



**ST MARY OF THE ANGELS FRATERNITY  
ORDER OF THE SECULAR FRANCISCAN  
THE ANGELUS \* APRIL 14TH, 2019**



Our Lenten struggle continues..... to follow Him more faithfully by our mortifications and self-discipline.... By giving up not-so-good habits and trying to be a more loving and forgiving person.... Not an easy battle... one with many slips and falls... lets keep on trying....read below for encouragement as you and I encounter our weak humanity....

Our Lord Jesus speaking to Sister Josef Menendez: **“I will make it known that My work rests on nothingness and misery—such is the first link in the chain of love that I have prepared for souls from eternity. I will use you to show that I love misery, littleness and absolute nothingness. I will reveal to souls the excess of My love and how far I will go in forgiveness, and how even their faults will be used by Me with blind indulgence . . . yes, write . . . with blind indulgence. I see depths, the very depths of souls, I see how they fain would please, console and glorify Me, and the act of humility they are obliged to make when they see themselves so feeble, is solace and glory to My Heart. What does their helplessness matter? Cannot I supply all their deficiencies? I will show how My Heart uses their very weakness to give life to many souls that have lost it. I will make known that the measure of My love and mercy for fallen souls is limitless. I want to forgive them. It rests Me to forgive. I am ever there, waiting, with boundless love till souls come to Me. Let them come, nor be discouraged. Let them fearlessly throw themselves into My arms! I am their Father.**

Minister: Susan Jamison

Secretary: Marilyn Wall

Formation Director: Tom McGrath

Mary Badjo & Margaret Nicholson



Vice-Minister: Genie Dutton

Treasurer: Carmencita Fiesta

Counselors: Lilian Soriano ,

The Angelus: Susan Jamison



## APRIL MEETING AGENDA

1. Opening Prayer and Reading
2. Wishing Happy Birthdays and Congratulations on Profession Anniversaries, Other Fraternity News.
3. Thank you to our faithful Dorothy Day Volunteers
3. . Report on the 40 Days for Life Prayerfull Witness on April 10
4. Portia discusses our upcoming bus trip Pilgrimage on June 9th to St. Anthony's Shrine on Troy Hill Pittsburg PA
5. Heaven, The GOAL, A Reflection by Susan, 1 of 4
6. Live Like Francis by Peggy —Please read Ch. 6
- BREAK
- 7 Prayer Partners by Mary
8. Christian Prayer led by Tom
9. What It Takes To Be an OFS Franciscan by Tom

### PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Most loving Jesus,  
you walked the streets of Palestine  
spreading the word  
of forgiveness and peace.  
You cured many and taught them  
the secrets of God's kingdom.  
Most of all, you gave us your life,  
offering yourself on the Cross,  
and called us to continue  
your mission on earth.  
Enkindle in us the fire of your zeal.  
Give us a heart ready to see,  
to listen and joyfully respond  
to the needs of others.  
Let our hearts  
burn with the fire of your love,  
and grant us to see your face  
in all of them.  
Let our hands, like yours,  
reach out to them.  
Grant us to be one with you  
so that, through our daily work,  
we may build your kingdom  
of freedom and love.  
Amen.

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**I**f you want  
to come with me,  
you must forget yourself,  
take up your cross every  
day, and follow me.

(Lk. 9.23)

**Rescheduled!**

**40 DAYS FOR LIFE**



**SPRING CAMPAIGN TO SAVE  
BABIES AND HELP THEIR  
MOMS!**

**PLEASE JOIN US IN  
LOVING WITNESS**

**TO THE SANCTITY OF LIFE**

**APRIL 10 AT 1 PM.**

On the public sidewalk, 10401  
Old Georgetown RD in front of  
the Bethesda MD office of late  
term abortionist Leroy Carhart.

We can be found across the  
street from DSW and immediate-  
ly north of the gas station near  
the intersection of Democracy  
and Old Georgetown RD. Call  
Susan if you can meet her there:  
301 525 1555.

### IMPORTANT APRIL DATES!

Palm Sunday: April 14

Holy Thursday: April 18

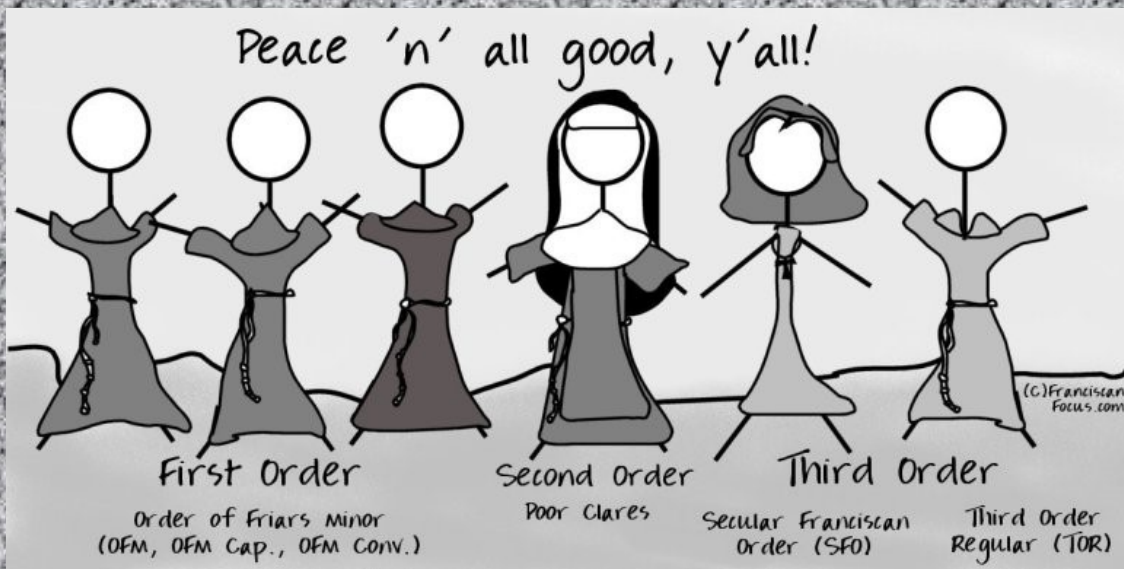
Good Friday: April 19

Holy Saturday: April 20

Easter: April 21

Divine Mercy Sunday: April 28

*Contributed by Carmencita*



**PRAYER NEEDS, MONTHLY MASS, APRIL BIRTHDAYS & PROFESSION ANNIVERSARIES**  
*Submitted by Genie*

Please pray for all members of our Fraternity, living and deceased, and especially for:  
**Hazel and her husband as her husband has to undergo chemotherapy.**

**Carol Smith** offers us many thanks for prayers. She is still homebound but rejoices in the help she has received to rearrange her home suitable for her limitations. This is all due to our prayers she declares and she thanks us and asks us for continued prayers for her recovery.

**Rose Mary Mazzaglia: Alfio** will be returning home April 30 and arrangements for partial home health care are being attempted. Please pray for **Alfio and his loving caretaker, Rose Mary.**

**Alina Zygmunt: Her sister, Felicia** is now breathing on her own and is scheduled for acute rehab. Thanks everyone for your prayers. Keep them coming.

**Peggy Nicholson:** Asks for continued prayers for herself and **Patricia.**

**Dale Eppig:** Am recovering "with the speed of light"! Keep your prayers coming

**Carmencita and Portia's Aunt** who is very very ill.

We also remember **James Routh** and his loving caretaker **Joyce**, and **Connie Barrera's** mother and her loving caretaker **Connie.**

\*\*\*A MASS FOR ALL LIVING AND DECEASED MEMBERS WAS OFFERED ON APRIL 5th\*\*\*

**PROFESSION ANNIVERSAIRES**

**TWENTY YEAR** Profession Anniversary

**Rose Mary Mazzaglia**

**FIFTEEN YEAR** Profession Anniversaries

**Greg Davis, Alfio Mazzaglia, Jennifer Reddock**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

**2 – John Doherty**

**11 - Rose Mary Mazzaglia**

**15 – Dick Schaefer**

**18 – Portia Fiesta**

**26 – Mary Badjo**

**29 – Sonia Bernardo**



# **SPIRITUAL ASSISTANT'S MESSAGE**

**April, 2019**

**Article twenty of our Rule tells us:**

**"The Secular Franciscan Order is divided into fraternities of various levels-- local, regional,**

**national, and international. Each one has its own moral personality in the Church. These**

**various fraternities are coordinated and united according to the norm of this Rule and of**

**the Constitutions."**

**These last seven of the articles of our Rule develop and sustain the implementation of our Gospel life within the framework of our faith communities we call our fraternities. All secular Franciscan fraternities are living and vibrant communities that are expressions in various cultures and styles of loving and trusting relationships among the members. They have their various levels and have their particular characteristic about them(Article 20). They have local needs to fulfill(Article 21). They are established with the approval of the Church(Article 22). They have a mechanism for preparing prospective members for commitment to the Franciscan charism(Formation)(Article 23). Their meeting, called a gathering, and subsequent service are expressions of their sense of a serving community and leadership(Articles 24 and 25). Their spiritual nourishment and maintenance to the Franciscan charism is provided through the assistance of the Franciscan first, second, and third order regular as well as trained third order seculars(Spiritual Assistants)(Article 26)**

**Article 20 specifically defines the fraternity as the essential unit of all secular Franciscan events held on the local, regional, provincial, national, and international levels. By this, all of secular Franciscan life is aware of and mandated to accomplish a spirit of fraternity functioning on all levels beyond the local fraternities. Regional, provincial, national, and international activities are not to be considered just an extension of the local fraternities or a forum just for exchange, but actually a fully operating community with its own style, culture, and plan of management as set by our Rule and constitutions. Thus, no matter what the circumstance is that brings even so much as two seculars together, by our standards, this is considered a fraternity, and so we act accordingly.**

**All of you and your families have a most joyous and happy Easter as you celebrate in triumph of our Risen Lord Jesus Christ!**

**In Christ's peace,**

**Mike**

# APRIL SAINTS AND FEAST DAYS

Please see page 2 for Holy Week Dates

## April – Month of the Holy Face and the Redemption

1

April 11 - St. Stanislaus - martyr and bishop, first Pole canonized and patron saint of Poland.

**April 16th, St. Benedict-Joseph Labre, Franciscan Confessor, Cordbearer, d. 1783,**

April 21 - St. Anselm - was a Benedictine monk, abbot, and philosopher.

April 23 - St. George - a dragon slayer and rescuer of maidens, was a Roman soldier of Greek and officer in the ground of Roman Emperor Diocletian who was sentenced to death for refusing to recant his Christian faith. He became one of the most venerated saints and especially venerated by the crusaders. His symbol a red cross on white background and became a standard of the British armies. George was made England's patron saint.

**April 23– Brother Giles Of Assisi, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1262**

**April 24 - St. Fidelis - born as Mark Rey in Germany, was a Capuchin friar who was known for his generosity and care for the poor throughout his life. He became known as the Poor Man's lawyer. He was a major figure in the counter reformation and was murdered in Switzerland. He was proclaimed the patron saint of the Propagation of Faith.**

April 25 - St. Mark, Evangelist - author of the Gospel of Mark, founder of the theological church of Alexandria and is honored as the founder of Christianity in Africa.

April 27th: St. Zita of Lucca, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1278 Saint Zita of Lucca was a member of the Third Order of St. Francis. Lucca is in Tuscany; and since the Third Order was widely propagated there after its founding, this holy servant girl of the thirteenth century would quite naturally join its ranks. Zita was born at the village of Monte Sagrati in 1218, at the time that St. Francis was entering upon his career as a knight-errant of Christ. Her parents were poor, devout Christians; an older sister afterwards became a nun; and her uncle Graziano was a saintly hermit. When she was twelve years old, Zita went to Lucca, eight miles from her home, to be a servant girl of the Fatinelli family which carried on a prosperous wool and silk weaving business; and she remained in their employ until she died forty-eight years later. Her daily work became a part of her religious life. **She was wont to say: "A servant girl is not pious, if she is not industrious; work shy piety is sham piety."** At the same time she led a very prayerful and penitential life. **She rose nightly for prayer; and daily she attended the first Mass in the adjacent church of San Frediano. The good food she received for herself she gave to the poor, and lived on waste scraps or fasted. She wore only the poorest clothes and never put on shoes, even in winter.**

April 28 - St. Peter Chanel - as a young priest, he revived a parish in a "bad" district by the simple method of showing great devotion to the sick. Natives had been baptized and when the Chieftain's son asked to be baptized, persecution by the chieftain reached a climax.. Chanel was clubbed to death. Within 2 years after his death, the whole island became catholic and has remained so. He is the first martyr of Oceania canonized.

April 30 - St. Pope Pius V - was head of catholic church, ruler of Papal State, venerated as a saint and is chiefly notable for his role in the Council of Trent. He stood against Nepotism and gained reputation for putting orthodox before personalities. He attributed the victory to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and instituted the feast of Our Lady of Victory.





JESUS I TRUST IN YOU!

Minister's Message by Susan

Sometimes (like today) the harder I try to keep up with my prayers and offerings, and the more I try to love God in an authentic and powerful way, well.... the crabbier I get. SIGH. BUT I REFUSE TO GET DISCOURAGED!

According to the words ascribed to Jesus by Sister Joespha Menendez, (see page 2) who I have long held in high esteem, our faults and failings can flower in us a wonderful fragrant humility that endears us to God and can even win souls to Him. .

Those are some of the most consoling words I have ever heard!

So I will tell you what I tell myself:

Keep trying and don't get discouraged. ‘

You are so loved by God, you can not even comprehend it.

Your sufferings are precious to God and valuable to your soul.

Your virtues and good works make the world a better and more joyful place.

Your prayers are helping to save souls.

Nothing can separate you from the LOVE OF GOD in CHRIST JESUS!

May your Lend proceed to a very joyous EASTER.



# ***WE ARE SINNERS***

**By Father Michael Briesse**

You are a sinner and so am I and so is every single human being. We are a broken and imperfect race of various peoples. Our one common thread is our own humanity. Do you even care about people whom you know not; people who certainly share in your own humanity? Do you truly care about the stranger? Do you have any concern for the people here in the community who are “down on their luck”, poorly educated, unskilled, living in the woods, an alleyway or off in the countryside living in some abandoned building? Do you know what I know? They too, like you, me, and all people are human in nature, broken, frail and within them rests the presence of our dear beloved Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We are sinners whose very being holds within it a sacred place, a holy presence and a temple in which our Lord finds rest. Go to that holy place within the very depths of your imperfect being. Go there. It is there you will discover and rediscover the presence of our dear Lord. Go off to a quiet place, a desolate place, and there amid the passing silence you can find our Lord. In such moments you will be in the presence of our Lord and He will find in you a holy place, a spirit grounded not in some material joys, but rather, within the very depth of your own imperfect human being, our Lord will discover you, your abiding love and your faith. In return, your own life will grow as it discovers and rediscovers our Lord’s infinite Divine Mercy, infinite love and invaluable heartfelt wisdom.

Come closer to our dear Lord. Draw near and nearer. When you find yourself in troubled times go quietly into that moment, that time and that place where only you and our Lord can find one another and like two lovers can bind together in union. There in prayer, the very language of the human heart you and our dear Lord can find healing, reconciliation, forgiveness, courage, greater love, more intimate prayers and a more powerful mutual understanding of one –another. Always seek to live this broken and imperfect life with a keen awareness that indeed our Lord is with you through it all. Do all this for your one lifetime. Our Lord waits for you. Hear His call and accept His divine invitation to draw near, and to enter more fully into His company and to find rest and stillness. Run the race, go the extra mile. Do so in the Holy Name of Jesus. Do this over your one holy, sacred and precious lifetime and know you will have lived a devout life, a life centered on, and deeply rooted in Christ. Jesus encourages you to pursue this life in memory of our dear Lord. Now you hear His call. Will you accept His Divine invitation?