

# The Clarion



## St. Clare Fraternity August 2023

### Council Members

**Minister:** Tom Carter 302-945-9392  
**Vice Minister:** Marty Rendon 302-227-8163  
**Secretary:** Kate Meire 302-698-0443  
**Treasurer:** Andrea Lipchak 302-644-4434  
**Formation Director:** Nela Wintgen 302-727-2919  
**Councilor-Infirmarian:** Judy Bennett 302-260-9300  
**Councilor-Newsletter:** Elena Spitzer 301-471-7487

### Next Gathering Date

**Thursday, August 10, 2023**

#### Agenda

**10am** – Prospective members and Candidates meet with instructors.  
**11am** – Mass (in the church)  
**12pm** – Lunch (bring your own food & drink)  
**1pm** – Business matters, On-going formation by Fr. Rigo, Evening Prayer

**Currently and through September our gatherings will be at:**

**St. Jude's  
152 Tulip Dr.  
Lewes, DE 19958**

**\* August – after mass we meet in the Parish Life Ctr attached to the church.**

### EVENING PRAYER

St. Clare of Assisi

Evening Prayer I  
(Copies will be distributed.)

Presider: Patty Derrick  
Antiphonarian: Pat DuBois  
Reader: Andrea Lipchak

### Minister's Message

Brothers and Sisters of penance,

August: the month in which we commemorate the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

We sin because we love something, for a moment, more than we love God. This month we ask for Mary's intercession for a pure heart. Just as Mary was a tabernacle, sacred and pure, for Our Lord Jesus Christ, we are called to be temples of the Holy Spirit.

Let us pray the prayer of St. Francis to Mary.

In the love of St. Francis and St. Clare,  
*Tom*

### The Salutation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Hail, holy Lady, most holy Queen, Mary, Mother of God, you are forever Virgin, chosen by the most holy Father in heaven, whom he consecrated with his most holy beloved Son and Paraclete Spirit!

You in whom was and is all plenitude of grace and all good! Hail, his palace! Hail, his tabernacle! Hail, his dwelling! Hail, his vesture! Hail, his handmaid! Hail, his Mother – and all you holy Virtues that by the grace and light of the Holy Spirit are infused into the hearts of the faithful, that from faithless souls you may make souls faithful to God!



**Remember to bring your brown Ritual book**



We have paid our 2023 Fair Share of \$1540.00 to the regional fraternity!

**Thank you...**

for continuing to support the Common Fund.

If you are ever unable to attend the gathering, send your donation check, payable to St. Clare Fraternity, to our treasurer:

**Andrea Lipchak, OFS**  
**41 Tiffany Drive**  
**Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971**



**Please bring non-perishable food items to donate to the food bank St. Edmond's parish supports**

*Remember your prayer partner in your daily prayers.*



**You're encouraged to contact one or more of our brothers and sisters below who have asked for our prayer.**

**Let's express our concern and support!**

**Please continue to pray for all our fraternal sisters and brothers and for the special intentions of:**

- Janice and Dick McCarthy, ofs
- Lucy Deiaco, ofs
- Linda Sciallo, ofs
- Frank Rega, ofs
- Bonnie Cote, ofs
- Nicole Meringolo, ofs
- Rhona Prescott, ofs
- Joe O'Neill, ofs
- Pat DuBois, ofs
- Mimi Farrell, ofs
- Marty Rendon, ofs
- Carolyn Protin, ofs
- Bev & Ron Stoner, ofs
- Kathleen Murphy, ofs
- Patty Derrick, ofs
- Judy Bennett, ofs



**We pray for our deceased relatives and friends and especially:**

- John Zell, ofs
- Mary Lou Zell, ofs
- Deacon Buddy Bianco, ofs
- Deacon Bob Leonzio
- Barbara Petrisko, ofs
- Bill Farrell, ofs
- Bill Walker, ofs
- Dee Matthews, ofs
- Laraine Hoffman, ofs
- Florence Bianco, ofs
- Celine Mallonee, ofs
- Alicia Bourne, ofs
- Ron Holland, ofs
- Fr. Ronald Pecci, ofm



## August BIRTHDAYS

Frank Rega – 14<sup>th</sup>

## August PROFESSIONS

No anniversaries



We're having our raffle this month.  
**We need quality items!**  
Please bring what you can.

**Why do we do this?** To raise funds for our monthly support of the following organizations.  
The Shepherd's Office in Georgetown, DE  
Franciscan Missions

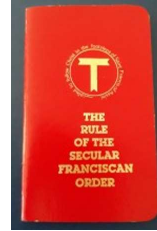


## Our OFS Library

The library is open for our August gathering. Be sure to contact Nela by **Wednesday, August 9<sup>th</sup>** if you want her to bring you something.  
Nelaad2239@hotmail.com  
302-727-2919

## A Gentle Reminder...

If work, health reasons or significant family obligations hinder you from attending the gathering contact our Vice Minister, Marty Rendon and let him know.  
302-227-8163



## The Rule - What we have promised

### Chapter 1

### The Secular Franciscan Order (OFS)

2. The Secular Franciscan Order holds a special place in this family circle. It is an organic union of all Catholic fraternities scattered throughout the world and open to every group of the faithful. In these fraternities the brothers and sisters, led by the Spirit, strive for perfect charity in their own secular state. By their profession they pledge themselves to live the gospel in the manner of St. Francis by means of this rule approved by the Church

### Reflection-

“How graced each Secular Franciscan is to have been called to this way of life, to this particular charism, to a local fraternity that is bonded with all other fraternities throughout the world, to live a Rule by profession that has the approval and blessing of Holy Mother Church! Beyond the Secular Franciscan Order, members are joined in this life with the other branches of the Franciscan family, The First Order friars, the Second Order Poor Clares, and the sisters and friars of the Third Order Regular. According to Canon Law, the Secular Franciscan Order is a public association in the Church (GC 1,5) whose secular state characterizes their spirituality and apostolic life (GC 3.1). We are a large family, consisting of hundreds of thousands of followers of St. Francis. Profession is an enormous event in the life of the fraternity as well as in our own lives. Special graces are realized when we, in humility, accept the Rule of St. Francis as our way of life. We are united as brothers and sisters, led by the Holy Spirit, all striving for perfect charity. What a great gift of God this is.”

*Fred Schaeffer, OFS  
Divine Mercy Fraternity  
Vero Beach, FL*

## Future Fraternity Gatherings

***Please make note!***

### 2023

August 10 (St. Jude's, Lewes)  
September 14 (St. Jude's, Lewes)  
October 12  
November 9  
December 14

### 2024

January 11  
February 8  
March 14



## Community Directory

Work is continuing on the directory. I only need to get a few more profiles from members. However, many pictures are still needed. Unfortunately, I won't be with you in August. At the September gathering I will be snapping pictures!!! If you are able, please email an **up close** photo of yourself to me at [elenacspitzer@gmail.com](mailto:elenacspitzer@gmail.com) If need be, ask a family member, friend or neighbor to assist you. **OR, CONTACT ME !!!**



## Looking Ahead...

### International Food Festival

Do you have a special family recipe? Maybe a dish that represents your heritage? Bring it to our "picnic" in **September!** Nela will have a sign-up sheet at our next gathering.

### The Transitus of St. Francis

St. Edmond Church  
October 3<sup>rd</sup>  
3:00pm  
Reception afterwards

### The Feast of St. Francis

Mass celebrated for our fraternity  
St. Edmond Church  
October 4<sup>th</sup>  
8:30am



## Laughing With St. Sarah

(Patron saint of laughter)



## Saint of the Month

Offered by our formation director, Nela Wintjen

### **St. Peter of Alcantara Franciscan Friar of the Stricter Observance (1499-1562)**

St. Peter, who was born in Alcantara, a small town in Spain, studied at the great university of Salamanca, and entered the Franciscans at the age of sixteen. From the start, Peter adopted a habit of extreme austerity. He trained himself to sleep no more than two hours a night; he wore no sandals on his feet; he would eat no flesh and drink no wine. Eventually he won permission to found a group of Franciscans along these lines. It was said that their cells – only seven feet long – resembled more graves than rooms. Nevertheless, he found many willing followers.

In the course of extensive preaching tours, he came to know St. Teresa of Avila and became her spiritual advisor. At that time, she was seeking courage to undertake her reform of the Carmelite Order and she later testified on behalf of his canonization that it was Peter, more than anyone, who had encouraged her mission. “When I came to know him he was very old, and his body so shriveled and weak that it seemed to be composed as it were of the roots and dried bark of a tree rather than flesh,” she wrote. She also claimed, after his death in 1562, to receive visions of Peter, so that “Our Lord has been pleased to let me enjoy more of him than I did when he was alive.”

One time a brother was complaining to Peter about the wickedness of the world, and the saint replied, “The remedy is simple. You and I must first be what we ought to be; then we shall have cured what concerns ourselves. Let each one do the same, and all will be well. The trouble is that we all talk of reforming others without ever reforming ourselves.”

St. Peter died on October 18, 1562. He was canonized in 1669.

“I rejoiced at the things that were said to me: We shall go into the house of the Lord.”  
Final words of St. Peter of Alcantara

***The Franciscan Saints - By Robert Ellsberg***

## The Deepest Identity of the Secular Franciscan

*Lester Bach, OFM Cap.  
The Franciscan Journey*

The deepest identity of a Secular Franciscan  
is based on their relationship with Jesus Christ,  
God's gift to the People of God.

We believe that the Church has the mission to bring the spirit  
of generosity, forgiveness, reconciliation,  
and celebration to all people.

Franciscans are dedicated to do whatever is needed not only  
to proclaim the gospel message by words,  
but also to make it evident in their lives.

Whether they speak the word or live the word,  
they bring the message to the Church and the world.

They go from the Gospel to life and life to the Gospel.  
It is never just talk.  
It becomes a life of love as Jesus' life was one of love,  
even to death on the cross.

Secular Franciscans, through life itself,  
share love with all people and all of creation.

They gently call people to love through the example  
of their personal lives as well as their community life in fraternity.