



Our Lady of the Rosary
Secular Franciscan Fraternity
Williamsburg, Virginia



www.olrsfo.weebly.com

Message from the Minister. . .

Sisters and Brothers in Francis and Clare,

I pray everyone enjoyed a blessed Easter celebrating the Resurrection of our Lord!

Our council decided to follow the lead of our new National Fraternity Council and determined our priority for the next year will be Relationships and the importance of Communications in fostering these relationships.

Donna is developing our fraternity formation based on these priorities. She started with the Little Flowers of St. Francis: nature and relationships. Can we read these stories about the early Franciscans and see aspects of our own spiritual journey? After all, we are the new little flowers of St. Francis. She asked us to think about and pray on our own little flower story that we can share at our next gathering.

We are a fraternity, and the strongest fraternities are found where there is a solid and committed relationship between members. We are family! We are a team! The smallest unit in the Secular Franciscan Order is the fraternity, not the individual. We need to be more open to sharing ourselves and finding ways to see God working in us both individually and in one another. Our Lady of the Rosary Fraternity covers a large geographic area. We belong to many different parishes, and some only see another Franciscan at the monthly gatherings. Donna has asked each of us to write a letter to another fraternity member this month. It could be short, it could be long, but we're being asked to connect with another during the month. It's one way of opening a path to deepening a relationship that is already in place as fraternity members and Franciscans.

May spring's warmer weather invites you outside to enjoy the beauty of nature as it opens its arms and gives all glory to the Creator God.

Peace and all good,

Peg



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.

Meeting Format Change

At the last meeting we discussed testing a change to our normal format. We are attempting to shorten the duration of our meeting. This change is in response to comments that appear in our most recent Visitation Report from Region. This is a trial run and adjustments may be made in the future.

12:30 – doors open for a 30-minute social time

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.



Happy Sixth Anniversary!

Congratulations to Eileen Murray, Donna Kendall, Peg Crews, Karen Coulson and Maria Fuentes-Sherman (not in photo) on the anniversary of their profession (April 22, 2017). The group mark the event with a celebration at the Williamsburg Winery where the members reflected and shared their Franciscan journey and what being a Franciscan means to them.

In May we celebrate the following professions:

Terry Carlino May 1, 2014

Edward Gerhard May 19, 2007

Barbara Massey May 16, 1957

2023 Regional Retreats

June 23, 24, 25 - Regional Formation Retreat

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

It will be held at the Washington Retreat House, Washington D.C.

Upcoming Important Dates and Birthdays

Birthdays

May 20—Sr. Juliana Nakhumicha

May 21—Cindy Holland

May 25—Maria Fuentes-Sherman

Next Fraternity Meeting—May 21 1:00 PM





The Pope's Monthly Intentions for 2023

Each year, the Holy Father asks for our prayers for a specific intention each month. You are invited to answer the Holy Father's request and to join with many people worldwide in praying for this intention each month. From time to time, the Holy Father may add a second prayer intention related to current events or urgent needs, like disaster relief. The second prayer request will help mobilize prayer and action related to the urgent situation.

The Holy Father has entrusted these intentions in a particular way to the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network, an organization that works to encourage Christians to respond to the Pope's appeal and to deepen their daily prayer. You can find more information about the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network on their website. (The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network will also publish any urgent prayer intentions of the Holy Father as soon as they are received from the Holy See.)

January - For educators

We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

February - For parishes

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the center, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

March - For victims of abuse

We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

April - For a culture of peace and non-violence

We pray for the spread of peace and non-violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.

May - For church movements and groups

We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

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.

July - For a Eucharistic life

We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.

August - For World Youth Day

We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives.

September - For people living on the margins

We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

October - For the Synod

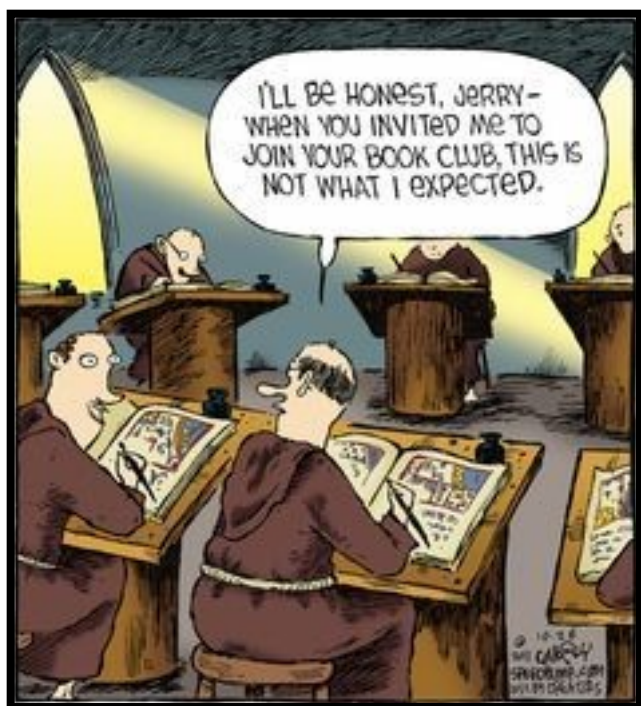
We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

November - For the Pope

We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

December - For persons with disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.



Have a Great Month of May!