

## *The Clarion*



### *St. Clare Fraternity*

St. Edmond Church  
Rehoboth Beach, DE  
*October 2020*

**“FOLLOW JESUS BY WALKING IN THE STEPS OF FRANCIS OF ASSISI, AND IMITATE HIS JOYFUL LOVE”**

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GATHERING DATE  
**THURSDAY October 8, 2020**  
**St. Edmond Church**

#### **REMINDER**

**THANK YOU** for continuing to support our  
Common Fund!  
As we remain in this time of ‘social distancing’ please  
send your monthly donation to:  
Kevin Mumford, ofs  
100 Ivywood Knob  
Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971

#### **October 8**

11:00am: We will meet in St. Edmond Church for  
the Rite of Admission, followed by Mass.  
Please remember your mask and sanitize  
your hands as you enter the Church.  
(We will dismiss after Mass.)

#### **October 15**

1:00pm: Zoom Gathering  
Formation: Francis’s Admonition #27 on  
Peacemaking  
Presenter: Andy Zampini  
The link for this Zoom session is:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85210619073>  
To dial in by phone use:  
1-301-715-8592; meeting ID: 852 1061 9073

#### **MINISTER’S MESSAGE**

My Sisters and Brothers,

Did you ever wonder what it would feel like to be  
healed by Jesus at the time He walked on earth?

We are all familiar with the Gospel story of the ten  
lepers. What an incredible experience these  
individuals had as they were given a “new lease on  
life.”

Being healed evokes a sense of gratitude. I wonder  
why only one came back to thank Jesus. What was  
going on with the other nine? Were they not  
grateful, or were they so overwhelmed with joy that  
they celebrated with their families and moved on to  
do good things with their “new lease on life”?

Why did Jesus heal the lepers? After all, these were  
the outcasts of the society. Was he healing them with  
the expectation of receiving thanks? I don’t think so.  
He healed them because they asked. His healing was  
unconditional. He didn’t “un-do” the healing because  
they didn’t return to thank him. He healed them out  
of love.

Just as Jesus was there to minister to the lepers, so  
too, are we called to minister to the poor and those on  
the fringes of our society. We are to do this out of  
love and not for personal recognition or for getting a  
“thanks for a job well done!” Some will be grateful,  
some will not return to say thanks, and some will  
move on to do good things with the help we provided.

We know that Francis was repulsed by the sight and  
smell of lepers. His conversion came when he was  
confronted by a leper and was moved to embrace

him. This embrace changed his life. Francis says that what was once a disgusting sight for him became something sweet. Francis' focus went from "self" to a focus on other people and their needs and their suffering.

We are called to be healers. Are we prepared to hug the lepers whom we encounter in our lives? Are we prepared to do so recognizing their God-given dignity? Will our intention be to do this out of love of our neighbor as Jesus and Francis did?

Peace and Good!  
Andy

#### OUR FRATERNITY GATHERINGS IN 2020

October 8 (Rite of Admission)  
October 15 (Zoom Formation)  
November 12  
December 10

#### OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Jerry Krauss	10/03
Fr. William Cocco	10/10

#### OCTOBER PROFESSIONS

Laraine Hofmann	10/08/2015
Celine Mallonee	10/08/2015
Jim Mullen	10/08/2015
Jeri Pierce	10/08/2015
Jackie Boyd	10/09/2009
Frances Butler	10/09/2009
Mary Moran	10/09/2009
Tom Carter	10/09/2014
Connie Kemp English	10/10/2013
Nicole Meringolo	10/13/2011
John Downing	10/13/2016
Joe Smith	10/13/2016
Natalie Blakely	10/14/2010
Bonnie Coté	10/14/2010
Carolyn Protin	10/16/1991
Judy Bennett	10/16/1994

#### OCTOBER PRAYER REQUESTS

Janice and Dick McCarthy, ofs  
Mimi Farrell, ofs  
Bev & Ron Stoner, ofs  
Lucy Deiaco, ofs  
Linda Sciallo, ofs  
Nicole Meringolo, ofs  
Bonnie Coté, ofs  
Jim Mullen, ofs  
Marty Rendon, ofs  
Rhona Prescott, ofs  
Celine Mallonee, ofs  
Laraine Hofmann, ofs

We pray for our deceased relatives and friends  
and especially:

John & Mary Lou Zell, ofs  
Deacon Buddy Bianco, ofs  
Deacon Bob Leonzio  
Barbara Petrisko, ofs  
Bill Farrell, ofs  
Bill Walker, ofs  
Dee Matthews. ofs

Our brother, Frank Rega offers this reflection

The Tears of St. Francis.

St. Bonaventure says there is no devotion more fitted to sanctifying a soul than meditation on the Passion of Jesus Christ. "If you would make progress, meditate daily on the Passion of the Lord; for nothing works such an entire sanctification of the soul." Wherefore the saints were always occupied in considering the sorrows of Jesus Christ; it was by this means that St. Francis of Assisi became a seraph. He was one day found by a gentleman shedding tears and crying out with a loud voice. Being asked the cause: "I weep," he answered, "over the sorrows and ignominies of my Lord; and what causes me the greatest sorrow is, that men, for whom he suffered so much, live in forgetfulness of him." And on saying this he wept the more, so that this gentleman began also himself to weep. When the saint heard the bleating of a lamb, or saw anything which reminded him of the Passion of Jesus, he immediately shed tears. On another occasion, being sick, some one told him to read some pious book. "My book," he replied, "is Jesus Crucified." He did nothing but exhort his brethren to be ever thinking of the Passion of Jesus Christ. [From *The Holy Eucharist*, by St. Alphonsus Liguori, pp 273-4.]

And so Francis taught his friars by his own example that those who are trying to be perfect must cleanse themselves daily with tears of contrition. He had attained extraordinary purity of soul and body, yet he never ceased from purifying his spiritual vision with floods of tears, and thought nothing of the fact that it was costing him his sight. As a result of his continual weeping, he developed serious eye trouble, but when the doctor advised him to restrain his tears, he replied, "Brother doctor, we share this world's light in common with flies; we must not refuse to enjoy the presence of everlasting light merely to save it." He preferred to lose his sight than to check the fervor of his spirit and restrain the tears which sharpened his spiritual vision and enabled him to see God. [From St. Bonaventure, *Major Life*, Chap V; no. 8.]

(We are unable to meet for Transitus. This is a beautiful guide to observe this holy event at home.)

## THE TRANSITUS (DEATH) OF SAINT FRANCIS

Saint Francis died just after sunset on October 3. He recited Psalm 142 and, during the closing verse, he died. This event is solemnly recalled each year by Franciscans to honor their holy Father's entrance into joy. We invite you to commemorate this night

### TRANSITUS SERVICE IN ONE'S OWN HOME

The following observance may be done in the privacy of your own home or with a few others in your living room or parlor.

Light two candles and have a relic or image of St. Francis available.

Begin with Evening Prayer 1 from the Liturgy of the Hours. If you do not have the Liturgy of the Hours or do not know how to pray it, pray instead the Fourth and Fifth Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary, 'The Crucifixion of Jesus' and "The Death of Jesus on the Cross.'

Read the following excerpt from Francis's Testament given shortly before he died:

#### **The Testament of Saint Francis (1226)**

*I worked with my own hands, and I am still determined to work, and with all my heart I wish to have all the rest of the brothers work at employment that can be carried out without scandal. Those who do not know how to work should learn, not because they want to get something for their efforts, but to give good example and to avoid idleness. And should the wages of our work not be given to us, we can turn to God's table and beg alms from door to door. God revealed a form of greeting to me, telling me that we should say, "God give you peace."*

Pause for a few moments of silent reflection.

Venerate (kiss or touch) the Relic or image of St. Francis.

An appropriate hymn or song may be sung.

The following antiphon is said:

*Alleluia, Alleluia, Francis, poor and humble, enters heaven rich and is welcomed with celestial hymns. Alleluia.*

Then follows Psalm 142:

<sup>1</sup> A maskil of David, when he was in the cave. A prayer.

<sup>2</sup> *With full voice I cry to the LORD; with full voice I beseech the LORD.*

<sup>3</sup> *Before God I pour out my complaint, lay bare my distress.*

<sup>4</sup> *My spirit is faint within me, but you know my path. Along the way I walk they have hidden a trap for me.*

<sup>5</sup> *I look to my right hand, but no friend is there. There is no escape for me; no one cares for me.*

<sup>6</sup> *I cry out to you, LORD, I say, You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.*

<sup>7</sup> *Listen to my cry for help, for I am brought very low. Rescue me from my pursuers, for they are too strong for me.*

<sup>8</sup> *Lead me out of my prison, that I may give thanks to your name. Then the just shall gather around me because you have been good to me.*

*Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.*

The Antiphon is repeated:

*Alleluia, Alleluia, Francis, poor and humble, enters heaven rich and is welcomed with celestial hymns. Alleluia.*

Blow out the candles to signify the death of Saint Francis.

Then, having in mind St. Francis' devotion to the wounds of our Lord, and looking at the figure of the Crucified, with arms outstretched, say five times the prayer of Our Lord:

*Our Father Who art in heaven, hallowed by Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.*

End with the following prayer:

*O God, you granted our blessed Father Francis the reward of everlasting joy: grant that we, who celebrate the memory of his death, may at last come to the same eternal joy; through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

