

# Up to Now

Newsletter of the St. Margaret of Cortona Region of the Secular Franciscan Order

Covering the District of Columbia, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia,  
and portions of West Virginia and Pennsylvania



Fr. Philippus Philippus, OFM/Cap

Volume 23 Issue 1

*Let us begin again, for up to now we have done nothing.*

August 202

## Social Justice in Action

**O**n June 7, Peg Crews and Bea Sanford, members of Our Lady of the Rosary Fraternity in Williamsburg, Va., participated in a rally to highlight the Historic Triangle Covenant of Mutuality, Inclusion and Understanding Between Law Enforcement Officials and the African American Community created on May 19, 2017, in the wake of the death of Eric Garner. The peaceful and collaborative community rally in front of the Capitol in Colonial Williamsburg was led by pastors Corwin R. Hammond (CBC World Ministries) and Fred Liggin (Williamsburg Christian Church). The event, labeled "The Rally-Covenant Phase 2," attracted a gathering of about 800 in front of the Colonial Williamsburg Capitol. Participants listened peacefully to 15 faith, community, student, political and law enforcement leaders, who reaffirmed the previous commitment of area law enforcement and the African American community "to work in collaboration and transparency to resolve injustice and racial disparities" related to policing. Several speakers shared their stories of instances of racism to increase awareness of the deeply imbedded narrative that has been below the surface since the first slaves arrived in Jamestown in 1619.

Pastor Liggin and Pastor Corwin wrote about the purpose of Sunday's gathering: "This is a rally, not a protest. Protest

(See "Justice" on page 4)



Marty O'Brien, Virginia Gazette staff

## Regional Council St. Margaret of Cortona Region

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Bob Longo, OFS

### Vice Minister:

Michael Huether, OFS

### Secretary:

Vera Stewart, OFS

### Treasurer:

Peter Noyes, OFS

### Formation Director:

Monica Zevallos, OFS

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### Regional Councilor (VA):

Peter Fargo, OFS

### Regional Councilor (MD/DE):

Barbara Countryman, OFS

### Regional Councilor (DC/Metro):

Mary Catherine Bibro, OFS

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Fr. Charley Miller, OFM

Anne Mulqueen, OFS  
(OFM Conv delegated)

Fr. Kevin Queally, TOR

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### Regional Archivist

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### Regional Newsletter Editor:

Mary Lou Coffman, OFS

<http://saintmargaretofcortona.org/>

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## Regional Minister's Message



### NEW REGIONAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS IN APRIL 2021

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Francis and Clare,

Wow, how time flies! Can you believe in April 2021 our local fraternity ministers will come together to elect a new Regional Council for 2021 - 2024? I think I can speak for

the rest of the council members and say it was a quick three years.

All positions on the council are open. I encourage all professed members to pray and think in the coming months about serving in a position on the new regional council.

Some of you may be saying, "Oh, I am not cut out to take on the role of a servant leader." At our profession, the celebrant (p.21 of the Ritual of the Secular Franciscan Order) asked us, "Do you wish to be faithful to this vocation and to practice the spirit of service proper to the Secular Franciscans?" Our way of life is a vocation to live the Gospel and to serve the fraternity as much as possible. To be a servant leader is to ensure the growth and the continued life of the Order.

You might be asking what the qualifications for servant leadership are and whether you have the qualifications to serve your fraternity, Regional Fraternity or National Fraternity.

With our sister Anne Mulqueen's permission, I would like to share her thoughts as to what it takes to be a servant leader:

. . .

#### A Secular Franciscan Servant Leader:

- Demonstrates spiritual and psychological maturity
- Shows respect for every member of the fraternity
- Demonstrates the Franciscan charism by their actions
- Is compassionate and just
- Is humble and open to the wisdom of others
- Is willing to collaborate with and EMPOWER others
- Possesses good communication skills
- Is willing and able to share necessary

information with the entire fraternity  
Talents of Servant Leader:

- Is willing to accept new ideas as suggested by members of the fraternity
- Is able to communicate a sense of accountability to fraternity members
- Collaboration and teamwork (develops commitment)
- Is able to develop new leaders while leading
- Is able to focus and mobilize the energy of the fraternity

Possesses communication skills that pull the fraternity together

As we search for our individual and fraternal gifts, we need to remember that we have been given gifts to help us as we do this. We have the gifts of the Holy Spirit, as well as the gifts of our Franciscan vocation, and we are encouraged to see each other as gifts.

As Secular Franciscans, we all have the intention to be willing instruments. The leader is being called to share those talents.

"[T]o each person the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good... But it is one and the same Spirit who produces all these gifts, distributing them to each as he wills." (1 Corinthians 12:7,11)

Prayer and discernment are vital for the good judgement to elect those who demonstrate:

- A true love for and deep sense of belonging to the OFS.
- A marked sense and spirit of service.
- Concrete availability of time, mind, and heart for the fraternity.
- Human, spiritual and character qualities, as well as the experience and preparation needed, to cope with the challenges the fraternity might face.

. . .

Our late Franciscan brother and past National Minister, Deacon Tom Bello, OFS, once said "Jesus never invites us to failure!"

Your Franciscan brother in Christ,

*Bob Lenge, OFS*

St. Margaret of Cortona Regional Minister

<http://saintmargaretof cortona.org/>





*"That they all may be one" (John 17: 21)*

*This is the second of a two-part article featuring the notes taken by Interfaith/Ecumenical Chair of Tau Fraternity, Kimberley Heatherington. She took them while attending a seminar named "The Sultan and the Saint" on November 7, 2019, at Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. Several speakers of various faiths addressed the participants. Her notes provide a summary of the dialogue events of the day. Thanks once again, Kimberley!*

4) Keynote Address: Speaker, Archbishop Christopher Pierre, Apostolic Nuncio (Vatican Ambassador to the U.S.)

We cannot forget history, but it is complex. Who is the "real" St. Francis? Who is the "real" Pope Francis? There are many narratives, and they can sometimes lead us in directions that do not correspond to reality.

Pope Francis stresses a "culture of encounter." We must dialogue and listen; we must witness.

Most sources portray St. Francis as a man of peace working to make Christ known and to make disciples of all men. But he encounters the Sultan in peace. Francis had no expectations of his conversation, but surely, the Sultan's outlook was changed by the encounter. If we enter into dialogue, we need to know where we are, or else there is no true dialogue. We must be sincere about our identity. We can only propose, not impose. We must show respect; faith is a gift to share. St. Francis was committed to poverty and peace, so he gained the Sultan's respect.

Encountering "the other" can be in the service of peace, and Pope Francis urges us to find God in every human being. The concept of human fraternity as a path for peace and mutual understanding is a major theme of the pontificate of Pope Francis. Treat others with respect and compassion, as St. Francis did.

5) Keynote Address: Speaker, Imam Mohammad Bashar Arafat, President of the Islamic Affairs Council of Maryland

The sacred mission of St. Francis is the mission of all of us reaching out to the other to promote peace and harmony. We must leave our comfort zone and accept challenges. Our own communities may or may not support us if we reach out to engage and learn about others.

The Vatican II document *Nostra Aetate* refers to Muslims:

The Church regards Muslims with esteem. They adore the one God, living and subsisting in Himself; merciful and all-powerful, the Creator of heaven and earth, who has spoken to men. They take pains to submit wholeheartedly to even His most inscrutable decrees, just as Abraham, with whom the faith of Islam takes pleasure in linking it-

self, submitted to God. Though they do not acknowledge Jesus as God, they revere Him as a prophet. They also honor Mary, His virgin Mother; at times they even call on her with devotion. In addition, they await the day of judgement when God will render their deserts to all those who have been raised up from the dead. Finally, they value the moral life and worship God especially through prayer, almsgiving, and fasting.

Since in the course of centuries not a few quarrels and hostilities have arisen between Christians and Moslems, this synod urges all to forget the past and to work sincerely for mutual understanding and to preserve as well as promote together social justice and moral welfare, as well as peace and freedom for the benefit of all mankind.

"Forget the past." We must work together.

Both St. Francis and the Sultan had deep convictions, but each wanted to see an end to the violence of the Crusades. Their encounter was 800 years ago, but many people do not know of it—and now we again have some calling for a "clash of civilizations." In the era of Francis and the Sultan, there was ignorance of the other, and there were not a few misconceptions. Now we have the resources of the internet, and much greater connectivity—but still, many are not talking to their neighbors! Suspicion and hatred of "others" threaten our world. We must use St. Francis and the Sultan as a model of engagement. We must spread understanding and stand together against division.

"Blessed are the peacemakers" should be an ideal among all faiths.

6) Roundtable Discussion: Lev Weitz, Ph.D.; Jude D'Angelo, OFM Conv.; Qamarul Huda; Dr. Mark Danner; Jordan Denari Duffner; Maryam Shahmoradi Varnamkhashi; Dr. Ibrahim Anli  
Some key points:

We don't know our own Catholic history concerning Catholic-Muslim relations.

History is not just learning facts, but developing an appreciation for and empathy with other traditions.

St. Gregory of Nyssa: "Concepts create idols; only wonder comprehends anything."

There is a difference between dialogue based on theology (doctrine) and dialogue based on spirituality (seeking).

Knowledge gaps in faith tradition can be exploited, allowing the hijacking of religions; know your faith! Learn—or unlearn—prejudices and misinformation.





Three components/levels of interreligious dialogue to consider: (i) personal and individual – establishing peace for yourself; (ii) vertical - your relationship with God; (iii) universal – your relationship with creation.

Use and reclaim the mystical tradition as a component of interreligious dialogue to seek what is authentic; there is much overlay between the Christian and Islamic mystic traditions

In future editions of the UTN, I'll feature excerpts from histories of Catholic interreligious dialogues in the United States, as well as documents of similar dialogue and interaction from the Holy See.

—Mike Huether  
*Regional Ecumenical/Interfaith Chairman*

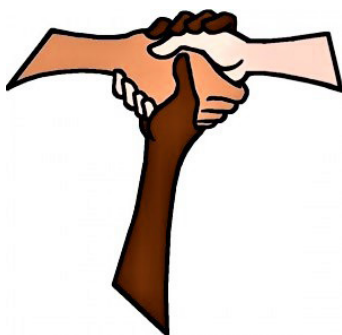


### *Racism Statement*

**S**ecular Franciscans are people of peace and justice. We live in solidarity with the poor and vulnerable. As St. Paul taught us, there is no difference between Jew and Gentile, slave or free. We therefore look beyond the obvious differences in our fellow men and women to embrace them for who they are and what they face in life. We recognize our society has problems that need to be addressed. We look for opportunities to come together and fix the brokenness in people's lives, and in our systems.

Racism is the denial of human dignity, either individually or systemically, by complicity or complacency and attempts to diminish or dehumanize those affected. Racism is clearly a "pro-life" issue and needs to be treated as such. Let us learn to see both individually and fraternally what role we can have in healing the scars and wounds of racism, restoring the strength of community.

As Franciscans, we are called to be beacons of light in the world for all peoples, for in Matthew 5:9, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God." Franciscans are called to be instruments of God's peace, and so let us be peacemakers for social justice and help stem the tide of racism and intolerance that continues to plague our community, country and the world.



("Justice" from page 1)

is denunciation of what we're against. Rally is pronouncement of what we're for. We're rallying around a renewed commitment to the Historic Triangle Covenant of Mutuality, Inclusion and Understanding with the African American Community. And we're committing to continued steps toward systemic change—which does not happen overnight and takes inclusion, hospitality, humility, truth-telling, compassion, and forgiveness. It is hard and messy and filled with difficulties of all sorts. But it is also beautiful and good and worth it if we want to see a beloved community form all around us.... Let's be truth-tellers and peacemakers, always remembering that returning hate for hate multiplies hate, but love for hate can change society one person and institution at a time."



Marty O'Brien, Virginia Gazette staff

Photo of Peg Crews by Bea Sanford



## Around the Region

### NEWLY PROFESSED

Marco Dulog, OFS, Mount La Verna Fraternity,  
Charlottesville, Va.  
Ginny Pfeffer, OFS, Mount La Verna Fraternity,  
Charlottesville, Va.  
Tif Reynolds, OFS, Mount La Verna Fraternity,  
Charlottesville, Va.  
Aaron Ruzs, OFS, Mount La Verna Fraternity,  
Charlottesville, Va.  
Carl Thompson, OFS, Mount La Verna Fraternity,  
Charlottesville, Va.



*Blessed Solanus Casey Fraternity Newly Elected Council: Thom Partenope (Treasurer), John Handiboe (Vice Minister), Mary Karth (Minister), Laurel Swencki (Secretary), Amy Kulesa (Director of Formation), Richard Scott (Councilor)*

### LOSSES IN THE FAMILY

Rose Mary Mazzaglia, OFS, April 11, 1937-May 23, 2020. She was a member of St. Mary of the Angels Fraternity and was professed on April 17, 1999.

Alfio Mazzaglia, OFS, May 10, 1938-June 7, 2020. He was a member of St. Mary of the Angels Fraternity and was professed on April 17, 2004.

Christopher Petty, OFS, May 21, 2020. He was a member of Mary Our Queen Fraternity, professed on November 10, 2018.



*Mt La Verna Fraternity (Charlottesville, Va) welcomes 5 new Candidates, as they celebrate their first in-person fraternity meeting since the pandemic began. Zoom was used for those who could not physically attend.*

### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY ELECTED

#### Blessed Solanus Casey Fraternity

Minister: Mary Karth, OFS  
Vice-Minister: John Handiboe OFS  
Secretary: Laurel Swencki OFS  
Treasurer: Thom Partenope OFS  
Formation Director: Amy Kulesa OFS  
Councilor: Richard H. Scott OFS



*Blessed Solanus Casey Fraternity, our newest fraternity: Thom Partenope, Claudette Lucas, John Handiboe, Mary Karth, Laurel Swencki, Kevin Kulesa, Amy Kulesa, Richard Scott, Br. Lawrence LaFlame. (Not pictured: Ed Haynes - Candidate)*

### Mark Your Calendar

**August 25, 2020, 7-9 p.m. - Responding to Racism.** Bishop Michael F. Burbidge will participate in this YouTube presentation. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sq2kp5clreA>



**October 3, 2020 – Transitus of Our Seraphic Father Francis.** Details to follow.

**November 14, 2020 – Chapter of Ministers.** Zoom teleconference, 9:00 a.m. Theme: Servant Leadership. Details to follow.



## Franciscan Saints, Blesseds and Feasts

(Click on the name to go to a Web link.)

### AUGUST

- 16 [Bl. Francis Chici of Pesaro](#), Third Order Secular, hermit (d. 1350)
- 17 [St. Roch of Montpellier](#), Confessor, Third Order Secular (c. 1295-August 16, 1327)
- 18 [Bl. John Louis Loir and Companions](#), Priests and Martyrs of Rochefort
- 19 [St. Louis of Toulouse](#), Bishop, Order of Friars Minor (February 9, 1274-August 19, 1297)
- 21 [St. Pius X](#), Pope, Third Order Secular (June 2, 1835-August 20, 1914)
- 23 [Bl. Bernard of Offida](#), Friar, OFM Capuchin (November 7, 1604-August 22, 1694)
- 25 [St. Louis IX](#), King of France, Patron of the Third Order Secular (April 15, 1214-August 26, 1270)
- 25 [Bl. Maria del Transito Cabanillas](#), Founder, Franciscan Tertiary Missionary Sisters (August 15, 1821-August 25, 1885)
- 28 [St. Junipero Serra](#), Priest, Alcantarine Friars Minor, missionary (November 24, 1713-August 28, 1784)

### SEPTEMBER

- 1 [St. Beatrice of Silva](#), Founder, Conceptionist Poor Clares (c. 1424-August 9, 1492)
- 2 [Bls. Apollinaris of Posat, John Francis Burté, Severin Girault](#), Priests, and companions, martyrs, First and Third Orders (d. 1792)
- 4 [St. Rose of Viterbo](#), Third Order Secular (c. 1233-March 6, 1251)
- 5 [Bl. Gentle of Matelic](#), Priest, First Order, martyr (d. September 5, 1340)
- 6 [Bl. Liberatus of Lauro](#), Priest, First Order (d. 1260)
- 9 [Bl. Seraphina Sforza](#), Poor Clare Nun (1434-September 8, 1478)
- 11 [Bl. Bonaventure of Barcelona](#), Friar, Founder Convent of St. Bonaventure (d. 1684)
- 13 [First Order, Third Order Regular and Secular Franciscans](#), martyrs of Japan (d. 1617-1628)
- 17 [Feast of the Stigmata of our Holy Father Francis](#)
- 18 [St. Joseph of Cupertino Friar](#), Order of Friars Minor Conventual (June 17, 1603-September 18, 1663)
- 20 [St. Francis Mary of Camporosso Friar](#), Order of Friars Minor Capuchin (December 27, 1804-September 17, 1866)

- 21 [Bl. Elizabeth Amodei](#), Third Order Secular (1475-February 4, 1498)
- 22 [St. Ignatius of Santhia](#), Priest, Order of Friars Minor (June 1686-September 22, 1770)
- 23 [Finding the Body of St. Clare](#)
- 23 [St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina](#), Priest, Order of Friars Minor Capuchin (May 25, 1887-September 23, 1968)
- 24 [St. Pacificus of Severino Priest](#), Order of Friars Minor (March 1, 1653-September 24, 1721)
- 26 [Bl. Aurelio of Vinales and Companions](#), Priest and Martyrs of Valencia (d. 1936)
- [Bl. Lucy of Caltagirone](#), Third Order Regular (d. c.1400)
- [St. Elzear of Sabran](#), (1285-September 27, 1323)
- [Bl. Delphina of Glandenes](#), (1284-November 1358) Husband and Wife, Secular Franciscans
- 28 [Bl. Bernadine of Feltre](#), Order of Friars Minor, missionary (1439-September 28, 1494)
- [St. John of Dukla](#), Priest, Order of Friars Minor Conventual (1414-1484)
- 29 [Feast of Saint Michael the Archangel](#)
- 30 [Bl. Charles of Blois](#), Third Order Secular (1319-September 29, 1364)



### OCTOBER

- 1 [Bl. Nicolas of Forca Palena](#), Priest, Third Order Regular (September 10, 1349-October 1, 1449)
- 3 [Commemoration of the Transitus of St. Francis of Assisi](#)
- 4 [Solemnity of our Seraphic Father Saint Francis](#)
- 5 [Bl. Felicia Meda](#), Order of Poor Clares (1378-September 30, 1444)
- 6 [St. Mary Frances of the Five Wounds](#), Third Order Secular (March 25, 1715-October 7, 1791)
- 10 [St. Daniel and Companions](#), Priests, Order of Friars Minor, Martyrs (d. October 10, 1227)
- [Bl. Marie-Angela Truszkowska](#), Founder, Third Order Regular (May 16, 1825-October 10, 1899)
- 11 [St. Pope John XXIII](#), Pope, Third Order Secular (November 25, 1881-June 3, 1963)
- 12 [St. Seraphin of Montegranaro](#), Religious, Order of Friars Minor Capuchin (1540-October 12, 1604)



- 13 **Bl. Honorat Kozminski**, Friar, Order of Friars Minor Capuchin (October 16, 1829-December 16, 1916)
  - 17 **Bl. Balthazar of Chiavari**, Priest, Order of Friars Minor (1420-October 17, 1492)
  - 18 **Bl. James of Strepur**, Archbishop, Order of Friars Minor (c. 1340-October 1409)
  - 19 **St. Peter of Alcántara**, Priest, Franciscan Stricter Observance (1499-October 18, 1562)
  - 20 **Bl. Contardo Ferrini**, Third Order Secular (April 5, 1859-October 17, 1902)
  - 23 **St. John Capistrano**, Priest, Order of Friars Minor (June 24, 1386-October 23, 1456)
  - 23 **Bl. Josephine Leroux**, Poor Clare, martyr (January 23, 1747-October 23, 1794)
  - 25 **Bl. Maria Jesus Ferragut**, virgin, and companions, martyrs of Valencia [Maria Veronica Masiá, Maria Felicity Masiá Ferragut, Isabel Claduch Rovira, Milagros Ortells Gimeno], Poor Clares, d. 1936
  - 26 **Bl. Bonaventure of Potenza**, Priest, Order of Friars Minor Conventuals (d. October 26, 1711)
  - 29 **Bl. Thomas of Florence**, Friar, Order of Friars Minor (1370-October 31, 1447)
  - 30 Anniversary of the Dedication in Consecrated Churches of the Seraphic Order
  - Bl. Angelo of Acri**, Priest, Order of Friars Minor Capuchin (October 19, 1669-October 30, 1739)
  - 31 **Bl. Christophe of Cahors**, Friar, Order of Friars Minor (c. 1172-October 31, 1272)
- 6 **Bl. Teresa Manganiello**, Third Order Secular, (January 1, 1849-November 4, 1876)
  - 6 **Bl. Marguerite de Lorraine**, Poor Clare Nun (1463-November 2, 1521)
  - 7 **St. Didacus of Alcalá**, Friar, Order of Friars Minor Observant (c. 1400-November 12, 1463)
  - Bl. Raynier of Arezzo**, Friar, Order of Friars Minor (d. 1304)
  - 8 **Bl. John Duns Scotus**, Priest, Order of Friars Minor, Doctor of the Church (c. 1266-November 1308)
  - 9 **Bl. Gabriel Ferretti**, Priest, First Order (1385-November 12, 1456)
  - 11 **Bl. Mary Crucifixa**, Secular Franciscan Order (February 19, 1782-December 16, 1826)
  - 12 **Bl. Giovanni della Pace**, Third Order Secular (1353-November 12, 1433)
  - 14 **St. Nicholas Tavelic and Companions**, Croatian Friar, Order of Friars Minor Martyrs of Palestine (c. 1340-November 14, 1391)
  - 15 **Bl. Mary of the Passion**, Founder Franciscan Missionaries of Mary (May 21, 1839-November 15, 1904)
  - 17 **St. Elizabeth of Hungary**, Secular Franciscan, Patroness of the Third Order (July 7, 1207-November 17, 1231)



## NOVEMBER

- 3 **Bl. Helen Enselmini**, Poor Clare Nun (1208-November 4, 1242)
- 4 **St. Charles Borromeo**, Secular Franciscan Cardinal, Protector of the Friars Minor (October 2, 1538-November 3, 1584)

**Determine Your Impact:** The [Eco Footprint](#), [Carbon Footprint](#) and [Water Footprint](#) calculators give you a great way to determine how you are impacting the environment.

# JUBILEE FOR THE EARTH



[https://wcrc.ch/news/season\\_of\\_creation\\_2020](https://wcrc.ch/news/season_of_creation_2020)

## 2020

CELEBRATION GUIDE



**SEASON OF  
CREATION**