

The Little Portion

October 2018

St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina Fraternity

Ordo Saecularis Franciscanus
St. Margaret of Cortona Region



Next Fraternity Gathering

October 22, 2018
St. Joan's Meeting House

AGENDA

7:30 pm: **Opening Prayer** page 35 of Ritual Book
The Crown Rosary.
Please bring your Crown Rosary. If you don't own a Franciscan Crown, bring a regular rosary. If you have extra Crown Rosaries please bring them for those who may not have one. There is no need to bring the Liturgy of the Hours Book as the Crown Rosary will be prayed instead. Stan Glodek will provide instruction sheets for the Crown Rosary.

Ongoing Formation: Discussion of The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order.
Please bring the booklet given to you last month, *Hidden Power 111: From Gospel to Life, the Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order*. You must have these booklets to participate in small group discussion. We will be discussing Rules 1-13 this month.

Closing Prayer at 9:00 followed by the Social.

Prayer Intentions

The Simmons Family: Mary, Ed, Brian,
Mary Anne, Cecelia, Eliot, Ed Jr., and Noel
Mary Rose Scelsi
Pierre LaCour
Jeffrey Teller Jr.
Roland Willard
Joan Jackson
Jo Magness-Murtaugh
Virginia Wise
For all those in our Intention Book

October Donation
Missionaries of Charity
\$20



Birthday Blessings for November

Margaret Wise 11/1
Joan Jackson 11/11

Words of St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina

“Earnestly labor for the salvation of our brothers and sisters, and make everyone aware of the spirit of St. Francis, which is the spirit of Jesus Christ. Society needs to be reformed, and I do not know of a more effective method than having everyone become members of the Third Order of St. Francis and live according to his spirit.” *Padre Pio's Spiritual Direction for Everyday*.
By GianLuigi Pasquale. p. 212



“I have set you to be a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the uttermost parts of the earth.” Acts: 13: 4

Council Members
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Spiritual Assistant: Br. Lawrence LaFlame
Newsletter Editor: Bonnie Ng



Prayer Cloth Ministry

Donna Willard brought prayer cloths that she crocheted to the Fraternity meeting which everyone prayed over. They were distributed to Joan Jackson for George whose wife has died; to Joy LaCour for her son Jean Pierre; to Evelyn Yawn for Robert for the loss of his wife and Mary Simmons for her son Brian. Let us remember to pray for the recipients of the prayer cloths (both recent and past).

Minister's Message

At the October Gathering as noted in the Agenda, we will be praying the Franciscan Crown Rosary because October is the Month of the Rosary. Our Rule mentions the love Francis had for Mary. He made our Lady his Advocate and Protectress of his Order. Bonaventure writes, "He embraced the mother of the Lord Jesus with an inexpressible love since she made the Lord of Majesty a brother to us and, through her, we have obtained mercy. In her, after Christ, he put all his trust and made her the advocate of him and his brothers and, in her honor, he used to fast with great devotion from the Feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul to the Feast of the Assumption" (Bonaventure. *The Major Legend* 9:3). In his Salutation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Francis begins with the words "Hail, O Lady, holy Queen". With what dignity and honor he addresses her. It is fitting then that we too honor the Queen of the Holy Rosary with our garland of prayers.

The Rosary is Mary's gift to the people of God. In 1917, when Mary appeared to the children of Fatima, Portugal, she urged them to pray the rosary every day. St. John Paul had a great love for Mary and devotion to the Rosary. He referred to it in his Apostolic Letter, *The Rosary of the Virgin Mary* as "a prayer of great significance, destined to bring forth a harvest of holiness." He also said in that same Letter, "By its nature the recitation of the Rosary calls for a quiet rhythm and a lingering pace, helping the individual to meditate on the mysteries of the Lord's life as seen through the eyes of her who was closest to the Lord. In this way unfathomable riches of these mysteries are disclosed." The Rosary is Christocentric leading us to Jesus through the help of His Mother.

Of course, one cannot forget our beloved patron, Padre Pio and his love of the Rosary. "The frequent use Padre Pio made of the Rosary gives us an indication of his awareness of Mary's presence and protection over her spiritual children through the Rosary. Towards the end of his life it was ever in his hands. It was as if he were telling his devotees: 'Here is the peace of heart, the victory over evil, the strength to overcome every obstacle on the way to heaven.' His power to draw sinners to an amendment of life and to encourage his sons and daughters to seek personal holiness was the fruit of his prayer life, in particular the Rosary." (*Padre Pio The Wonder Worker*. Franciscan Friars of the Immaculate.p.88).

We ask St. Francis and St. Pio to intercede for us to grow closer to the Mother of God who in turn will bring us closer to her Son. Let us never underestimate the power of praying the Rosary, a prayer the world is so desperately in need of.

Bonnie Ng, O.F.S.

