

THE LITTLE PORTION

July 2019

St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina Fraternity

Ordo Saecularis Franciscanus
St. Margaret of Cortona Region



Next Fraternity Gathering

July 22, 2019

St. Joan of Arc Meeting House
Law Street, Aberdeen, MD

AGENDA

7:30 pm: **Opening Prayer**

page 35 of Ritual Book

Liturgy of the Hours: July
22nd St. Mary Magdalene

President: Bonnie Ng

Antiphonarian:

Ginger Bahr

Reader: Donna Willard

Hymn: #172 For All the
Saints p1694 verses 1 and 3

Antiphons, Reading.

Responsory on page **1197-
1198**

Psalms, Canticle,

Intercessions from the
Common of Holy Women
pages **1466-1469**

Short Business

Ongoing Formation:

Discovering The Franciscan
Intellectual Tradition. Read
Chapter 2. Discuss Questions
1 and 2 (as much as possible)

**Closing prayer followed by
Social.**



Apostolate Donation

Padre Pio Foundation
\$20

7/9 Br. Emmanuel Wenke

7/22 Evelyn Yawn

Words of Padre Pio

“During a period of dryness of spirit, be humble, patient and yielded to the divine will, and do not neglect doing the things you used to do in times of spiritual joy. Genuine love does not consist in having many consolations when you are serving God but in having willingness to be ready to do everything that God is pleased to ordain for your spiritual advantage and for his glory.

Believe this, and it does not matter if you have to force yourself to believe it and are not able to understand the reason for the dryness. The martyrs also believed this when they were suffering. The most beautiful credo, “I believe”, is the one we say during times of sacrifice and through a stringent exercise of our wills.”

from: *Padre Pio's Spiritual
Direction for Everyday.*
By GianLuigi Pasquale.p.182

Congratulations and Prayers

St. Padre Pio Fraternity extends our sincere congratulations to Br. Emmanuel's father, Matthew Wenke, who was ordained a Deacon on May 25, 2019 at St. Joseph Cathedral, Buffalo, New York. Deacon Wenke will be serving in the following parishes: Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels, Olean, N.Y., St. John the Evangelist, Olean, N.Y. and St. Philomena, Franklinville, N.Y. The fraternity rejoices with the Wenke family and the Universal Church for the vocation of Deacon Matthew Wenke. We give thanks and pray that Deacon Wenke's ministry bears much fruit. May God bless Deacon Matthew Wenke with His choicest graces.

July Professions



Evelyn Yawn 7/12/87
Br. Emmanuel 7/25/14

Prayer Intentions

The Simmons Family
especially Ed Jr.
Ron Teller
Jeffrey Teller Jr.
Wes Wise
Benjamin Elliott
Mary Rose Scelsi
For all those in our
Book of Intentions

Deepening Our Communion with Our Lord Jesus

In my desire to share with you the conferences from the Regional Retreat in June, the following is from my notes from the second conference by Br. Michael Meza, O.F.M. Cap..

As mentioned in the previous conference, we know we are called through Baptism. However, we must really be convicted of our call. We must always have the conviction that we are people of faith. This requires constant conversion. We must have a deeper relationship with the Lord. If we don't have the conviction of our call and faith in Jesus, we can't relate/give our belief to others. When we give a blessing – for example saying, “Have a blessed day or “God bless you”, we must be ready to share our faith.

Francis had this conviction of his faith deep in his heart. Conviction gave Francis the strength to carry the stones to rebuild the little church. To acquire this conviction, we must talk to the Lord.

In Genesis- Chapter 12, we read about the call of Abraham. It was not easy for Abraham to grab everything and go. This is what Abraham and Francis heard - to leave everything and do God's will. We Secular Franciscans need to trust the Lord and have the conviction that Jesus will take care of us.

We must go deeper in our Secular Franciscan vocation- put out into the deep. We are in different times than Francis. The Lord will give us the strength. We can only get that conviction by sitting with the Lord. When do we give time to the Lord? If we want to emblaze the world, it must first start with us, with our communion with the Lord. We can't give what we don't have. When we say “Have a blessed day” be ready to have a conversation with the other.

We wear Tau Crosses without a corpus because we are the corpus who must climb on the Cross. We are constantly being converted. To have the conversion that Abraham had, we must lift the knife and be tested.

The hardest thing is to forgive oneself – Let go and give it to God. We must choose faith. To choose faith, we must trust. To trust, we must abandon ourselves to God. Yes Lord, send me. Without us, who then? Will the next generation do this mission and respond to the call of Baptism? We don't know.

At Confirmation, we said we want to be confirmed. What about now? If it is all words, if the conviction isn't inside us, we are empty vessels. Rule #6 states that Secular Franciscans are “called to work together in building up the Church as the sacrament of salvation for all and, through their baptism and profession, made “witnesses and instruments of her mission.” We must give God time in prayer. We must Listen to the Lord's call.

Bonnie Ng, O.F.S.

A Prayer by Br. Michael Meza
(prayed at the end of each conference)

Lord,
Give us the wisdom to always hear your words in the whisper of the wind and to receive your peace in prayer.
Give us the courage to make time for your Word and the ability to reflect.



From the FUN Manual

The Prophetic function coincides with witness. It is realized by lay people through the gift of speaking of their own faith experience, by proclaiming in their own lives, the marvels that the Lord has wrought. It is a witness strong in hope that the lay person brings to the world when he/she sees suffering as the occasion in which God mysteriously reveals his presence. “The laity show themselves to be children of the promise, if strong in faith and hope, they make the most of the present time and with patience await the glory that is to come. Let them not, then, hide this hope in the depths of their hearts, but even in the framework of secular life let them express it by a continual turning towards God” (LG 35)

Council

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Words of St. Francis

I ask you, therefore, with such reverence as I can, not to forget the Lord on account of the cares and solitudes of this world and not to turn aside from His commandments.

To the Rulers of the People

Reflection. The constant stream of information, messages, and images makes it hard to recall what we were doing just a moment ago.

“Do not forget the Lord” is Francis’ advice to us. What presence of mind and sincere effort this requires!

Someone hears the word, but the worries of life and the desire for wealth choke the word, and it produces nothing. (Mt.13:22)

Day by Day with St. Francis
By Peter A. Giersch. Page117

St. Francis was canonized by
Pope Gregory IX on July 16, 1228.



July 15th was the Feast Day of St. Bonaventure one of the main scholars important in the development of the Franciscan Intellectual Tradition. As we begin our study of the Franciscan Intellectual Tradition let us seek the intercession of

St. Bonaventure to enlighten our minds and open our hearts more fully to God. St. Bonaventure pray for us !