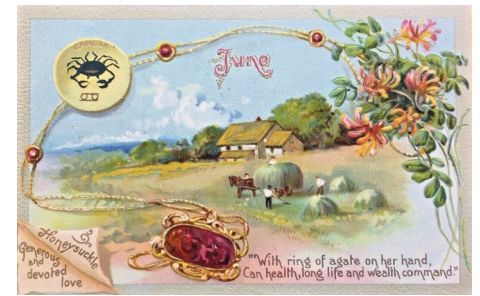




Our Lady of the Rosary
Secular Franciscan Fraternity
Williamsburg, Virginia

www.olrsfo.weebly.com



June 2023

Message from the Minister. . .

Dear Sisters and Brothers of Francis and Clare,

On April 29th I was able to attend a seminar given by Fr. Charley Miller, OFM on the Primacy of Christ. While initial formation gave us a taste of the Franciscan theology of the Incarnation, Fr. Charley provided a new depth of understanding of the differences between mainstream Catholic thought and the Franciscan intellectual tradition concerning the Incarnation.

Mainstream Catholic thought sees Christ primarily as the Redeemer whose suffering and death on the cross saves us from the effects of the sin of Adam. Continuing this thought, Christ came because Adam sinned and thus sin becomes the central reason for the Incarnation. This view of the world is sin-centered. This theology of the Incarnation is what I was taught as I grew up. I never heard of anything different. It was only after I started my Franciscan formation did I learn that Franciscans believe something different. Ilia Delio, OSF tells us that "Scotus maintains that God became human in Jesus out of love (rather than because of human sin) because God wants to express God's self in a creature who would be a masterpiece and who would love God perfectly in return. This is Scotus' doctrine of the primacy of Christ. Christ is the first in God's intention to love. Creation is not an independent act of divine love ... Rather, the divine desire to become incarnate was part of the overall plan. . . Scotus places the Incarnation within the context of creation and not within the context of human sin. Christ, therefore, is the masterpiece of love...Creation was only a prelude to a much fuller manifestation of divine goodness, namely, the Incarnation."

"Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For in him were created all things in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible...all things were created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together..." Colossians 1:15-17

As Franciscans, we need to understand that our salvation from sin is an effect of the Incarnation, not its cause. Our view of the world is not sin-centric but Christocentric. We need to look at Jesus as the center of the universe, the center of creation. The Jesuit poet Gerard Manley Hopkins wrote of Christ as the center:

...For Christ plays in ten thousand places,
Lovely in limbs, and lovely in eyes not his
To the Father through the features of men's faces.

I pray everyone enjoyed Spirit filled Pentecost and Memorial Day, and I hope to see you all on June 25th. We are late by a week because of Father's Day.

Peace and all good,

Peg

Formation for the Month of June



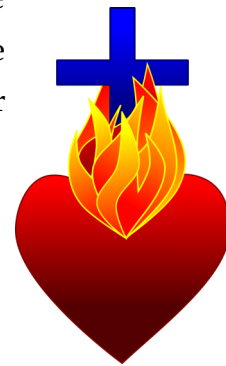
The month of June is fast approaching. During this very special month we celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi). It is also a month dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. These solemn feast days remind us to refocus our attention away from the secular world and center our being in Jesus Christ. For Francis, the Eucharist was everything. "His love of poverty gave way to this consuming love for the Eucharist." (Father Alfred J. Nimeth, O.F.M.) At our upcoming Franciscan meeting in June 25th our ongoing Formation will concentrate on our relationship with the

Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist and how that impacts our relationship with one another. In the coming weeks think of how our communion with Christ can deepen our communion with our fraternal brothers and sisters."

Remember: we are one body in this one Lord!

Peace,

Donna Kendall

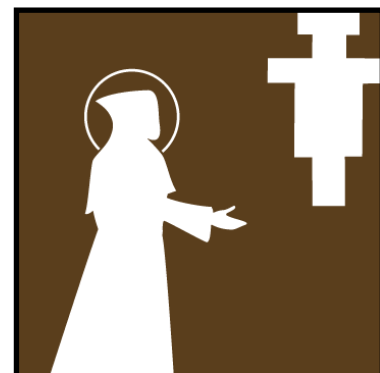


From your Formation Director:

At our JUNE meeting, please bring your first communion picture if you can find it! Whether you were 8 or 68 years old, it was a special day! We would love to share these pictures with one another.

Don't forget to connect socially with a fraternity member this month. We can't wait to hear about your visit and what you learned about each other. Some ideas to get you started:

- Pick Up The Phone And Actually Call. ...
- Text A Fraternity Member With Some Dates And A Game Plan. ...
- Stick To The Plans And Show Up. ...
- Forgive Them If They Cancel. ...
- Listen. ...
- Put In The Time...
- Go For A Walk...
- Meet For A Cup of Coffee...
- Meet For Breakfast Or Lunch...
- Attend Mass Together And Then Spend Sometime Talking After Mass...
- **The Possibilities Are Endless... Be Creative!**



The Pope's Monthly Intentions



June - For the abolition of torture

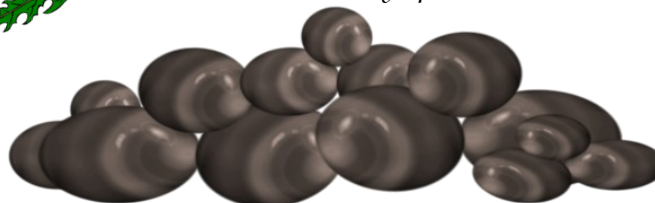


We pray that the international community may commit in a concrete way to ensuring the abolition of torture and guarantee support to victims and their families.

Praying by Mary Oliver

*It doesn't have to be
the blue iris, it could be
weeds in a vacant lot, or a few
small stones, just
pay attention, then patch*

*a few words together and don't try
to make them elaborate, this isn't
a contest but the doorway
into thanks, and a silence in which
another voice may speak.*



Upcoming Important Dates

Anniversary of Profession:

Carol Murphy June 7, 1979

Paul Reardon June 23, 2019

Next Fraternity Meeting—June 25th at 1:00pm (social gathering from 12:30-1:00)



2023 Regional Retreats



June 23, 24, 25 - Regional Formation Retreat

Come to be inspired, rejuvenated and more deeply rooted in our Franciscan vocation.

To be held at the Washington Retreat House, Washington D.C. (see the following pages of this newsletter for more information)

St. Margaret of Cortona Region—Annual Formation Retreat

The Depth and Richness of Secular Franciscan Life

June 23, 24, 25, 2023

Inspiration from the Franciscan Intellectual Tradition
*Designed for Formation Directors, Council Members, and all OFS
who wish to fully live their Franciscan vocation.*



**Come for inspiration, motivation, and illumination!
Your Christian walk will never be the same as you discover the true
meaning of our Franciscan Traditions and our way of life.**



St. Francis
of Assisi

As Franciscans, especially formators and servant leaders in our Order, it is important that we understand what St. Francis taught and meant in his teachings. Over the centuries there have been many translations and interpretations written. A few years ago, top Franciscan scholars gathered and studied the early writings of St. Francis as well as those from St. Bonaventure, Blessed Duns Scotus, and others. The aim was to clearly focus on St. Francis' meaning and intentions. This work is known as the **Franciscan Intellectual Tradition**. This retreat will bring to us our primary Franciscan virtues:

Metanoia Joy in Penance Poverty Perfect Joy Unity

What did Francis actually intend by these terms and how did he see us fulfilling these virtues? We are blessed to have our OFM Brothers available to teach us directly. **Fr. Stephen King, OFM Conv., Fr. Bart Karwacki, OFM Conv., and Br. Michael Meza, OFM Cap** are the presenters for the weekend. We will listen to our presenters, hold discussions, and take time to learn how to apply these virtues into our everyday lives, then share this experience with our fraternities! Time for confession, reflection as well as Mass will be offered.



St. Bonaventure



Blessed
Duns Scotus

WHEN: June 23, 24, 25, 2023—Begins Friday 6:00pm — Ends Sunday 1:00pm

WHERE: Washington Retreat House—4000 Harewood Rd NE, Washington, DC 20017

COST: \$275.00 — Room and meals included (\$175 deposit required)

Fraternities are encouraged to help participants with this cost if necessary. No one should miss attending the retreat due to money. If you need assistance, please contact Rita at rlcolleran10@gmail.com.

A free will offering will be collected for the presenters at the retreat.

REGISTRATION: Deadline is June 10, 2023

Register Online: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409094daaa72eaaf94-annual#/>

Cost: \$275. A \$175 nonrefundable deposit is required with online registration.

To register by mail with a check, see page 2.

DAY TRIPPER Registration: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409094daaa72eaaf94-annual1#/>



800

years ago St. Francis of Assisi showed us a way of life that help us grow closer to our Lord Jesus, give Him all glory, and live in love and peace. Through the centuries Franciscan scholars (St. Bonaventure, Duns Scotus, et.al.) studied and wrote about St. Francis' message and it became the tradition of Franciscan followers both religious and secular. In recent years Franciscan scholars have deeply studied the early writings and have developed what we call the Franciscan Intellectual Tradition. We follow it today!

"Beginning with that profound, poetic intuition of Francis, Franciscan scholars like Bonaventure at the University of Paris begin to spell out its implications: everything was made through the Word; all was created for the Word, all was created in the Word. And in Christ that Word took on flesh. . ."

—*A Franciscan Language for the 21st Century*, Bro. William Short, OFM

This retreat will bring to us primary virtues inspired by the **Franciscan Intellectual Tradition**. These virtues are foundational to our Franciscan way of life and we practice them every day.

Metanoia—internal radical change; Joy in Penance; Poverty; Perfect Joy; Unity—Fraternal life

Come to this retreat for inspiration, motivation, and illumination offered by our Brothers who live this way of life. The retreat includes presentations, discussions, and ways to meaningfully apply these virtues. In addition, we have time for confession, and Mass, as well as quiet reflection in the chapel.



Fr. Stephen King, OFM Conventual

Fr. Bart Karwacki, OFM Conventual



Br. Michael Meza, OFM Capuchin
OFS Regional Spiritual Assistant

REGISTRATION FOR THIS RETREAT: JUNE 10, 2023 DEADLINE OR WHEN FULL

Register Online: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409094daaa72eaaf94-annual#/>

Cost: \$275. A \$175 nonrefundable deposit is required with your online registration.

OR

Register by mail: Send a check for the required \$175 nonrefundable deposit.

Make your check payable to: Rita Colleran. Complete the following:

Name: _____

Fraternity: _____

Email address: _____ Phone number: _____

Mail to: Rita Colleran, 12534 Chippenham Court, Bristow, VA 20136.

Your registration will be confirmed upon receipt of your deposit.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Minister: Peg Crews peg.crews@gmail.com

Vice Minister: Carol Murphy cjmurphy@usa.com

Secretary: Eileen Murray eamurray3@gmail.com

Treasurer: Paul Reardon reardon948@gmail.com

Formation Director: Donna Kendall domenica145@gmail.com

Councilor-at-Large: Barbara Massey barbmarlin@verizon.net

Councilor-at-Large: Cindy Holland cynthia.holland@cox.net

A Gentle Reminder. . .

If work, health reasons, or significant family obligations hinder you from attending the gathering, contact our Vice Minister, Carol Murphy at cjmurphy@usa.com and let her know.



Just a Reminder of the Meeting Format Change

12:30 – doors open for a 30-minute social time. (Zoom will start about 12:55 pm)

1:00 – the meeting opens with prayer, continues with formation, the business meeting, and closes with the Liturgy of the Hours

The new format eliminates the break in the middle of the meeting. With the new format we hope to have the meeting end between 2:30 and 3:00 pm.