



The Franciscan Sun- Herald

St. John the Beloved Apostle Fraternity
Third Order of Saint Francis - Secular
February 2024

Gathering Place:
Basilica of St. Mary, Catholic Church & Lyceum
313 Duke Street
Alexandria, VA
Gathering Date: February 10, 2024, at the Lyceum.



The Rule of the OFS:

Article 21

On various levels, each fraternity is animated and guided by a council and minister (or president) who are elected by the professed according to the constitutions.

Their service, which lasts for a definite period, is marked by a ready and willing spirit and is a duty of responsibility to each member and to the community.

Within themselves the fraternities are structured in different ways according to the norm of the constitutions, according to the various needs of their members and their regions, and under the guidance of their respective council.

so please consider how you can serve the fraternity. Each of you will be contacted by Marcia and/or Sadie, who are developing our election slate. Any member of the Fraternity can nominate any member of the Fraternity, including themselves for any council position. So, please contact Marcia and Sadie if you feel the Holy Spirit calling you to act as a servant leader.

We also have two retreats this month, so please consider attending these as well. I hope to see all of you at our next gathering.

May God Bless you and your families.

Pax et Bonum.
Tom White, OFS

February 2023:
Article Twenty-One of the Rule of Life

Article Twenty-One of the Rule of Life expands on our understanding of Article 20 of the Rule. Each fraternity has its own character, which is influenced by the fraternity members and their needs. This article also shows the importance of members who are willing to become servant leaders and the importance of choosing the right people for each position.

Minister's Corner:

Brothers and Sisters in Saint Francis and Saint Clare,

This month we start with a new book of formation, "Clothed with Gladness" which will allow us to study Saint Clare. We are also getting ready for our elections in April,

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When we talk about the willingness of people to become servant leaders, we are talking about whether the members are willing to accept the prompting of the Holy Spirit. God had endowed each of us with abilities that are needed at one time or another and no two people have the same abilities. God created us that way so that we could work together and remain humble, dependent on each other's abilities to accomplish things. God shows us our strengths and weaknesses through our interactions with others so that we know our own capabilities. God also show us that we can rely on Him to provide for those areas where we are weak so that the fraternity can be made strong. It is this diversity of abilities and talents that makes us stronger. Everyone has something to offer.

This is an appropriate discussion this month as we prepare for our elections in April. Marcia and Sadie are developing our slate for those elections, so please reflect on what the Spirit is calling you to do and let Marcia and Sadie know how you can serve our fraternity.

May God bless you and give you his peace.

Pax et Bonum,
Tom White, OFS

Fraternity Focus:

February Program:

8:30 Morning Mass

9:15 Social Period

9:30 Opening prayer and Liturgy of the Hours

10:00 Ongoing Formation – Chapter One of our new book, “*Clothed with Gladness*” by Sister Mary St. Paul.

11:00 Current and Future activities and events coordination and support

11:30 Franciscan Crown Rosary

Primary Gathering Topics:

- Franciscan Spirituality

Future Events:

Lenton Day of Reflection:

The Region will have a Lenton Day of Reflection by Fr. Russell Murray on February 3, 2024, from 9:30-3:00 at the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land, 1400 Qunicy Street NE, Washington, DC. The cost to attend is \$30 and includes lunch. Please copy and paste this link into your browser to access the sign-up genius: <https://www.signupgenius.com/.go/409094DAAA72EAAF94-45677791-christ/>

Day of reflection for Candidates and Inquirers: The Region will have a Day of Reflection for Candidates and Inquirers facilitated by Fr. Stephen King on February 24, 2024, from 9:30-3:00 at the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land, 1400 Qunicy Street NE, Washington, DC. The cost to attend is \$30 and includes lunch. Please copy and paste this link into your browser to access the sign-up genius: <https://www.signupgenius.com/.go/409094DAAA72EAAF94-45678687-dayofreflection/>

Christ House Apostolate:

Our next Apostolate to Christ House will be in March 2024. More information will be provided at the February 2024 Gathering. 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](mailto:edrrapeau3@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.

Pro-Life Rosary:

There is a Pro-Life gathering of people to testify to life every Saturday morning from 8:00 -12:00 outside the new abortion Clinic location at 2616 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria, VA. They pray the Rosary at 10:00. Please come and support this worthy cause, even if only for a few minutes. Every minute counts. The Knights of Columbus provide coffee and donuts.

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; 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, 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, Kathleen, Barbara, Connor, Tejas, Carlos, Craig, Tom, Chris, Andy, Michael, Mark, Magdalena, Janice, Darcie, and Felix. 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; Joe Messina; 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 COVID-19, 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 peace in Israel and throughout the Middle East.

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:

None for February, but every profession is special!

Fraternity Birthdays:

Scott Graham – February 2nd

In Memoriam: May the souls of all our dear

sisters and brothers, especially

Mary Fones – February 3, 1986

“Petie” Sullivan - February 6, 1989

Suzel de Cambefort – February 11, 1992

Madeleine M. McPherson – February 19, 1989

Dorothy Fannon – February 23, 2002

Fr. John Piccione, OFM – February 26, 1987

Genevieve Strosser – February 24, 2009,

May God grant them His rest and His peace.

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

February-Month of the Holy Family

1. Bl. Patrick O’Loughran, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, martyr d. 1612
2. Feast of the Presentation of the Lord
3. Martyrs of Japan, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, lay brothers and Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1597
4. St. Joseph de Leonisse, Priest, Capuchin religious, d. 1612
5. St. Jeanne de Valois, Virgin, the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1505
6. Bl. Pius IX, Pope, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d.1878
7. St. Egide-Marie de St. Joseph, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order d. 1812
8. Bl. Antonie de Stroncone, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1461
9. Bl. Claire de Rimini, Virgin, of the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1346
10. Bl. Alojzije Stepinac, Bishop, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1960
11. Apparition of Our Lady of Lourdes, 1858
12. Bl. Andre Ferrari, Bishop, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1921
13. St. Eustochie de Messine, Virgin, of the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1485
14. Ash Wednesday, and Bl. Philipa Mauri, Virgin, of the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1263
15. Translation of the relics of St. Anthony
16. Bl. Veridiane, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1242
17. Bl. Luc Belludi, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1286
18. St. Bernadette Soubirous, Virgin, cordbearer, d. 1879 Plenary Indulgence possible for the Cordbearers only

19. St. Conrad de Plaisance, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1351
20. Bl. Pierre de Treja, Priest religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1304
21. St. Margaret of Cortona, penitent, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1297, Plenary Indulgence possible (renewal of engagements of the Franciscan Third Order Secular)
22. Feast of the Chair of St. Peter
23. Bl. Isabelle of France, Virgin of the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1270
24. Bl. Innocent XI, Pope, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1689
25. Bl. Sebastien d'Apparicio, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1600
26. Bl. Antoinette de Florence, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1533
27. Bl. Louise Albertoni, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1533
28. Bl. Jeremie de Valachie, lay brother, Capuchin religious, d. 1625



St John the Beloved Apostle Fraternity
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