



# The Franciscan Sun- Herald

St. John the Beloved Apostle Fraternity  
Third Order of Saint Francis - Secular  
December 2023

**Gathering Place:**  
Basilica of St. Mary, Catholic Church & Lyceum  
313 Duke Street  
Alexandria, VA  
**Gathering Date:** December 9, 2023, at the Lyceum.



**The Rule of the OFS:**

**Article 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 divine seed in everyone and in the transforming power of love and pardon.*

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

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

**Minister's Corner:**

Brothers and Sisters in Saints Francis and Clare,

This is the month of the incarnation. So, we recognize the culmination of God's plan to reveal himself to us and the desire to be with us always, even to the end of the age. Advent is a time of watching, waiting,

anticipation and preparation, not only for the coming of Christ at Christmas, but for Jesus' second coming. It is a time to reflect on where we have been, where we are now, where we need to be in the way we follow Christ.

We are going to take some time off, in a way at the gathering on December 9th, with our traditional advent gathering. This year we plan to have a potluck meal with ham as the main entrée and others bringing side dishes, desserts, and salads. Please ask your family and friends to join us for the advent gathering. Sadie will also lead us in the Manger reflection.

Wishing you all a very Holy and Merry Advent and Christmas.

May God Bless you and your families.

Pax et Bonum.  
Tom White, OFS

**December 2023:**  
**Article Nineteen of the Rule of Life**

Article Nineteen of the Rule of Life recognizes the important ministry of peace, which is entrusted to all Christians, but in a particular way to Franciscans. We see this is the accounts of St. Francis and the wolf in Grubio,

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St. Francis' interactions with the Sultan during the Crusades, and many other events in St. Francis' life. We also find this in the "Prayer of St. Francis," which starts out, "Lord make me an instrument of thy peace." Christ, whom Francis sought to imitate in every way was peaceful and gave us that example to follow. When Christ was tormented in his passion, he did not fight or curse his persecutors, but accepted the will of God, "turned the other cheek," and even prayed for them – "Father, forgive them for the know not what they do." Christ and Francis show us that we are called to all live as brothers and sisters because God is our common Father, who created all things and is present everywhere in the world.

Article Nineteen also shows us how we can build up peace by seeing God in everyone we meet, recognizing his love present in them, taking a positive approach to solutions and unceasingly praying to the Lord. Being peaceful people also means that we put aside hatred, anger, and thoughts of violence to think as God thinks, with an inexhaustible love. When we are able to see the face of the crucified Jesus in those who mistreat us in some way, it's hard to be upset with them.

The result of setting aside hate and violence and replacing it with love is the feeling of joy and hope in ourselves and others, "for it is in giving that we receive." I recently prayed with others at an abortion clinic and felt that warmth and peace while praying the Rosary and singing with them. Even hatred could not dampen the feeling. Many people ignored us but a great number of them also honked horns and waved or gave us a supporting thumbs up. However, there was one gentleman drove by, honked his horn aggressively and wildly gave us the "bird." No one got excited or retaliated; the feeling of peace and love overcame all that. It was really amazing! That is the power of bringing peace to a very unpleasant and stressful situation; the love of our God seen through St. Francis and our Mother, Mary.

That also leads to the ultimate bringing of peace, which is to those who are preparing to meet God in a way that none of us who are living can. When we comfort a sister or brother who is passing from this world to eternal life, we bring a special peace that helps them deal with

that stressful moment when they will meet God face-to-face, where they will know the eternal peace of being united completely with God.

The ministry of peace is especially important during the Advent season when we reflect on the peace of that special time when Jesus was born into the world, and at the same time, prepare for his second coming when we will all be united to him entirely. So, please take some time this Advent season to spread a little peace to those around you by showing some love, and getting that great gift of joy and hope.

May God bless you and give you his peace.

Pax et Bonum,  
Tom White, OFS

### **Fraternity Focus:**

#### **December Program:**

8:30 Morning Mass

9:15 Social Period

9:30 Opening prayer and Liturgy of the Hours

10:00 Ongoing Formation – Manger Reflection.

11:00 Advent Potluck Meal

Primary Gathering Topics:

- Franciscan Spirituality

### **Future Events:**

#### **Christ House Apostolate:**

Our next Apostolate to Christ House will be in March 2024. More information will be provided at the February 2024 Gathering. Christ House is located at 131 S. West Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

#### **Saint Padre Pio Prayer Group:**

Meets at 2:30 p.m. on the 4th Sunday of every month. Now in person at Blessed

Sacrament Church, virtual, please call or email Elaine Drapeau at 571-215-6410, [edrapeau3@gmail.com](mailto:edrapeau3@gmail.com)

**Weekly Online Prayer Time Group:**

Meets online on Thursdays from 7:15 to 8:00 PM to pray for all those who need our prayers. Please contact Rita at [ritaandscott@hotmail.com](mailto:ritaandscott@hotmail.com) for more information.

**Pro-Life Information and Events:**

Please contact our Pro-Life Counselor, Geneva Park at [jim.geneva@cox.com](mailto:jim.geneva@cox.com) for more information.

**Pro-Life Rosary:**

There is a Pro-Life gathering of people to testify to life every Saturday morning from 8:00 -12:00 outside the new abortion Clinic location at 2616 Sherwood Hail Lane, Alexandria, VA. They pray the Rosary at 10:00. Please come and support this worthy cause, even if only for a few minutes. Every minute counts. The Knights of Columbus provide coffee and donuts.

**Bulletin Board**

**Our Family:**

Recalling the words of St. Francis regarding the sick:

*I beg all my sick brothers that they do not become angry in their infirmities or disturbed either against God or against their brothers....*

*Let them give thanks in all things so that they may desire to be as God wants them to be.*

**And Let Us Pray:**

**For the Healing of:**

Lorraine Lee; Camilla; Karen Riedl; Stephen and Karen Connair; Ben and Sarah Lewis; Claudia's sister, Pamela Voetberg, Laine Ritter; Michelle Tringhese; Scott Beard; Fr. Mike Hann; Patricia Lutz Moran; Peggy

Gregory; Barbara Clinscales; Nick Pak; John Schup; Gavin Fortson; Stevie Rinaldi; Francis Piscitelli; Somali Karimi; Sarine Kik; Barbara and Shirley; Mark Bowl; Jan Parker; Shannon & Claire; Ray Engelking; Joe Messina; Fred West III and family; Angela Carroll; Steve Hazel; Vince Cornell and his family; Shirley Kalich; Joe Mainey and his family; Theresa Matava; In Suk and Steve Mullins; Elaine Drapeau; Olivia and Kate Horter; Scott Graham and his family; Richie, Audrey, and Abbey; Nicole and Sam Hosterman; Irene Theriault's nephew – Cole; Liz Chase; Patty Frease; Rees Evans; Peg Crews; Stephen Shields; John and Un Cha Antal; Stephen and Donna Piscitelli; Jan Floom; John and Sara Dina; Mike Lee; Anne Marie Pierce; Assefa Baraki; Mary Pat with lung cancer; Anna Therese for healing of seizures, Isabella Mitura with cancer; Elaine and Lickey Burich; Sandra and Bob Lapinski; Tracy Willard; Judy Heard; Anne Marie Hohman; Ok Young Brem; Sadie Martins; Scott Graham; Bob Miller; Cindi Murphy; Ted Larsen; Marilyn McGarrity and for all our families and friends who need God's healing. May God have mercy on all the sick and injured, especially those who are dying.

**In gratitude for God's healing and gifts:**

Much like the ten lepers cured by Jesus in Luke 17: 11-18, we spend most of our time praying for our own and other's needs, and less time giving thanks to God for all he does for us. Let us be like the leper who returned to Jesus, praising God for all He has done.

We give thanks to God for all he has done for us and our families, especially for the healing of Michelle Beaudry Voetberg, Lorraine, Luna Violet, the four year anniversary of Stephen Connair's successful transplant, for Sadie Martin's healing and recovery, for Scott Graham's successful

operation, for God sending Margie and everyone else to our Fraternity, for the life of our Fraternity, our faith and prayer life, for the appreciation for the life you have given us, and the joy of the eternal life which will come to all of us when our race is finished, for all those God sends our way who enlighten us and raise us to greater heights, even if only for a short time, for all the good things we see average people do, and for all the immeasurable things God does for us, which we cannot hope to count or keep track of.

For all those who are discerning their vocation to the Secular Franciscan Order:

Ryan and Ashley, Kathleen, Barbara, Connor, Tejas, Carlos, Craig, Tom, Chris, Andy, Michael, Mark, Magdalena, Janice, Darcie, and Felix. May the Holy Spirit guide them where they should be and may He continue to call new members to our fraternity.

For the Repose of the Souls who have preceded us into eternal life:

Cathy Williams, OFS; Br. John-Sebastian Laird-Hammond, OFM; Br. Ed Coughlin; Peg McGrath Ward; Lorre Bracey; David Robertson; Ramon Carag; Michael Feldman; George Webb; Alfie Evans; Joan Hartley; Donald Wagner; Naed Smith; Judy Ryerse; William Martin; Susan Encroft; Vicki Santora; Carlin; Jeanie McLees; Fr. Lester Bach; Bolton Gregory; Joseph Gregory; Samphon Chea; Sovanny Saray, OFS; Ellen DeKava; Art Scarano, OFS; Suzie Kermic; Laura Cornell; Doris; Mark Martin; Annie Lapinski; Tim Gray; Fata Hand; Rob Brem; Dotti Tamai; Wilma Connair; Sarah Turner; Father Joe Lehman; Marv Floom, Mary Liepold, Pope Benedict XVI, Father Jerome Daley; Mary Lou Coffman; Tony Gray, Lee Murphy, Cheryl Harper, Arthur Pulket, James Hardy, and all the Souls in Purgatory.

Special Intentions:

For our Holy Father and all the leaders of the Church that they may faithfully adhere to Christ's teachings.

For religious vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life, for the sanctity of marriage between one man and one woman, and for religious freedom.

For vocations to our own Fraternity, that the Holy Spirit might inspire people to seek a closer communion with Christ and his Church through the way of Saint Francis and Saint Clare.

For the sanctity of all our priests, religious, and lay people.

For those being persecuted throughout the world for their faith.

For our veterans, military, doctors, nurses, medical professionals and first responders.

For all those suffering from COVID-19, that God may heal them and give them peace.

For all those who mourn the loss of loved ones, that their sadness might be turned into joy.

For all those struggling with addictions.

For all victims of sex abuse worldwide especially victims within the Church.

For an end to abortion, euthanasia, infanticide, and assisted suicide in this country and throughout the world.

For peace in the world, peace in our families, and peace in our hearts.

For peace in Ukraine and Europe and an end to Russian and Chinese aggression.

For peace in Israel and throughout the Middle East.

For all those affected by natural disasters and forest fires, and for all those providing disaster relief and their families.

For our leaders, that the Holy Spirit guide them to make morally faithful decisions.

For all our political candidates and leaders, that they would protect and respect the dignity of each person, by protecting the right to life, from conception to natural death.

For our Nation as it goes through these turbulent times, and that it might not lose its way.

For our Fraternity members and their families, and for all our intentions held close to our hearts.

**Our Fraternity:**

**Profession Anniversaries:** None this month

**Fraternity Birthdays:**

Sadie Martins – December 1st

Pat McGrath – December 3rd

Sandy Reid – December 18th

Claudia Carpenter – December 19th

Nancy Gormley – December 27th

**In Memoriam:** May the souls of all our dear sisters and brothers, especially

Kathryne D. Powers – December 3, 1986

Towneley Jennens - December 6, 1989

Helen Healy – December 11, 1992

Fr. Stephen J. Hartdegen, OFM –  
December 19, 1989

Florence Ransom – December 23, 2002

Louis M. McCrehan – December 26, 1987,  
May God grant them His rest and His peace.

**Franciscan Saints, Blessed & Holy Ones**  
**(for all 3 branches of the Order)**

**December – Month of the Incarnation**

1. Bl Marie-Angele Astorch, Virgin, Capuchin religious, d. 1665
2. Bl. Raphael Chylinski, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1741
3. St. Francis Xavier, Priest, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, Martyr, 1623
4. Bl. Francois Galves, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, Martyr 1623
5. Bl. Pierre de Sienne, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1289
6. Bl. Elisabeth la Bonne, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1420
7. Bl. Louis Beltrame Quattrocchi, Confessor, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1951
8. Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Patroness of the Seraphic Order, Holy Day of Obligation, Plenary Indulgence for tertiaries and cordbearers
9. Bl. Delphine de Glandeves, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1360
10. Bl. Conrad d’Offide, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1306
11. Bl. Hugolin Magalotti, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1373
12. Discovery of the tomb of St. Francis 1820
13. Bl. Pius Bartosik, Priest, Conventual religious, Martyr 1941
14. Bl. Barthole Buonpedini, Priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1300
15. Mary Queen of the Seraphic Order
16. Bl. Honorat de Biala, Priest, Capuchin religious, d. 1916
17. Bl. Francois Bell, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, Martyr 1643
18. Bl. Marie-Francoise Schervier, Virgin, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1876

19. Bl. Jean Discalceat, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1349
20. Bl. Antoine Galvao, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1822
21. St. Raphael Kalinowski, Priest, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1907
22. St. Francis Xavier Cabrini, Virgin, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1917
23. Bl. Nicolas Factor, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1583
24. Bl. Bentivoglio de Bonio, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1231
25. Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Holy Day of Obligation
26. St. Albert Chmielowski, Confessor, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1916
27. Bl. Mathie de Nazareis, Virgin, the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1320
28. Feast of the Holy Innocents
29. Bl Gerard de Valence, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1342
30. Bl. Marguerite Colonna, Virgin, the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1280
31. St. Gaspard Buffalo, Priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1836; Plenary Indulgence (Chant the Te Deum in public)



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