

# The Little Portion

October 2020

Next Fraternity Zoom Meeting  
Monday October 26th @ 7:30 pm

### Agenda

7:30 Opening Prayer  
Ongoing Formation:  
In preparation read the chapter on Secret 5 from the book: *7 Secrets of the Eucharist*.  
Discussion. We will discuss questions that were sent out via email on October 9th  
Facilitator: Bonnie Ng  
Closing Prayer

### Prayer Intentions

The Simmons Family  
Ron Teller  
Jeffrey Teller Jr.  
Wes Wise  
Roland Willard  
Mary Rose Scelsi  
Baby Ava (Donna's Grand Niece)  
Catherine Fischer and her sister Mary Ann.  
Baby -Daniel John  
Evelyn Yawn and her husband  
Margaret Wise's mother Ruth  
Armando- Ginger's father  
For those is the Book of Intention.  
St. Francis, St. Clare and St. Pio pray for us.



**"A society that makes a mockery of the word of God is sure to incur divine wrath and punishment."  
Br. Giles of Assisi**

# St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina Fraternity

Ordo Saecularis Franciscanus  
St. Margaret of Cortona Region



October Birthday



Richard Elliott 10/21

### Dear Fellow Members of the Padre Pio Fraternity,

Every month, we send \$20 to one of our two apostolates, National Center for Padre Pio or the Franciscan Center. And every month I get an acknowledgement of the donation. Sometimes they will end information or holy cards as a thank you. I want to share with you the attached newsletter sent by the Franciscan Center and a holy card from the Padre Pio National Center. Thank you for your participation and support for the fraternity.

Here is a quote from St. Francis, "The deeds you do may be the only sermon some persons will hear today.  
Peace and Love,  
Stan

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

John 8:12

Holy Card from the National Center for Padre Pio



### Franciscan Center Newsletter



**O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. May the plans of the evil one be crushed under your heel and obtain from your Divine Son an Election according to His Holy Will.**

## Franciscan Life: Living In Faithfulness to the Eucharist

“The oft-repeated words of St. Francis, “No one showed me what to do but the Most High Lord himself,” indicate his deep union in prayer with God. His equally close relationship with our Eucharistic Christ is telling evidence of his prayerful hours with Christ. Hence, he urged us every time we enter a church to pray: “We adore you, O Lord Jesus, here and in the churches throughout the world, and we praise you because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.”

As a result of this attitude of St. Francis and the whole spirit of the Church, the rule states: “Let them participate in the sacramental life of the Church, above all the Eucharist.” St. Francis found much strength and inspiration from the Eucharistic Sacrifice. The lack of mystery and reverence in many expressions of some liturgies does find them wanting in the minds and hearts of many. The evident lack of respect in the houses of God, the open talking, the ignoring of Christ in the tabernacle, and the casual behavior of worshippers does grate on the spiritual sensitivities of many. All this should not make you beg off or grow lukewarm. Your own interior spirit of faith must grow stronger and exert a proper stimulation for the interior growth in others. Good liturgies are around us, and we should support them. Holy Mass must still be our main act of worship. Here, Christ is our priest, our victim, and our food. St. Francis was insistent upon clean churches, clean linens and the utmost respect for the Eucharist. Your supportive help is necessary today. We must always keep in mind his deep reverence for the priest, even an unworthy one, because the priest changes the bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ.”

*From: Called to Live the Dynamic Power of the Gospel*

*Commentary on the Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order by Philip Marquand, OFM.pp.33-34*

### True and Perfect Joy Franciscans and Suffering

- Even in suffering, Francis experienced confidence and joy from:
  - + the experience of the fatherhood of God;
  - + the invincible faith of rising with Christ to eternal life;
  - + the experience of being able to meet and praise the Creator in the universal fraternity of all creatures.

(From the FUN Manual Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order-Theresa Baker, OFS)



“Some people are so foolish that they think they can go through life without the help of the Blessed Mother. Love the Madonna and pray the rosary, for her rosary is the weapon against the evils of the world today. All graces given by God pass through the Blessed Mother.” St. Padre Pio

“The Most Holy Virgin in these last times in which we live has given a new efficacy to the recitation of the rosary to such an extent that there is no problem, no matter how difficult it is, whether temporal or above all spiritual, in the personal life of each one of us, of our families.... That cannot be solved by the Rosary. There is no problem, I tell you, no matter how difficult it is, that we cannot resolve by the prayer of the Holy Rosary.” Sr. Lucia ( Fatima Seer)

### Reminder

Please pray for our National Minister Jan Parker, O.F.S. who recently underwent surgery for ovarian cancer and is getting chemotherapy. Barbara Teller will be sending a Mass Card from Padre Pio Fraternity.

### Minister's Message

October is dedicated to Month of the Holy Rosary. October 7<sup>th</sup> is the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary which was originally called the Feast of Our Lady of Victory as a result of the Christians winning the Naval Battle of Lepanto. It was changed to the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary to commemorate the prayer used to obtain the defeat of the Turks.

In our Fraternity we are familiar with the fact that Padre Pio had his rosary with him always and called it his weapon. I began wondering about who first called the rosary a weapon. I looked into a small book I have had for about 30 years with yellowing pages called *The Secret of the Rosary* by St. Louis De Montfort. There I found my answer. St. Louis De Montfort writes that how Dominic obtained the rosary is recounted in the book "*De Dignitate Psalterii*" by Blessed Alan de la Roche an Apostle of the Holy Rosary. St. Louis writes that "Our Lady appeared to St. Dominic accompanied by three angels and said: "Dear Dominic, do you know which weapon the Blessed Trinity wants use to use to reform the world? Dominic replied, "you know better than I do because next to your Son Jesus Christ, you have always been the chief instrument of our salvation." Our Lady replied, "I want you to know that, in this kind of warfare, the battering ram has always been the Angelic Psalter(Hail Mary) which is the foundation of the New Testament. Therefore if you want to reach these hardened souls and win them to God, preach my Psalter." In monasteries at that time the Angelic Psalter was the praying of 150 Hail Marys but it was to be weaponized with the Our Father and meditation of the Mysteries of Life, Death and Resurrection of Jesus of which the Albigensians were in error about.

Many Saints and Popes have been devoted to the Rosary. Popes have written encyclicals on the rosary exclaiming its efficacy and urging it as a prayer for religious and the laity alike. Certainly, our present world is in need of the Prayer of the Rosary. On the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary this month during his General Audience, Pope Francis urged Catholics to pray the Marian Prayer especially amid the "looming threats to the world." Let us heed the words of Pope Francis but most especially of Our Blessed Mother to pray the Rosary to end the pandemic and for the conversion of hearts to her Son, Jesus to "reform the world". Bonnie Ng, O.F.S.



Every month we have been attaching the Fraternity Discussion Notes from our last Zoom Meeting to the Newsletter. This has been done for those who do not have access to Zoom to attend the meetings or who are absent. It is also a good review for those who have participated in our ongoing formation. Thank you Ginger for taking on this extra duty and doing such a fine job!

#### Council

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Spiritual Assistant: Br. Emmanuel Wenke	
Newsletter Editor: Bonnie Ng	

## Fraternity Discussion for Secret 4

### **1. Pope Leo XIII tells us that the Eucharist contains, through a “variety of miracles, all supernatural realities.” Mull over the term” supernatural realities.”**

What do you think that means?

- Dictionary definition: of or relating to an order of existence beyond the visible, observable universe. Of or relating to God, demigod, spirit, devil. Departing from what is usual/normal especially so as to appear to transcend the laws of nature.
- Means miracles—look at Padre Pio
  - When Br. Alessio came, he couldn’t talk because he was surrounded by angels
  - He had a close relationship with his guardian angel
- God is everywhere. Everything on the altar is a part of God.

### **2. Look over the review of the first three chapters, found on pages 57-58.**

a. Can you see how each one of these miracles is a supernatural reality?

- First 3 chapters
  - Eucharist is alive
  - Christ is always with the Trinity, even during eucharist
  - There is only one Mass—the eternal “now”
- We accept miracles as Catholics because we have been told of them since we were young
- When looking at the miracle of the loaves and fishes, another miracle is found—Jesus opened the hearts of 5,000 to share food with one another
- Church’s teachings on miracle helps us to discern which are “real”

b. Which miracle stands out to you the most?

- Miracle may be individual—just for you
- Br. Emmanuel witnessed young woman in intense pain for years healed at retreat during Benediction with Blessed Sacrament—walking around with no more pain
- Roland—incorrupt saints are miracles
- Eucharist is the most important miracle
- Donna—Roland is my miracle!

c. Do any of these miracles help you grow in your awareness of what an amazing gift the Eucharist is?

- Every time we pass by a church, we bless ourselves to acknowledge Eucharist in tabernacle
- When a Eucharistic minister visiting those in the hospital, other patients give special attention

### **3. Many people have a hard time believing in miracles because they cannot be logically explained.**

a. Are you the kind of person who sometimes wants explanation or proof for things?

- There are miracles all around us—look at the babies in church to see a miracle

b. If so, does this affect your belief in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist?

- The Eucharist is the greatest miracle
- Although the host and wine do not appear as flesh and blood, it is a miracle

- Need to watch for what changes in you after reception of Eucharist

**4. The Eucharist is “a course of resplendent miracles” and thus should inspire awe and amazement; but it is very easy to lose sight of this in the distractions of daily life and to receive the Lord absentmindedly.**

What are some things that will help you retain this awe and receive the Lord with awareness and reverence?

- Some have not been able to receive Eucharist during pandemic. Miss this terribly. True yearning for Eucharist.
- When you watch Mass on television, you can participate in *spiritual communion*
- Get to Mass early to focus on the Mass
- Ask the Holy Spirit to help us better appreciate Eucharist

**5. The Eucharist contains “the Church’s entire spiritual wealth” and “is the greatest treasure to the Church.”**

a. How does this truth change how you feel about the Eucharist?

- Eucharist gives us strength and certainty
- Strengthens our resolve
- We believe in our hearts that it is the body and blood of Christ
- Eucharist makes a difference in our life
- We experience sadness and longing when we cannot receive Eucharist
- Coming from a Protestant background, realize it is a treasure to receive Eucharist every day of the week

b. Have you ever considered the Eucharist to be your greatest wealth?

- Gives us grace to grow
- Eucharist is the summit—Jesus himself—there is nothing greater
- Source of energy to go out and do something good in the world
- If you have even a “mustard seed” of faith, you have everything

**6. Christ wants to accomplish miracles in us through the Eucharist and “fill us with every heavenly blessing and grace.”**

a. What miracle do you need Christ to work in you?

- Like the “scales are coming off my eyes”—can see God in everything
- Br. Emmanuel prayed--God called him to become a priest
- Striving for holiness; ask God to lead us
- Grace to recognize what we need to improve and help us
- Help us to love you more
- Recognize God’s grace in everything

b. How can you be more open to being transformed by His presence in the Eucharist?

- Need to improve our trust in God to give me the grace to change for the better
- Ask Christ to make us better—it’s a journey
- To make progress, we still need Christ in Eucharist
- God does not force us; we need to be willing to say “yes” to God
- Help us to show Christian kindness to all