



The Franciscan Sun- Herald

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

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



The Rule of the OFS:

Article 16

Let them esteem work both as a gift and as a sharing in the creation, redemption, and service of the human community.

Minister's Corner:

Brothers and Sisters in Saints Francis and Clare,

This month, we need to think about formation. God continues to send us people and we need to work with God to help them discern if they have a vocation as Franciscans. It's also important that we all understand that Formation is not an absolute promise or determination that they will become a Franciscan. It is a time to discern what God wants them to do with their lives. If that means becoming a Franciscan, Great! And, if we help them determine that there is some other calling for them, that is Great too! It is all the work of the Holy Spirit, he just lets us help him a little, now and then.

This is another aspect of work, which God gives to us do. It is an honor to help God in creation. What we cannot do is to do nothing about formation, or we will lose people that the Holy Spirit has sent to us for some reason, to become a Franciscan or something else. Only God knows why they have been sent to us. We must also understand that before and during formation, the evil one will try to interfere with God's plan. That's what he does. So, he will try to create doubt, and feelings of unworthiness and anything else that he can, to prevent them from becoming what God wants for them.

Formation is a time of challenges for all of us and for those aspirants in our midst. Please consider how each of you can assist with formation, it needs to involve the entire fraternity and not just the "team," or rather, we are all the "team." Have a blessed Labor Day!

God Bless you and your families.

Pax et Bonum.
Tom White, OFS

September 2023:
Article Sixteen of the Rule of Life

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Article Sixteen of the Rule of Life Franciscan views on work. Work is an expression of who we are and what we want to become. It is also an expression of what we value. We all think that we choose our own profession, but I believe that God kind of dictates that for us in a number of ways. First, no two of us are the same. God created each of us for a specific purpose and he gives us each a share in creation with him. That's what work is, an act of sharing creation with God.

Moreover, work is also an opportunity to interact with other people in our communities and show them who we are, what we believe, and what we value. In this way we can reshape the values of our co-workers and communities and influence how workers are treated, so that they receive a living wage along with equality and the proper uses of talents and resources. So, while many of us may look upon work as a drudgery, it is really a way to participate in creation of a world the way that God envisioned it. For some reason, the Canticle of the Creatures comes to mind!! So, look at work as an opportunity and not drudgery. God created us all for a reason and we must all do our part! Have a great Labor Day!!

May God bless you and give you his peace.

Pax et Bonum,
Tom White, OFS

Fraternity Focus:

September Program:

8:30 Morning Mass

9:15 Social Period

9:30 Opening prayer and Liturgy of the Hours

10:00 Ongoing Formation – Discussion on Chapter 21 of “St. Francis of Assisi: A Biography,” by Scott Graham

11:30 Current and Future activities and events coordination and support

Primary Gathering Topics:

- Vocations
- Franciscan Spirituality

Future Events:

Christ House Apostolate:

Our next Apostolate to Christ House this year will be on October 21st, from 3:00 to 5:30 pm. More information will be provided at the September Gathering. Future events of this type will occur in November. 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

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 for more information.

Pro-Life Information and Events:

Please contact our Pro-Life Counselor, Geneva Park at jim.geneva@cox.com for more information.

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, Danielle Matava's recovery, the birth of Mackenzie Katherine Jenkins, 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 Wilson, Kathleen, Barbara, Connor, Tejas, Carlos, Craig, Tom, Chris, Andy, Michael, Mark, Magdalena, and Janice. 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 the Corona Virus, 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 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: Congratulations this month to:

Comfort Lartey - September 16, 2017

Fraternity Birthdays:

John Dina - September 7th

Annie Marie Pierce - September 9th

Rita Evans - September 27th

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

Ella Newell - September 4, 1973

Doris Mason - September 9, 2007

Martha Hall - September 9, 2008

Mary Bartos - September 19, 1990
Suzanne Keenam - September 24, 1992
May God grant them His rest and His peace.

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

September – Month of the Holy Cross

1. Bl Joachim de Albocacer, Priest, Capuchin religious, martyr 1936
2. Bl. Martyrs de Carmes, d. 1792
3. St. Pius X, Pope, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1914
4. St. Rose of Viterbo, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1252 Plenary Indulgence for cordbearers
5. Bl. Gentil de Matelica, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, martyr 1340
6. Bl Liberat de Laure, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1258
7. Bl. Eugenie Picco, Virgin, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1921
8. Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
9. Bl. Seraphique Sforza, Virgin, of the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1478
10. Bl. Martyrs of Japan, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order and Franciscan Third Order Seculars, d. 1622-1632
11. Bl. Bonaventure de Barcelone, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1684
12. Feast of the Name of Holy Mary
13. Bl. Apollinaire Franco, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, martyr 1622
14. Exaltation of the Holy Cross
15. Feast of Our Lady of the Seven Sorrows
16. Bl. Roland de Medicis, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1386
17. Feast of the Stigmatization of St. Francis of Assisi
18. St. Joseph de Cupertino, Priest, Conventual, d. 1664

19. Bl. Louis Alleman, Bishop, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1450
20. St. Francois-Marie de Camposso, lay brother, Capuchin religious, d. 1866
21. Bl. Elizabeth Amerina, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1498
22. Bl. Ignace de Santhia, Priest, Capuchin religious, d. 1773
23. St. Pio of Peitrelcina, Priest, Capuchin religious, d. 1968
24. St. Pacifique de San Severino, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1721
25. St. Nicholas de Flue, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1487
26. Bl. Lucie de Catalagirone, Virgin, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1400
27. St. Elzear de Sabran, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1323
28. Bl Bernadin de Feltre, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1494
29. Feast of Saint Michael the Archangel
30. Bl. Charles de Blois, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1364



St John the Beloved Apostle Fraternity
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