



OF SPECIAL  
INTEREST:

- **Monthly Contemplative Prayer & Franciscan Spirituality Zoom Discussion**  
Page 2
- **Kelly's Profession**  
January 26 @ 7:00 PM  
Page 3
- **Prayer for the New Year**  
Page 4
- **Tau Christmas Gathering**  
Page 6-7
- **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**  
Page 12

INSIDE THIS  
ISSUE:

Gathering Recap	5
Apostolates & Apostolate News	8-10
Committees	11-12
Prayer Intentions	13
Reflections	14-16
Calendar & Events	17
Next Gathering	18

<https://tauofs.org/>

## Minister's Message

Brothers and Sisters,

Peace and good!

As we stand on the threshold of 2024, our thoughts naturally turn to fresh beginnings. Reflecting personally, I find myself contemplating the desire to reset, shedding the weight of past baggage. It's perplexing to realize that lingering challenges, long resolved or irrelevant, still persist in my life. This upcoming year, I resolve to break free from this cycle. Yet, I wonder, why does the declaration of renewal often falter in its translation to action?

Brother Gil Donahue has provided me with a new perspective on this struggle. During Sister Gail's Franciscan Wake Service, he introduced me to the Japanese art of Kintsugi (金継ぎ). This artistic technique involves repairing broken pottery with lacquer mixed with precious metals like gold, silver, or platinum. It's a process known as "golden joinery" or kintsukuroi (金繕い). Another interpretation of Kintsugi is the act of binding wounds or filling vulnerabilities with gold.

Conversations with my mom have further enriched my understanding, emphasizing that the past cannot be erased. Instead, transgressions and pain must be acknowledged and honored — a sentiment perfectly encapsulated by the philosophy of Kintsugi. This approach views breakage and repair not as flaws to be hidden but as integral parts of an object's history.

In embracing this context, I acknowledge my own brokenness. This acknowledgment isn't an excuse to perpetuate flaws, but a commitment to truthfulness. As Jesus tells us, the truth is also the way and the life, and this openness will influence my approach to 2024. It's an acceptance of imperfections, not as hindrances, but as threads in the rich tapestry of my journey toward self-improvement.

Josh



## Organization

Tau Fraternity  
c/o St. Joseph Catholic Church  
750 Peachtree St.  
Herndon, VA 20170

Meetings every 1st Sunday  
of the month at:  
St. Joseph Catholic Church  
750 Peachtree St., Room 205

PACE  
&&&  
BENE

The Tau Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order was canonically established on June 21, 1992. The Fraternity is affiliated with the Third Order Regular of St. Francis, Province of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. Tau Fraternity is in the St. Margaret of Cortona Region of the Secular Franciscan Order.

The Tau Fraternity Council currently includes the following officers:

- Minister — Josh Goldberg, OFS
- Vice Minister — Liz Wellborn, OFS
- Formation Director — Bill Richey, OFS
- Secretary — Barbara Slivers, OFS
- Treasurer — Joe Boyle, OFS
- Councilor — Kimberley Heatherington, OFS



<https://tauofs.org>

## Monthly Tau Contemplative Prayer & Franciscan Spirituality Zoom Discussion led by Gil Donahue, OFS



Join your fellow Franciscans in a lively, hour-long discussion of contemplative prayer and Franciscan spirituality each month, led by Brother Gil!

The next meeting will be on Monday, January 15 at 7:00 PM.

E-mail Gil to receive a Zoom link:

[baitang@gmail.com](mailto:baitang@gmail.com)

Buy this sticker at: [www.redbubble.com/i/sticker/St-Francis-of-Assisi-Contemplation-and-Meditation-by-stickercircle/144775557.EJUG5](http://www.redbubble.com/i/sticker/St-Francis-of-Assisi-Contemplation-and-Meditation-by-stickercircle/144775557.EJUG5)



*Kelly Passero*

*will make her profession  
in the  
Secular Franciscan Order  
as a member of the Tau Fraternity*



*You are invited to attend the Celebration of the Eucharist  
and Rite of Profession Ceremony*

*Friday, January 26, 2024  
7:00 p.m.*

*Reception to follow*

*St. Joseph Catholic Church  
750 Peachtree Street – Herndon, Virginia 20170*

*Please RSVP to: [cfilankim@yahoo.com](mailto:cfilankim@yahoo.com)*



*Blessed are those who endure in peace for by You, Most High, shall they be crowned.  
— St. Francis of Assisi*



# NEW YEAR PRAYER

*Lord, You make all things new.  
You bring hope alive in our hearts  
and cause our spirits to be  
born again.*

*Thank you for this New Year  
- for all the potential it holds.  
Come and kindle in us a mighty  
flame, so that in our time, many  
will see the wonders of God and  
live forever to praise Your  
glorious name.*

*Amen*



# RECAP OF DECEMBER 2 GATHERING

## ONGOING FORMATION

Bill Richey began ongoing formation noting that as Jesus asks us to stay vigilant in Advent; we are to remain alert to peacemaking opportunities during this especially tense time.

It helps us to remember that, as Victor Frankl observed, "between stimulus and response there is a space." It also helps us to consider the massive divide that Saint Francis bridged in his encounter with the Sultan.

With respect to the 800th anniversary of the live nativity scene in Greccio, the Conference of the Franciscan Family (CFF) publication states that Francis "wanted to contemplate the realness of the Incarnation; namely, the simplicity, poverty and humility of the Son of God," and "we are invited to think about...whether we have a place in our hearts for those with whom Jesus wanted to be identified."

The section on Greccio ended with these thoughts from Gil Donahue's September presentation: "Embracing Jesus in the Incarnation should enliven our evangelical mission. Just as Jesus was fully present to those he met...so we should strive to be fully present to all we meet."

The reading for January 7, "Celebrating the Gift of the Stigmata 1224-2024," was handed out. Members are requested to consider the objectives/activities "Our being in Christ" and "Our being brothers and sisters." (The CFF publication will also be sent out by scan.)

*Since December was the Christmas party, there was no presentation.*



# TAU CHRISTMAS PARTY PICS!

At this year's Annual Christmas Gathering, Tau was joined by several guests from the First Baptist Church of Herndon, our partners in the ESL class apostolate. There was music from a trio that included Gary White — husband of Sally White, OFS — on drums; reflections for Advent and Greccio; a spirited game of trivia — and of course, lots of great food and drink! Thanks to Joe Boyle, OFS and Vera Stewart, OFS for their pictures.





# TAU CHRISTMAS PARTY PICS!



# APOSTOLATES

## MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY HOSPICE

Thanks to our Brothers and Sisters who support the apostolate at the Missionaries of Charity Gift of Peace House.

The next food delivery will be on Saturday, February 10.

If you would like to help or have questions, please contact Veronica O'Donnell, OFS or Joe Boyle, OFS.

## POOR CLARES OF NEW JERSEY

Tau Fraternity supports the Monastery of St. Clare in Chesterfield, NJ, with a biannual monetary donation. The monastery is home to Sister Karen Stapleton, OSC, who began her Franciscan journey with Tau Fraternity. The main work of the Poor Clares of NJ is to provide Altar Bread to parishes in the diocese of Trenton.

For more information, or to submit a prayer intention to the Poor Clares, see [The Poor Clares of New Jersey — Joyfully Embracing the Gospel Way of Life .\(poorclaresnewjersey.com\)](http://www.poorclaresnewjersey.com)

Watch their YouTube video [A Quiet Joy: New Jersey's Monastery of Saint Clare](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

## ECUMENICAL APOSTOLATE

Tau Fraternity partners with the First Baptist Church of Herndon to provide English lessons to students. Tau members volunteer time and talent to teach at Introductory, Intermediate, and Advanced levels. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Sally White, OFS.

Many thanks!

## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Help to feed the hungry. Joe Boyle, OFS, volunteered to shop and deliver food to the St. Vincent de Paul Society chapter at St. Timothy Catholic Church. Food donations may be dropped off prior to the Tau Gathering in the stairwell on the right at St. Joseph School. You can also provide a monetary donation to Joe, who is Tau Treasurer. Thank you!

For more information, see

<https://sttimothyparish.org/outreach-and-ministries/st-vincent-de-paul/>

## FRANCISCAN MISSION SERVICE

Tau Fraternity provides a biannual monetary donation to Franciscan Mission Service. The organization prepares and supports lay Catholics for mission service opportunities around the globe.

For more information, see [Home | Franciscan Mission](#)

## PRAYER SHAWL APOSTOLATE

Tau Fraternity provides handmade prayer shawls to individuals in the Diocese of Arlington. Currently, shawls are being provided to pregnant women participating in the Gabriel Project. For more information, please contact Sharon Goldberg, OFS.



**James 2:17**



# APOSTOLATE NEWS

## ECUMENICAL APOSTOLATE — ESL CLASSES

Sally White, OFS, reports that the students and teachers of the English (ESL) classes at First Baptist Church of Herndon celebrated with a Christmas party on December 19, 2023. Students and volunteers from First Baptist and Tau Fraternity brought food for the festivities.

To end the Fall semester, eighteen students from the Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced Classes received completion certificates.

The Spring semester will begin January 23, 2024, with registration on January 16 and 17.

Tau volunteers are needed as teachers' assistants, and to help on January 16 and/or 17 with registration.

Volunteers are needed at St. Joseph Catholic Church to help pass out flyers after the 1:00 pm Spanish Mass on Sunday, January 14. Contact Sally White, OFS, if you can volunteer.



# APOSTOLATE NEWS

## PRAYER SHAWL APOSTOLATE

Sharon Goldberg, OFS, reports the Prayer Shawl Apostolate recently met an amazing deadline!

Around November 18, Sharon was advised that on November 29, there would be a baby shower for 10 women serviced by the Gabriel Project. She gathered her team — and on November 27, they were able to deliver 10 prayer shawls, accompanied by a Franciscan Crown Rosary and gift card.

Sharon then learned that 14 women actually showed up for the shower — so Kelly Passero, Candidate, worked with Lisa Jaeger, OFS, to get the extra shawl packages completed by the following weekend. The deadline was very tight — but as Sharon (pictured below with Gabriel Project Director Sarah LaPierre) reflected, “I did not want to miss the chance to make an impression.”





# TAU COMMITTEES

If you are interested in participating actively in a Tau Committee, take a moment to chat with the chair:

Cultural Diversity Committee — Sally White, OFS

Hospitality Committee — Cyndy Filan-Kim, OFS

Interfaith/Ecumenical Committee — Kimberley Heatherington, OFS

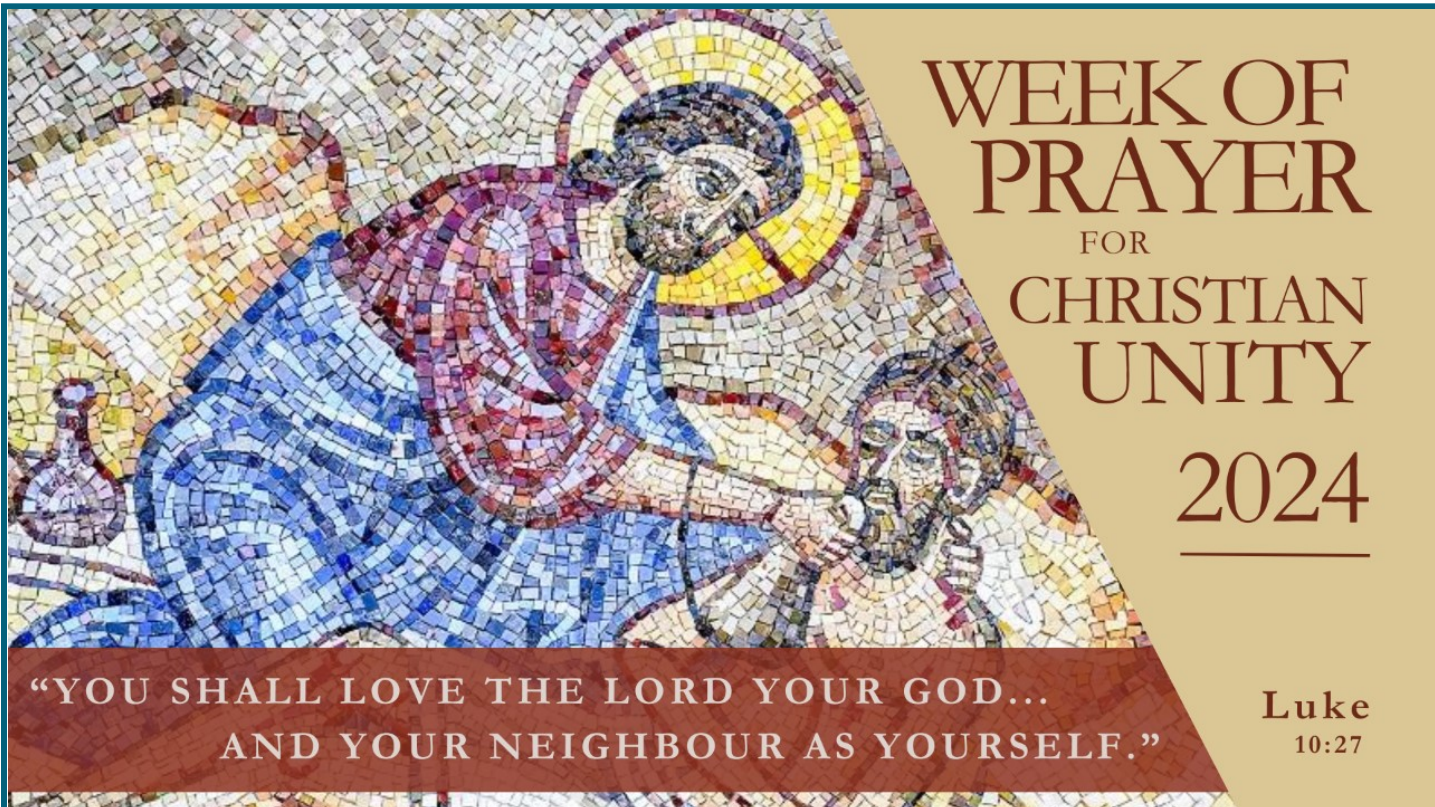
Infirmarian Committee — Sharon Goldberg, OFS

Recruitment Committee — Vacant

Technology Committee — John Ata, OFS



# INTERFAITH & ECUMENICAL COMMITTEE



## WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY— JANUARY 18-25, 2024

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is an ecumenical Christian observance in the Christian calendar that is celebrated internationally. This year's theme for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity comes through the combined efforts of the Vatican's Pontifical Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity, the World Council of Churches, and the Christian churches of Burkina Faso.

Luke 10:25-37 tells the story of how Jesus is asked by a lawyer, "What must I do to inherit everlasting life?" and Jesus responds, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" The lawyer responds, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." Then Jesus says to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live." But then in order to justify himself, the lawyer says, "And who is my neighbor?" which leads Jesus to tell the parable of the Good Samaritan.

**SEE DAILY PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY HERE:**

[www.atonementfriars.org/2024-week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity](http://www.atonementfriars.org/2024-week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity)



# PRAYER INTENTIONS

HEAR US, LORD!

*Please keep the following intentions in your prayers:*

For the physical and spiritual healing of Sylvia Capurso; Cynthia Filan-Kim's sister; Sally White and her husband Gary; Richard and Carole Clarke and their grandsons Liam and Rory; and Helen Broxmeyer and her daughter Susan.

For peace in the Middle East.

For the patients and Sisters at the Missionaries of Charity Gift of Peace House. For the people affected by Coronavirus and their caregivers. For the Mother of Mercy Free Medical Clinic and its patients. For all peoples who suffer persecution. For the country of Myanmar and its citizens. For the victims of natural disasters. For refugees and migrant workers. For Russians opposing the war in Ukraine. For Bishop Rolando Alvarez imprisoned in Nicaragua.

For all those who are in need of our prayers who have been inadvertently omitted from this list.

Please send prayer requests to Josh Goldberg, OFS.

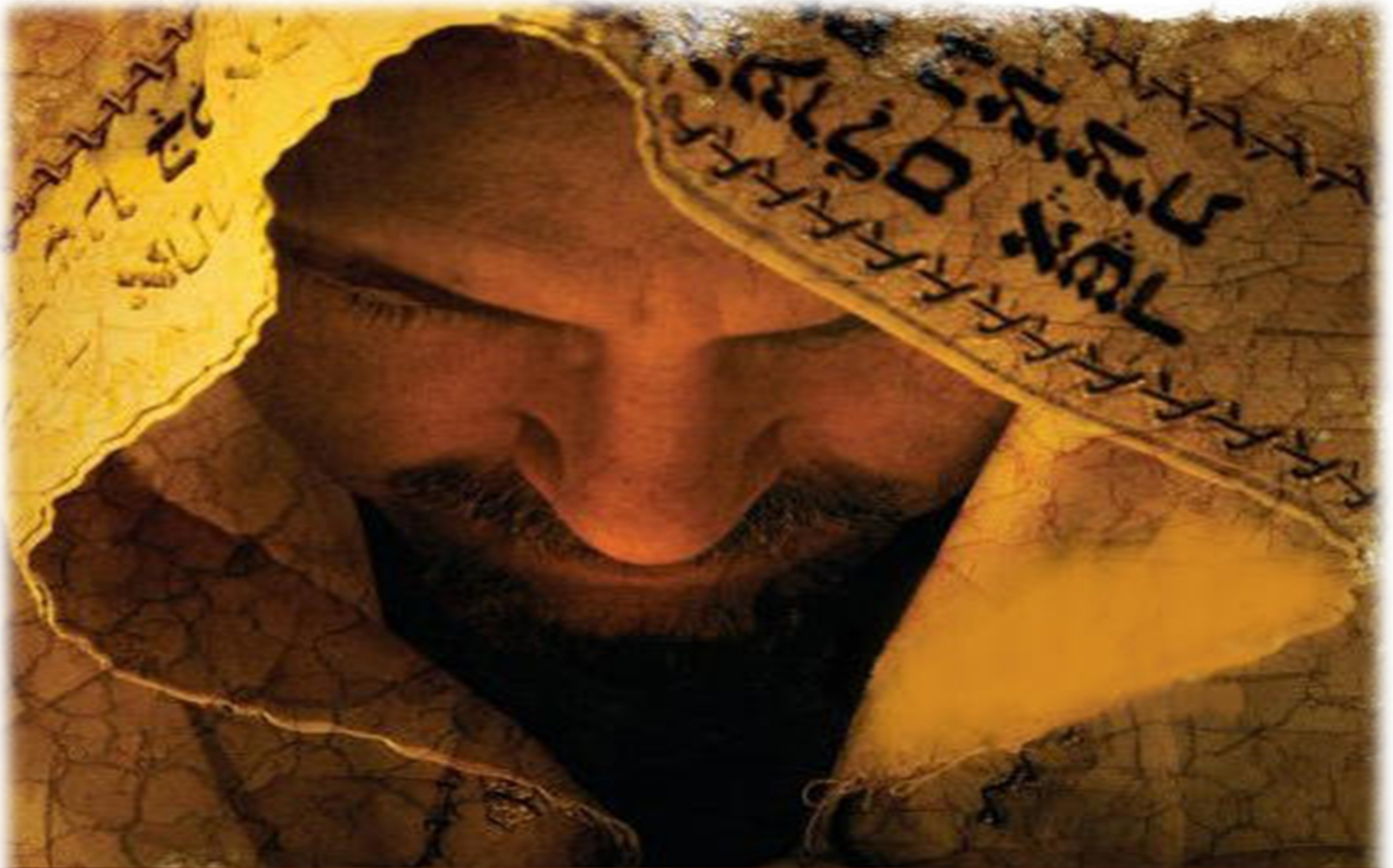
*Do not be anxious about anything,  
but in everything, by prayer and  
petition, with thanksgiving, present  
your request to God.*

*Philippians 4:6-7*



# REFLECTIONS: HOLY NAME OF JESUS

POETRY, DEVOTIONS & PRAYER



Jesus  
ישוע

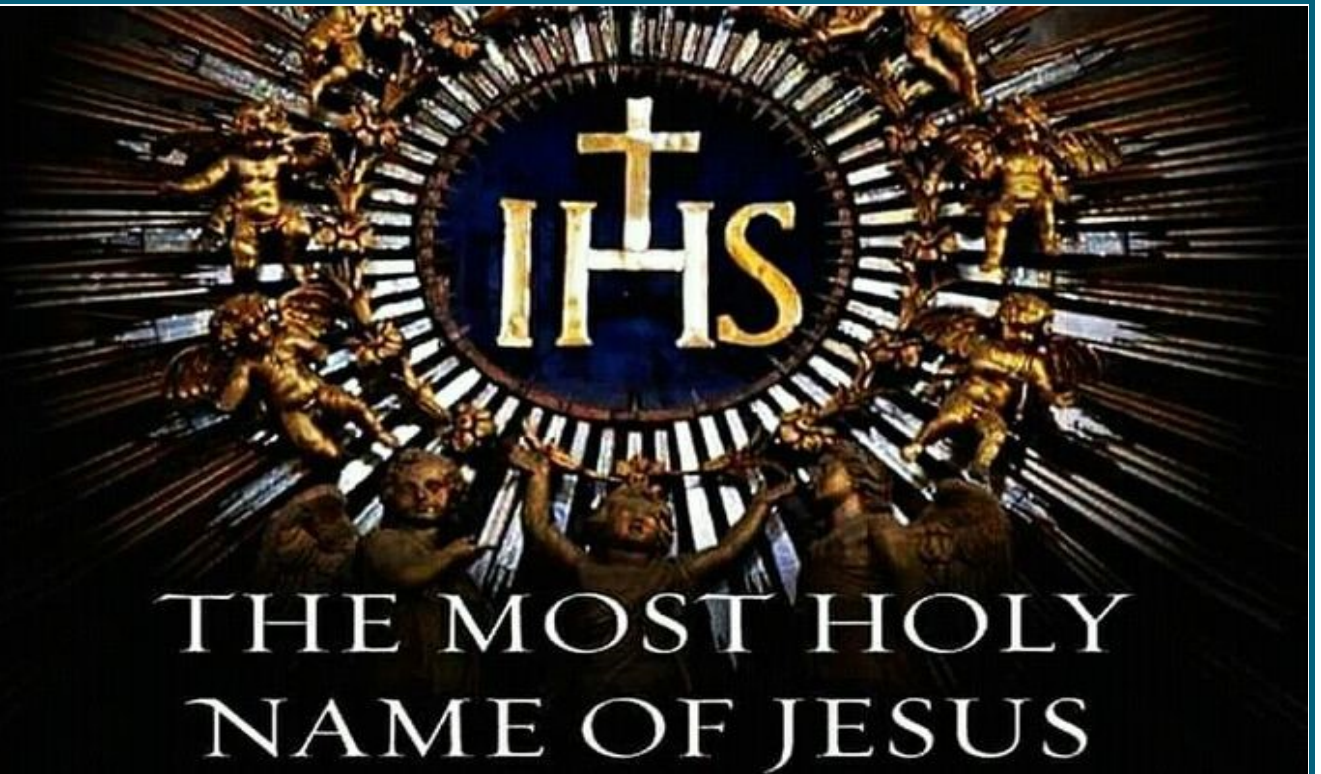
Yeh-SHU-ah



# REFLECTIONS: HOLY NAME OF JESUS

POETRY, DEVOTIONS & PRAYER

Let's find at least 1,000,000 Catholics who pray  
Rosary Daily on Facebook!



## THE MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS

**JESUS**, Name full of glory, grace, love and strength!  
You are the refuge of those who repent, our banner of  
warfare in this life, the medicine of souls, the comfort of  
those who mourn, the delight of  
those who believe, the light of  
those who preach the true faith,  
the wages of those who toil, the  
healing of the sick.



**O Holy Name of JESUS,**  
*heal the world. Amen.*

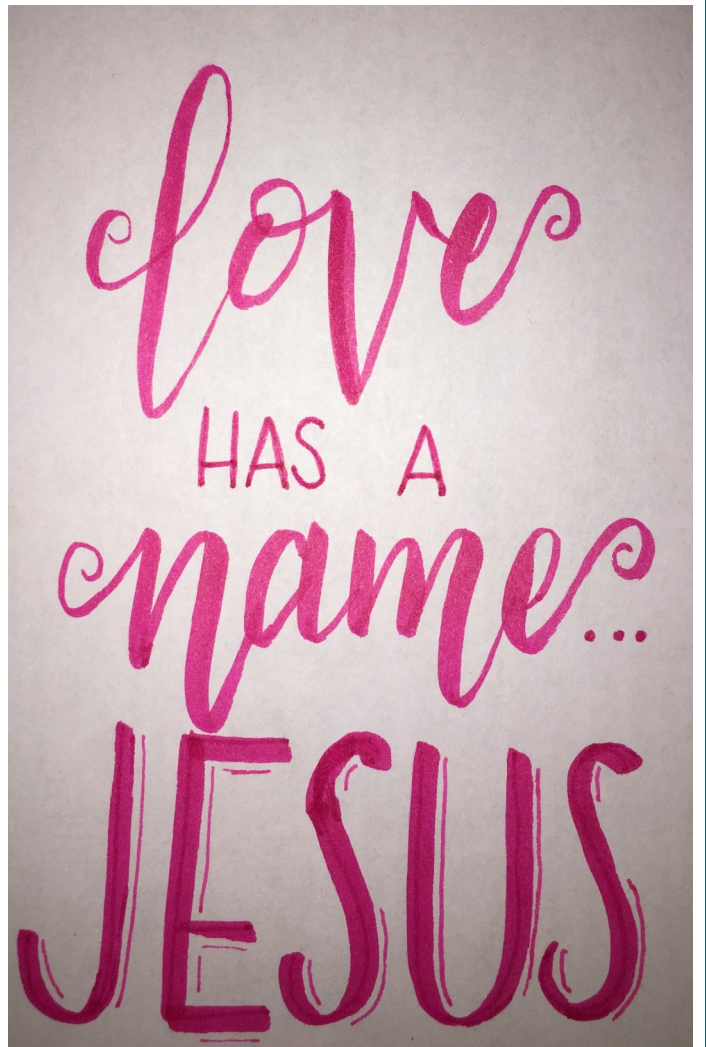
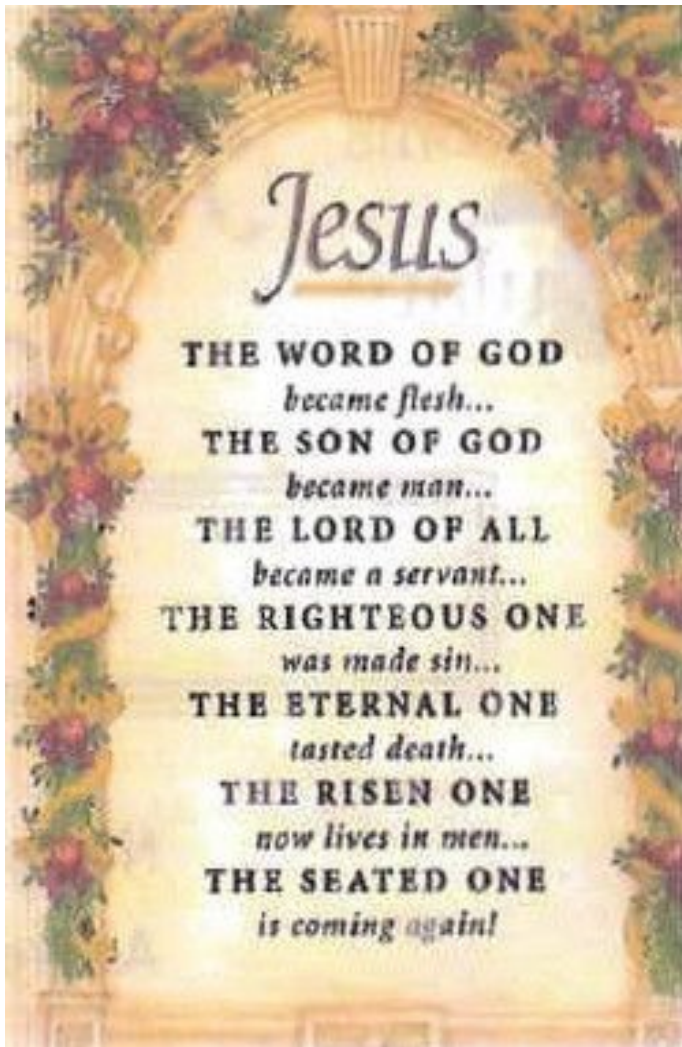
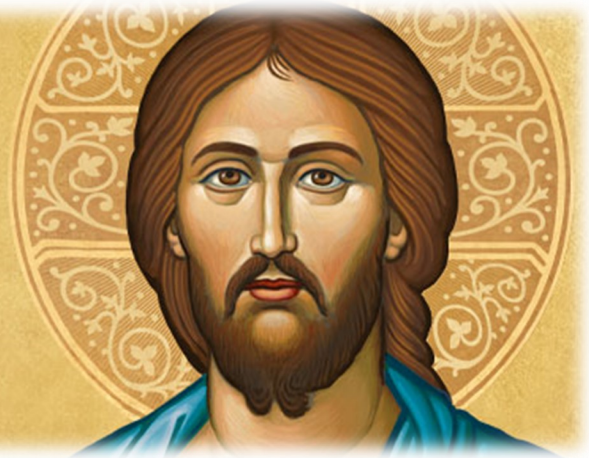


# REFLECTIONS: HOLY NAME OF JESUS

## POETRY, DEVOTIONS & PRAYER

The Name of the Lord  
is a strong tower.  
The righteous run into it,  
and are safe.

PROVERBS 18-10





# CALENDAR: ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

## January is the Month of the Holy Name of Jesus\*

- Jan. 1 Feast of the Circumcision of Our Lord  
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
- Jan. 2 Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus  
Vicki Shanholtz's Birthday
- Jan. 4 Feast of Blessed Angela of Foligno  
Feast of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton  
Veronica O'Donnell's Profession
- Jan. 5 Feast of St. John Neumann
- Jan. 6 Epiphany of the Lord
- Jan. 7 Tau Fraternity Gathering
- Jan. 11 Bob Calderon's & Kimberley Heatherington's  
Profession
- Jan. 12 Baptism of the Lord  
Walter Gawlak's Birthday
- Jan. 15 Barbara Slivers' Birthday
- Jan. 18 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (until Jan. 25)
- Jan. 23 Feast of the Marriage of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Tambra Riggs-Gutierrez's Profession
- Jan. 24 Feast of St. Francis de Sales  
Paola Larin's and Vera Stewart's Profession
- Jan. 25 Carole Clarke's Birthday
- Jan. 28 Bob Calderon's Birthday
- Jan. 29 Feast of St. Francis de Sales  
Gil Donahue's Profession
- Jan. 31 Feast of St. John Bosco  
Richard Clarke's Birthday

\*See the Franciscan Calendar for more dates:  
<https://www.roman-catholic-saints.com/traditional-franciscan-calendar.html>

## January 2024

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## February 2024

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		



NATIONAL  
**Eucharistic  
 Congress**

July 17-21  
 Indianapolis, Indiana

[www.eucharisticcongress.org](http://www.eucharisticcongress.org)

**Gain a Plenary Indulgence by praying  
 before a Nativity Scene between  
 December 8 and February 2!**



See the details here:

<https://aleteia.org/2023/11/28/st-francis-nativity-scenes-and-plenary-indulgences-check-this-out/>

# NEXT TAU GATHERING

JANUARY 7, 2023

## SCHEDULE

1:30 pm-1:32 pm	Opening Prayer: Vera Stewart, OFS
1:32 pm-2:12 pm	Presentation: Beena Job, OFS "Self-Healing"
2:12 pm-2:22 pm	Break
2:22 pm-3:02 pm	Ongoing Formation
3:02 pm-3:12 pm	Break
3:12 pm-3:22 pm	Angelus & Liturgy of the Hours
3:22 pm-3:32 pm	Business Meeting
3:32 pm	Closing Prayer

St. Joseph Church  
Room 205

## INITIAL FORMATION

Aspirants: Chapter 1 in *Franciscan Journey*

## ONGOING FORMATION

Please read the Christmas party handout "Celebrating the Gift of the Stigmata 1224-2024" and consider the objectives/activities in "Our being in Christ" and "Our being brothers and sisters" for discussion.

During Epiphany, we will precede the Liturgy of the Hours with the Angelus:

### *The Angelus*

V. The Angel of the Lord declared  
unto Mary,  
R. And she conceived of the Holy  
Spirit.  
---- Pray The HAIL MARY ----

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord,  
R. Be it done unto me according to  
your Word.  
---- Pray The HAIL MARY ----

V. And the Word was made flesh,  
R. And dwelt among us.  
---- Pray The HAIL MARY ----

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,  
R. That we may be made worthy of the  
promises of Christ.

--- LET US PRAY ---

Pour forth, we beseech You, O Lord, Your grace into our hearts: that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ Your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.



Pray The HOLY ROSARY Daily / facebook.com

## LITURGY OF THE HOURS Epiphany of the Lord

Readers: **PLEASE VOLUNTEER - TBD\*\***

Epiphany of the Lord:

Midday Prayer: See [here](https://divineoffice.org/xmas-epiphany-dp2-current/?date=20240107) or  
<https://divineoffice.org/xmas-epiphany-dp2-current/?date=20240107>

Evening Prayer:

Hymn: #81 – "As With Gladness Men of Old" pg. 1596 (Verses 1 and 2)

Everything:  
Epiphany, Evening Prayer II: pg. 214

\*\* Contact Joe Boyle, OFS, to volunteer for:

- ◆ Liturgy of the Hours Psalm 1
- ◆ Liturgy of the Hours Psalm 2
- ◆ Liturgy of the Hours Psalm 3
- ◆ Scripture Reading and Responsory.