. The rules involving working with others may be best applied within our community, including our neighborhood, workplace, the parish church and the fraternity. The rules dealing with social justice may be best applied in the state or the nation; we have ample opportunities to engage on these issues through organizations at the state and national levels, and through voting. Finally, the rules that apply to Integrity of Creation, while they may start at home (such as composting, for example), are naturally world-wide issues, and solutions to environmental issues must be developed on a global scale as the problems cross boundaries.

The Secular Franciscan Rule calls us to develop a personal spirituality that supports our ministry to others. Just as Jesus prompted his disciples, the Rule calls us to get out of our comfort zone and love the unlovable, do the impossible. Furthermore, the Rule calls us to bring joy and hope to others. All of these challenge us to do more, to do better.

This calendar may be used at any time of the year. It may have particular impact if practiced during a penitential season, such as Advent or Lent.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1 Rule 4: Relate to the Gospel Arena: Nation</p>	<p>2 Rule 5: Encounter Christ Arena: Family</p>	<p>3 Rule 6: Rebuild the church Arena: Community</p>	<p>4 Rule 7: Personal transformation Arena: Family</p>	<p>5 Rule 8: Prayer and sacraments Arena: Family</p>	<p>6 Rule 9: Emulate Mary's self-giving Arena: Community</p>	<p>7 Rule 10: Take personal responsibility Arena: Family</p>
<p>8 Rule 11: Simplify one's life Arena: Family</p>	<p>9 Rule 12: Be free to love God in others Arena: State</p>	<p>10 Rule 13: Accept all people Arena: World</p>	<p>11 Rule 14: Build a more fraternal world Arena: World</p>	<p>12 Rule 15: Promote justice Arena: Nation</p>	<p>13 Rule 16: Use talents for God Arena: Community</p>	<p>14 Rule 17: Cultivate peace Arena: Family</p>
<p>15 Rule 18: Recognize kinship of all creation Arena: World</p>	<p>16 Rule 19: Seek unity through dialogue Arena: Nation</p>	<p>17 Rule 7: Continuous conversion Arena: Community</p>	<p>18 Rule 8: Practice contemplation Arena: Family</p>	<p>19 Rule 10: Witness to Christ Arena: State</p>	<p>20 Rule 11: Detach from temporal goods Arena: Family</p>	<p>21 Rule 14: Build a more evangelical world Arena: World</p>
<p>22 Rule 16: Regard work as a gift Arena: Family</p>	<p>23 Rule 17: Respect life Arena: Community</p>	<p>24 Rule 18: Respect all creatures Arena: World</p>	<p>25 Rule 19: Seek harmony with others Arena: State</p>	<p>26 Rule 19: Bring joy to others Arena: Community</p>	<p>27 Rule 19: Express hope to others Arena: Nation</p>	<p>28 Rule 13: Assist the needy Arena: State</p>
<p>29 Rule 13: Care for others physically Arena: Family</p>	<p>30 Rule 13: Care for others spiritually Arena: Community</p>					

Letter to the Youth of the World

Following is a letter to the youth of the world from the recently concluded Synod on Youth, held in Rom October 3-28, 2018. The letter was read at the conclusion of the final Mass.

We the Synod Fathers now address you, young people of the world, with a word of hope, trust and consolation. In these days, we have gathered together to hear the voice of Jesus, “the eternally young Christ”, and to recognize in Him your many voices, your shouts of exultation, your cries, and your moments of silence.

We are familiar with your inner searching, the joys and hopes, the pain and anguish that make up your longings. Now we want you to hear a word from us: we wish to be sharers in your joy, so that your expectations may come to life. We are certain that with your enthusiasm for life, you will be ready to get involved so that your dreams may be realized and take shape in your history.

Our weaknesses should not deter you; our frailties and sins must not be an obstacle for your trust. The Church is your mother; she does not abandon you; she is ready to accompany you on new roads, on higher paths where the winds of the Spirit blow stronger – sweeping away the mists of indifference, superficiality and discouragement.

When the world that God so loved, that he gave us his only Son, Jesus, is focused on material things, on short-term successes, on pleasures, and when the world crushes the weakest, you must help it to rise up again and to

turn its gaze towards love, beauty, truth and justice once more. For a month, we have walked together with some of you and with many others who have been united to us through prayer and affection. We wish to continue the journey now in every part of the earth where the Lord Jesus sends us as missionary disciples.

The Church and the world urgently need your enthusiasm. Be sure to make the most fragile people, the poor and those wounded by life your traveling companions.

You are the present; be a brighter future.

28 October 2018



Websites of Interest

CIOFS has prepared a video entitled, “Forty Years of the New Rule:

<https://secularfranciscansusa.org/2018/06/14/celebrate-the-rule-with-this-new-ciofs-video/>

Thanks, Larry Bleau

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://saintmargaretof cortona.org/books-documents/>

Thanks, Bob Longo

A life of Bl. Solanus Casey

<https://formed.org/watch/571fd5885ac4f33819e8739c>

Thanks, Pat Koch

Significance and Power of Profession Part 1, Fr. Richard Trezza

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tZgowg5egpU>

Significance and Power of Profession Part 2, Fr. Richard Trezza

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oJWlcoeiTlY>

Amazing look at history

<https://www.facebook.com/iartGaleria/posts/274438110034193>

Live feeds on the St. Margaret of Cortona website

<http://saintmargaretof cortona.org/live-feeds/>

Another homebound ministry: Pray for the members of the United Nations

Christian Embassy New York: www.ce.un.org

If interested, email CEPrayerBand193@gmail.com

List of member states:

www.un.org/en/member-states/



“Monk at Computer” from the Centre for the History of the Book, University of Edinburgh

The Synod on Young People: What Does the Final Document Say?

On Saturday afternoon, the Final Document of the XV Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops consisting of 3 parts, 12 chapters, 167 paragraphs and 60 pages was approved in the Synod Hall.

The text was received with applause, Cardinal da Rocha said. It is “the result of real teamwork” on the part of the Synod Fathers, together with other Synod participants and “the young people in a particular way.” The Document, therefore, gathers the 364 modifications, or amendments, that were presented. “Most of them,” the Cardinal said, “were precise and constructive.” Furthermore, the entire document passed with the necessary 2/3 majority voting in favor.

The inspiration for the Final Document for the Synod on Youth is the episode of the disciples of Emmaus, recounted by the evangelist Luke. It was read in the Synod Hall by the Rapporteur General, Cardinal Sérgio da Rocha, by the Special Secretaries, Fr. Giacomo Costa and Fr. Rossano Sala, together with Bishop Bruno Forte, a member of the Commission for the drafting of the text. It is complementary to the Instrumentum laboris of the Synod, and follows the three-part subdivision.

PART ONE: “HE WALKED WITH THEM”

The first part of the document considers concrete aspects of young people’s lives. It emphasizes the important of schools and parishes. It acknowledges the need for laity to be trained to accompany young people especially since so many priests and bishops are already overburdened. The Document notes the irreplaceable role of Catholic educational institutions. The challenge the Document addresses is the need to rethink the role of the parish in terms of its vocational mission because it is often ineffective and not very dynamic, above all in the realm of catechesis.

The reality of young people regarding migration, abuse, the “throwaway culture” are also dwelt on in part one. Regarding abuse, the Synod Document calls for a “firm commitment for the adoption of rigorous preventive measures that will keep such abuse from being repeated, beginning with the selection and formation of those to whom leadership and educational roles are entrusted.” The world of art, music and sports is also discussed in terms of using them as “pastoral resources.”

PART TWO: “THEIR EYES WERE OPENED”

The Synod Document calls young people one of the “theological places” in which the Lord makes himself

present. Thanks to them, it says, the Church can renew herself, shaking off its “heaviness and slowness.” Mission, it says, is a “sure compass” for youth since it is the gift of self that brings an authentic and lasting happiness. Closely connected with the concept of mission is vocation. Every baptismal vocation is a call to holiness.

Two other aspects covered in part two that aid in the development of the mission and vocation of young people are that of accompaniment and discernment.

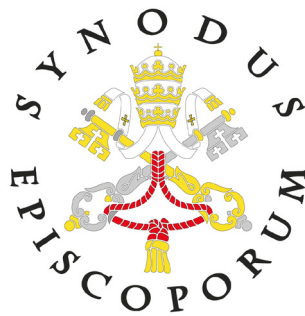
PART THREE: “THEY LEFT WITHOUT DELAY”

The icon presented by the Synod Fathers of the young Church is Mary Magdalene, the first witness of the Resurrection. All young people, the Synod Fathers affirm, including those with different visions of life, are in God’s heart.

“Walking together” is the synodal dynamic which the Fathers also bring to light in part three. They invite the Conferences of Bishops’ around the world to continue the process of discernment with the aim of developing specific pastoral solutions. The definition of “synodality” provided is a style for mission that encourages us to move from “I” to “we” and to consider the multiplicity of faces, sensitivities, origins and cultures. One request repeatedly made in the hall, was that of establishing a “Directory of youth ministry in a vocational key” on the national level, that can help diocesan and parish leaders qualify their training and action “with” and “for” young people, helping to overcome a certain fragmentation of the pastoral care of the Church.

The Synod Document reminds families and Christian communities of the importance of accompanying young people to discover the gift of their sexuality. The bishops recognize the Church’s difficulty in transmitting “the beauty of the Christian vision of sexuality” in the current cultural context. It is urgent, the document says, to seek “more appropriate ways which are translated concretely into the development of renewed formative paths.”

In the end, the Document brings the various topics covered in the Synod into one vocational thrust, that is, the call to holiness. “Vocational differences are gathered in the unique and universal call to holiness.” Through the holiness of so many young people willing to renounce life in the midst of persecution in order to remain faithful to the Gospel, the Church can renew its spiritual ardor and its apostolic vigor.



Franciscan Saints, Blesseds and Feasts

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

NOVEMBER

- 17 [St. Elizabeth of Hungary](#), Secular Franciscan, Patroness of the Third Order (July 7, 1207-November 17, 1231)
[Bl. Jeanne de Signa](#), Secular Franciscan Order, hermit (1244-November 9, 1307)
- 18 [Bl. Salome of Cracow](#), Franciscan Third Order Secular (1201-November 17, 1268)
- 19 [St. Agnes of Assisi](#), Order of St. Clare; St. Clare's younger sister (c. 1197-November 16, 1253)
[Bl. Salvatore Lilli and companions](#), Priest, Franciscan First Order, Martyrs of Armenia (June 19, 1853-November 22, 1895)
- 20 [Bl. Maria Milagros Ortells Gimeno](#), Capuchin Poor Clare, Martyr (November 29, 1882-November 20, 1936)
[Bls. Paschal Fortuño Almela and Companions](#), First Order friars, martyrs of Spain, d. 1936
- 21 [Feast of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary](#)
- 24 **Commemoration of All the Deceased of the Seraphic Order**
- 25 [Bl. Elizabeth of Reute](#), Third Order Regular (November 25, 1386-November 25, 1420)
[St. Humilis of Bisignano](#), Religious, Order of Friars Minor (August 26, 1582-November 26, 1637)
[Bl. Louis Beltrame Quattrocchi](#) (1880-1951) and [Bl. Maria Corsini-Beltrame Quattrocchi](#) (1884-1965) Third Order Secular, first Secular Franciscan couple beatified together
- 26 [St. Leonard de Port-Maurice Priest](#), Order of Friars Minor (December 20, 1676-November 26, 1751)
- 27 [St. Francis Anthony Fasini](#), Priest, Order of Friars Minor Conventual (August 6, 1681-November 29, 1742)
- 28 [St. James de la Marche](#), Priest, Order of Friars Minor (c. 1391-November 28, 1476)
- 29 [All Saints of the Seraphic Order](#)
We pray the Franciscan Litany of the Saints
- 30 [Bl. Antoine Bonfandini](#), Priest, Order of Friars Minor (d. 1482)

DECEMBER

- 2 [Bl. Mary Angela Astorch](#), Capuchin Poor Clare (September 1, 1592-December 2, 1665)

- 2 [Bl. Raphael Chylinski](#), Priest, Order of Friars Minor Conventual (January 8, 1680/90-December 2, 1742)
- 4 [Bl. François Galves](#), Priest, Order of Friars Minor, martyr (d. 1623)
[Bl. Pietro Tecelano](#), Third Order Secular (c. 1190-December 1289)
- 5 [Bl. Peter of Sienna](#), Third Order Secular (d. December 4, 1289)
- 7 [St. Mary Joseph Rosello](#), Third Order Secular before founding another institute (1811-December 7, 1811)
- 8 [Feast of the Immaculate Conception](#), Patroness of the Seraphic Order, Holy Day of Obligation, Plenary Indulgence for tertiaries and cord bearers
- 9 [Bl. Clara Isabella Fornari](#), Poor Clare Nun (June 25, 1697-December 9, 1744)
- 11 [Bl. Francis \(Arthur\) Bell](#), Priest, Order of Friars Minor, martyr of England (January 13, 1590-December 11, 1643)
[Bl. Hugolinus Magalotti](#), Third Order Secular (d. 1373)
- 12 [Finding the Body of Our Holy Father St. Francis](#)
[Bl. Bartolo da San Gimignano](#), Priest, Third Order Secular (1228-December 1300)
[Bl. Pius Ludwik Bartosik](#), Priest, Friars Minor Conventual, martyr (August 21, 1909-December 12, 1941)
[Our Lady of Guadalupe](#)
- 14 [Bl. Jean Discalceat Priest](#), Franciscan (c. 1278-December 1349)
- 15 [Bl. Mary Frances Schervier](#), Founder Religious Sisters of the Third Order Regular of St. Francis (January 8, 1819-December 14, 1876)
- 23 [Bl. Nicolas Factor-Estaña Priest](#), Order of Friars Minor (June 29, 1520-December 23, 1583)
- 24 [Bl. Bentivolio of Bonio](#), Priest, Order of Friars Minor (d. 1231)
- 25 [Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ](#)
- 28 [Blessed Matthia Nazzarei](#), Poor Clare Nun (March 1, 1253-December 28, 1319)
- 29 [Bl. Gerard Cagnoli](#), Lay Brother, Order of Friars Minor (c. 1267-c. 1342)
- 30 [Bl. Margaret Colonna](#), Poor Clare Nun, (c. 1255-December 30, 1280)

JANUARY

- 1 **Mary, Mother of God**
- 3 **Most Holy Name of Jesus**
- 4 **Bl. Christina of Tuscany**, Virgin, Third Order Secular (d. 1310)
- 5 **Bl. Didacus Joseph of Cadizi**, Priest, First Order Capuchin (1743-1801)
Bl. Ruggiero da Todì, Religious, Order of Friars Minor (d. 1237)
- 6 **St. Charles of Sezze**, Priest, Order of Friars Minor (October 19, 1613-January 6, 1670)
- 7 **St. Angela of Foligno**, Widow, Third Order Secular (1248-January 3, 1309)
- 8 **Bl. Eurosia Fabris**, Third Order Secular (1866-1932)
- 9 **Bl. Giles of Laurenzana**, Lay Brother, Order of Friars Minor (1443-January 10, 1518)
- 10 **Bl. Gregory X**, Pope, Third Order Secular (c. 1210-January 10, 1276)
- 11 **St. Thomas of Cori**, Priest, Order Friars Minor (1655- 1720)
- 12 **St. Bernard of Corleone**, Priest, First Order Capuchin (1605- 1667)
- 13 **Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ**
- 14 **Bl. Odoric de Pordenone**, Priest, First Order (1286-1331)
- 16 **Sts. Berard de'Leopardi of Calvi, Peter de'Bonanti of Sangemini, Otto de'Petricchi, Accursio Vaccuzio and Adjutus of Narni**, Protomartyrs of the Franciscan Order (d. 1220)
- 17 **Bl. Giuseppe Tovinii**, Third Order Secular (1841-1897)
Bl. Matthew of Girgenti, Bishop, Order of Friars Minor (d. 1451)
- 20 **Bl. Jean-Baptiste Triquerie**, Priest, First Order Conventual (m. 1794)
St. Eustochia Calafato, Virgin, Poor Clares (March 25, 1434-January 20, 1485)
- 22 **Bl. Joseph Nascimbeni**, Priest, Third Order Secular (1851- 1922)
St. Vincent Pallotti, Priest, Third Order Secular, Founder Pallottine Fathers (April 21, 1795-January 22, 1850)
- 23 **St. Marianne Cope**, Third Order Regular (January 23, 1838-August 9, 1918)

- 24 **Bl. Paula Gambarà-Costa Widow**, Third Order Secular (March 3, 1463-January 24, 1515)
- 27 **St. Angela Merici**, Founder, Third Order Regular (March 21, 1474-January 27, 1540)
Bl. Paul Joseph Nardini, Priest, Third Order Secular, Founder of the Franciscan Sisters of the Holy Family (July 25, 1821-January 27, 1862)
- 28 **Bl. Bienvenu de Recanati Priest**, First Order (1289)
- 29 **St. Francis de Sales**, Bishop, Doctor of the Church, Codbearer (August 21, 1567-December 28, 1622)
- 30 **St. Hyacintha de Mariscotti**, Third Order Regular (1585-January 30, 1640)
- 31 **St. John Bosco**, Priest, Third Order Secular (August 16, 1815-January 31, 1888)
Bl. Louisa Albertoni Third Order Secular (1473-January 31, 1533)

FEBRUARY

- 3 **Bl. Andrew of Segni**, First Order Lay Brother (1240-February 1, 1302)
- 4 **St. Joseph de Leonisse**, Priest, First Order Capuchin (January 8, 1556-February 4, 1612)
- 5 **St. Jane of Valois**, Founder, Franciscan Order of the Annonciades (1464-1505)
- 6 **Martyrs of Japan**, First Order Priests, Lay Brothers, and Third Order Secular (m. 1597)
- 7 **St. Colette of Corbie**, Foundress, Colettine Poor Clares (January 13, 1381-March 6, 1447)
St. Giles Mary of St. Joseph, Lay Brother, Order of Friars Minor (November 16, 1729-February 7, 1812)
St. Giovanni of Triora, Priest, Order of Friars Minor, Martyr (March 15, 1760, February 7, 1816)
Bl. Pius IX, Pope, Third Order Secular (May 13, 1792-February 7, 1878)
- 8 **Bl. Anthony of Stroncone**, Lay Brother, Order of Friars Minor (1391-February 7, 146)
- 9 **Bl. Leopold of Alpanseire**, Lay Brother First Order Capuchin (June 25, 1864-February 9, 1956)
- 10 **Bl. Alojzije Stepinac**, Bishop, Martyr, Third Order Secular (May 8, 1898-February 10, 1960)
Bl. Clare of Rimini, Poor Clare Nun (1282-February 10, 1346)
- 13 **St. Eustochium of Messine**, Poor Clare Nun (March 25, 1434 - January 20, 1485)
- 15 **Translation of the relics of St. Anthony**
- 16 **St. Veridiana**, Virgin, Third Order Secular (1182-1242)