

St Mary of The Angels Fraternity  
Order of the Secular Franciscan  
The Angelus  
June 18, 2023

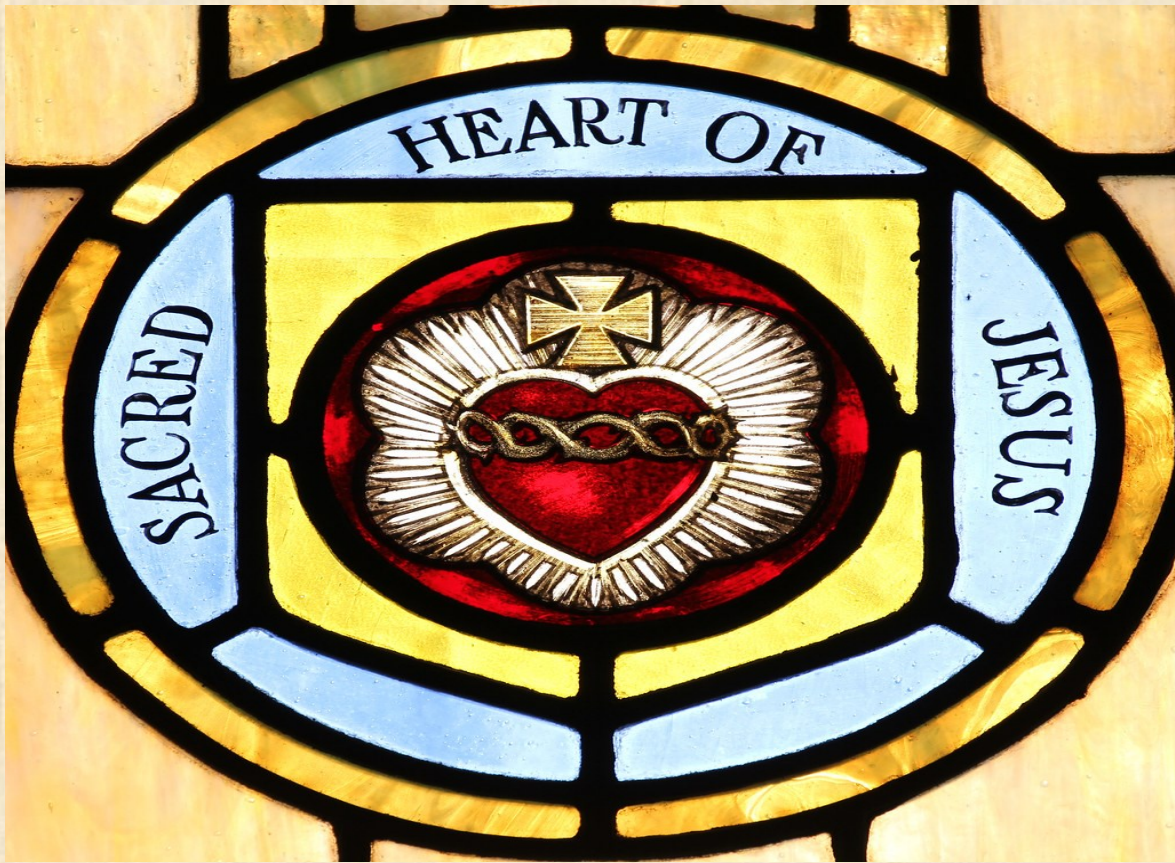


**Minister: Michael Oliver**  
**Vice-Minister: John DiBenedetto**  
**Spiritual Assistant: Michael Huether    Formation Director: Carmencita Fiesta**  
**Secretary: Susan Jamison    Treasurer: Portia Fiesta**  
**Counselors: Sonia Bernardo, Tom McGrath, Michaele Sylla**  
**The Angelus this Month: Michael Oliver and Tom McGrath**

**June - Month to commemorate the Sacred Heart of Jesus**







### June's Meeting Agenda

**Opening Prayers - Page 35 in the Ritual book**

#### Business

**Upcoming Fraternity retreat in September  
Ministry kick off updates from Ministry leads**

#### Formation

**Secular Franciscans —Who we are and what we do—Michaelle  
Building our fraternity discussion— Michael & Mark**

#### Food and Fellowship

**Liturgy of the Hours Evening Prayer**

**Closing Prayers - Page 36 in the Ritual book**



## Minister's Message

Michael Oliver

I am going to begin this month's message by again, congratulating our newly Professed Sisters—Ingrid Roberts, Delia Sylla and Aurea Roland. As in June 2021, the Professions took place during the 9:00 a.m. Mass at Our Lady of Grace. It was a truly beautiful and inspiring event that brought back joyful memories of our own Professions.

In June, the Sacred Heart of Jesus is celebrated as a Solemnity and occurs on Friday the 16th following the second Sunday after Pentecost. Pope John Paul II made devotion to the Sacred Heart an important part of his desires for a “new evangelization” called for by the Church. Here is a part of his message,

“For evangelization today, the Heart of Christ must be recognized as the heart of the Church. It is He who calls us to conversion, to reconciliation. It is He who leads pure hearts and those hungering for justice along the way of the Beatitudes. It is He who achieves the warm communion of the members of the one Body. It is He who enables us to adhere to the Good News and to accept the promise of eternal life. It is He who sends us out on mission.”

Let us follow in the footsteps of St. Francis in embracing and taking comfort in this loving Heart.





May the Lord give you peace, my Franciscan sisters and brothers!

With this article, I begin another series on the way of our Seraphic Father Francis. The reference I base this series on is, "Brother Fire, Sister Earth", The Way of Francis of Assisi for a Socially Responsible World" by Adela DiUbaldo Torchia who at the time(1993) of writing was a doctrinal student of the Department of Religious Studies with the University of Manitoba. We will specifically take a look at how the spirit of the Beatitudes molded his whole approach to God, his life, and how he related to others.

Francis was a man of the Beatitudes: they guided him in the development of his spiritual life and ultimately all of Franciscan spirituality. In light of his way of life, they impacted our own efforts at applying our spirituality with our social responsibility as Franciscans. The Beatitudes are relevant to how they fit in so well to Francis's way of life as a new "ecology" of the spiritual life: we get good for bad or much for little. In each Beatitude, Jesus celebrates a little or bad like being poor and meek or in mourning or persecuted, pointing out their potential for much or good if they are lived out with perseverance and courage. A new ecology in the sense of being invited to healthier living and better prospects for the future of our earthly resources by consuming, discarding, and learning to enjoy living with less. As Franciscans, we know that seeking and living with fewer material things also makes us more prone to the development of stronger spiritual values, which we know was Francis's approach.

### The Importance of Poverty

The Beatitudes appear in both Gospels of Matthew and Luke. The shorter version of the Beatitudes in the Gospel of Luke perhaps could have been a factor in touching off his early life of conversion: "Woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets." (Luke 6:24-26). Upon hearing this Gospel passage at mass, perhaps Francis may have been prompted to reflect upon how aptly it described his early life as a merchant's son: he certainly never went hungry and was very popular among his friends who were so only for the lavish parties he gave them. Indeed, he had a long list of woes.

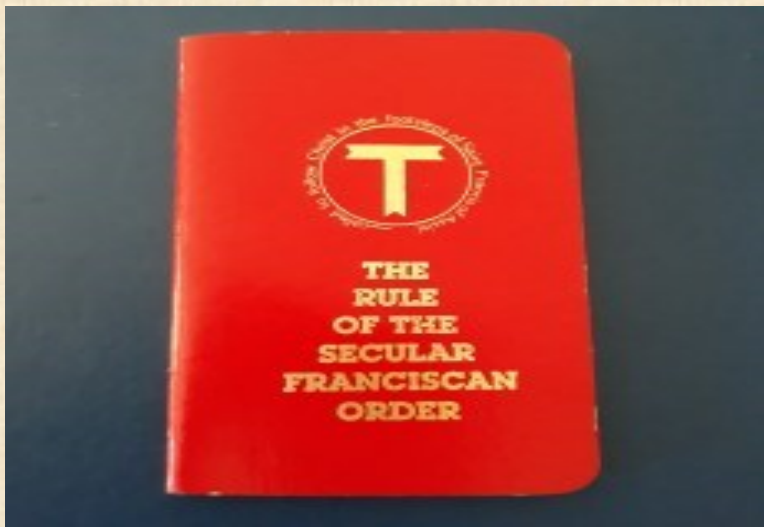
But Luke's version of the first Beatitude (Luke 6:20): "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of heaven" may have had more influence than did Matthew's (5:3) version: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven". Thus, Francis felt the need to become more materially poor in order to enhance his own spiritual life. His little or less was to undergo material poverty in preparation for a life much aligned with the kingdom of heaven.

Next month, we take a look at Francis's need to mourn"

Peace and all Good!

Mike





## **Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order**

### **Chapter 1      Article 1**

The Franciscan family, as one among many spiritual families raised up by the Holy Spirit in the Church, unites all members of the people of God — laity, religious, and priests — who recognize that they are called to follow Christ in the footsteps of St. Francis of Assisi. In various ways and forms but in life-giving union with each other, they intend to make present the charism of their common Seraphic Father in the life and mission of the Church.

***Question to ponder***— What is the mission of the Church?

***One answer***— The Catechism of the Catholic Church tells us that the mission of the Church is the same as that of Christ and the Holy Spirit. That is to call together all men for the sake of salvation. The nature of the Church is missionary.

(Ref. CCC 767)

***Note: we will be highlighting one article of the Rule each month in the Angelus***



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**  
**Susan Jamison: June 24th**

**Happy June Professions:**  
**Jaime Bernardo—June 16, 1985**  
**Sonia Bernardo—June 16, 1985**  
**John Di Benedetto—June 19, 2021**  
**Genie Dutton—June 19, 1983**  
**Dale Eppig—June 16, 1985**  
**Tap Nguyen—June 13, 2006**  
**Michael Oliver—June 19, 2021**  
**Richard Schaefer—June 17, 1985**  
**Michaelle Sylla—June 19, 2021**

**Our monthly Mass for our Living and Deceased Fraternity Members will be celebrated on June 18th, at Our Lady of Grace Church at 11 AM.**

### **Treasury Report**

<b>BEGINNING BALANCE.....</b>	<b>\$4,187.10</b>
<b>CONTRIBUTIONS.....</b>	<b>\$ 470.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES.....</b>	<b>\$ 113.62</b>
<b>ENDING BALANCE.....</b>	<b>\$4,538.16</b>

**Expenses include Spiritual Assistant stipend, office supplies and postage.**





# ***Congratulations to our newly professed Sisters!***

**Ingrid Roberts, Aurea Roland and Mary Delia Sylla**

