



Our Lady of the Rosary
Secular Franciscan Fraternity
Williamsburg, Virginia

www.olrsfo.weebly.com

September 2020

Important Dates:

9/20 Zoom Fraternity Meeting

9/24 Paul Reardon – Birthday

9/28 Joan Buehler – Birthday

Dear Sisters & Brothers in Christ,

Although it's still technically Summer, with some pretty high temperatures floating about, I can already see signs of Fall in the area. Up North there are places where the foliage has turned to those beautiful autumnal colors. Although I always equate this time with celebrations, or the preparations for them, Labor day weekend always seems to creep up on me, reminding me of all the undone or unfinished tasks I set for myself at the beginning of summer. There were so many special things I wanted to accomplish, both in my personal life and within the Fraternity.

Then life as I knew it changed. Restrictions on movement & socializing abounded. Being the "social personality" I am has made isolating very difficult. Having an ill loved one whom I cannot see or to whom I cannot give a comforting hug has torn the fabric of my inner comfort. Not being able to physically meet with you has made me question my ability as Minister. I am well aware there are many others going through the same or similar situations. To you I can only say, patience & prayer. Strange that the old saying of our parents is the one thing making it possible to carry on - they were indeed wise, our parents.

Patience & putting all our concerns in the hands of God. Only then can our minds be free to pray; to raise our voice in gratitude and praise for all the wonderful people & things He has given us. Yes, life can be tough. But our God is always there, ready to make His presence & love available if we only ask. For me the Liturgy of the Hours has been the reminder of that truth. We are so fortunate as Franciscans to have these, whether reading from the book(s), reading online, or listening via the podcasts. These 15 minutes or so of communing with the Holy Spirit has saved my sanity. There are days I can only manage morning & night prayers. Other days I find myself doing mid-morning & mid-afternoon. Whatever hour(s) I pray I find strength & peace. What my inner soul seeks most of all, peace in & with my God I find there. I pray you all are finding that same peace within you, & that the Liturgy of the Hours is guiding you there.

In Francis & Clare, Maria

Be as an adventurer, Exploring not new worlds but minds



Visit our website at olrsfo.weebly.com



During the COVID-19 meeting restriction, if you wish to continue your monthly fraternity donation please send your check to treasurer, Barbara Massey, 862 Ventnor Drive, Newport News, VA 23608-8927. **Please make checks payable to SFO.**

Profile on Aniceta Kelly, OFS

Aniceta Kelly was born on March 8, 1945 in the providence of Badajoz, Spain. She attended catholic school in her local town. She started life on her own when she moved to Madrid, Spain. Later, as a teenager, she went to live in London, England, where she learned the English language, by attending night school. After several years of traveling the globe, she resettled in Madrid where she took a job working on a U. S. military installation and met her husband, Roger. She married in 1974 and has two children (Samantha and Roger) who were both born in Spain. Ani became a U.S. citizen in Hampton, Virginia in 1984. She has resided in Hampton Roads since 1982 and has been in Williamsburg since 2001. She is blessed with four beautiful grandchildren (2 boys and 2 girls). Ani was professed on November 2015 in the Our Lady of the Rosary Fraternity.



Regional Retreat

Our Regional Retreat is set for May 21 – 23, 2021 at the Loyola Retreat Center in Faulkner, Maryland

<https://loyolaonthepotomac.com/>



Our facilitator for the weekend will be Fr. Kevin Treston, OFM from the Holy Land Monastery in Washington, DC. For more information please go to <https://saintmargaretofcortona.org/upcoming-events/> and scroll down to the second event. The 2021 Retreat Centers cost for the weekend has not come out yet, stay tuned.



2021 Quinquennial

The National Fraternity Council came together by Zoom Teleconference, to discuss the upcoming 2021 Quinquennial (The Q) to be held in Phoenix, Arizona. The council weighed the pro's and con's concerning the COVID-19 pandemic that continues to keep us somewhat restricted in many States. It was the decision of the National Council to cancel the Quinquennial (The Q) in 2021.

This decision was made due to the uncertainty associated with the Pandemic. The council has set their sights to hold the Quinquennial, possibly in 2023. The new dates have not been set yet. The NEC has begun renegotiating the contract. Details will be relayed as soon as decisions are made. Stay tuned.

Peg Crews, OFS ~ Formation Director

To say the year 2020 has been difficult is an understatement. We live with a deadly virus that has no vaccine so we self isolate. Politics has degraded to name calling, angry vitriolic language and division across this country. We have seen marches, rallies and riots because of the breakdown in race relations. It's not been a good year and I had become pretty pessimistic about the future. I found this quote by Pedro Arrupe, SJ in James Martin's book, My Life With the Saints. Sorry it's by a Jesuit and not a Franciscan, but it spoke to me and I hope it speaks to you. It's all about trust in God.

"I am quite happy to be called an optimist, but my optimism is not of the utopian variety. It is based on hope. What is an optimist? I can answer for myself in a very simple fashion: He or she is a person who has the conviction that God knows, can do, and will do what is best for mankind." - Pedro Arrupe, originally from One Jesuit's Spiritual Journey