



# The Franciscan Sun- Herald

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

**Gathering Place:**  
Basilica of St. Mary, Catholic Church & Lyceum  
313 Duke Street  
Alexandria, VA  
**Gathering Date:** March 9, 2024, at the Lyceum.



**The Rule of the OFS:**

**Article 22**

*The local fraternity is to be established canonically. It becomes the basic unit of the whole Order and a visible sign of the Church, the community of love. This should be the privilege place for developing a sense of Church and the Franciscan vocation and for enlivening the apostolic life of its members.*

**Minister's Corner:**

Brothers and Sisters in Saint Francis and Saint Clare,

This month we have a lot to cover at the Fraternity gathering as we start-up our Apostolate at Christ House and prepare for our elections in April. We will also be discussing Chapters 2 and 3 from our new book for on-going formation, "Clothed with Gladness," which allows us to study Saint Clare. As we near our Fraternity elections in April, 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.

Also, please mark your calendars so that you are at the gathering on April 13, 2024, so that we have the required quorum.

We also have a Formation Retreat sometime in June 2024 and the Chapter of Mats in September 2024. So, please consider attending these as well. I hope to see all of you at our next gathering on March 9, 2024.

May God Bless you and your families.

Pax et Bonum.  
Tom White, OFS

**March 2024:**  
**Article Twenty-Two of the Rule of Life**

Article Twenty-two of the Rule of Life establishes the local fraternity as the most basic unit of the Third Order. This is by no means a lowering of status, but actually

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raises the local fraternity to the highest point in the Order. As the basic unit of the Order, the local fraternity is the organization onto which the entire Order is built. Every member of the order is a member of a local fraternity. Every member of the Order begins and ends their Franciscan journey in a local fraternity. The local fraternities form each member while they are in initial formation and nurture their on-going conversion throughout their Franciscan lives.

The local fraternity also plays an important role in the local Churches. The local fraternity is stationed at a particular location based on the desires of the local Bishop and the Provincial. That links every fraternity not only to the Order but to the local Bishop. The local fraternity supports the Bishop and his Priests and Deacons in the Church's mission, which is the salvation of souls.

The local fraternity is also very similar to a family, which is the basic unit of the Body of Christ. So, the local Fraternity is also a small community which builds up the larger communities of the local Church, Diocese, Third Order, and Franciscan Order.

Even with all those relationships and the wider view of the local fraternity's position in the world, the members of the local fraternity are called to be a community, a family, to care for each other in their spiritual and physical needs. Understanding that relationship is important because this desire to care for others is what calls people to servant leadership and provides the fraternity and the Order with the servant leaders it needs to continue for past and future generations.

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:**

#### **March Program:**

8:30 Morning Mass

9:15 Social Period

9:30 Opening prayer and Liturgy of the Hours

10:00 Ongoing Formation – Chapters Two and Three from, “*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
- April Elections

### **Future Events:**

**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 on March 16, 2024. More information will be provided at the March 2024 Gathering. Christ House is located at 131 S. West Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Chapter of Mats:

The Regional Chapter of Mats will be held 6-9 September 2024 at the Claggett Center in Adamstown, MD. Deposit of \$150 as soon as possible. Total cost - up to \$265 depending on desired accommodation. Housing is on a first come-first serve basis. Additional Information is in the email and flyer that was already sent via email. If you need them sent again, please contact Tom White at (703) 307-2378, [thomaswhyteofs@gmail.com](mailto:thomaswhyteofs@gmail.com).

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, [edrrapeau3@gmail.com](mailto:edrrapeau3@gmail.com)

Weekly Online Prayer Time Group:

Meets online on Thursdays from 2:00 to 3:00 PM to pray for all those who need our prayers. Please contact Rita at [ritaandscott@hotmail.com](mailto:ritaandscott@hotmail.com) for more information.

Pro-Life Information and Events:

Please contact our Pro-Life Counselor, Geneva Park at [jim.geneva@cox.com](mailto: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, Felix, Amy, and Simona. 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, in our hearts, and in our homes.

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 guides 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:**

Lorraine Lee – March 11, 2006

Joanne Robertson – March 11, 2006

Diane Maple – March 13, 2004

Sandra Reid – March 13, 2004

Patrick White – March 13, 2004

#### **Fraternity Birthdays:**

Elly Escobal – March 16th

Camilla Aksamit – March 27th

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

Mary Strosser – March 2, 2000

Nora Biero - March 3, 1986

Mollie Yingling – March 7, 1996

Christina Lynem – March 9, 2010

Joseph Armstrong – March 24, 1975

Howard Kempter – March 26, 2013,

May God grant them His rest and His peace.

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

#### **March – Month of St. Joseph**

1. Bl. Jean Kearney, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, martyr 1653

2. St. Agnes de Prague, Virgin, of the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1282

3. Bl. Innocent de Berzo, Priest, Capuchin, d. 1890

4. Bl. Martyrs of the Franciscan 1st Order of Gondar (Ethiopia), d. 1716

5. St. Jean-Joseph de la Croix, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1734

6. St. Colette of Corbie, Virgin, of the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1447

7. Bl. Christophe de Milan, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1485

8. St. Jean de Dieu, Priest, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1550

9. St. Frances of Rome, Virgin, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1440

10. St. Catherine of Bologna, Virgin of the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1463

11. Bl. Jean-Baptiste de Fabriano, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1539

12. Bl. Louis Orione, Priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1940

13. Bl. Agnello de Pise, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1236

14. St. Catherine de Genes, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1510

15. Bl. Louis de Casoria, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1885

16. Bl. Torello de Poppi, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1282

17. Bl. Marc de Montegallo, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1496

18. St. Salvator de'Horta, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1567

19. Saint Joseph, Holy Day of Obligation for the Church

20. Bl. Hippolyte Galentini, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1620

21. Bl. Amedee IX de Savoie, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1472

22. St. Beinvenu d'Osimo, Bishop, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1282

23. Bl. Jeremie Lambertenghi, Priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1513

24. Palm Sunday and Bl. Catherine de Suede, Virgin, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1381

25. Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Holy Day of Obligation for the Church

26. Blessed Didacus Joseph of Cadiz, Priest, Capuchin, d. 1801

27. Bl. Joseph-Sebastien Pelczar, Bishop, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1924

28. Holy Thursday and St. Jean de Capistran, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1456

29. Good Friday and Bl. Jeanne-Marie de Maille, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1414

30. Holy Saturday and St. Pierre Regalat, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1486

31. Easter Sunday and St. Leonard Murialdo, Priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1900

Holy Thursday – Plenary Indulgence: Chant in Public Tantum ergo

Good Friday – Plenary Indulgence: Solemn adoration of the Holy Cross

Easter – Plenary Indulgence: Renewal in public of Baptismal Promises



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