

**St. Mary of The Angels Fraternity
Order of the Secular Franciscan
The Angelus - JANUARY 10, 2021**

Where is He who has been born
KING OF THE JEWS? For we saw His ~~STAR~~ in the east
and have come to
Worship Him.



Minister: Susan Jamison

Vice-Minister: Sonia Bernardo

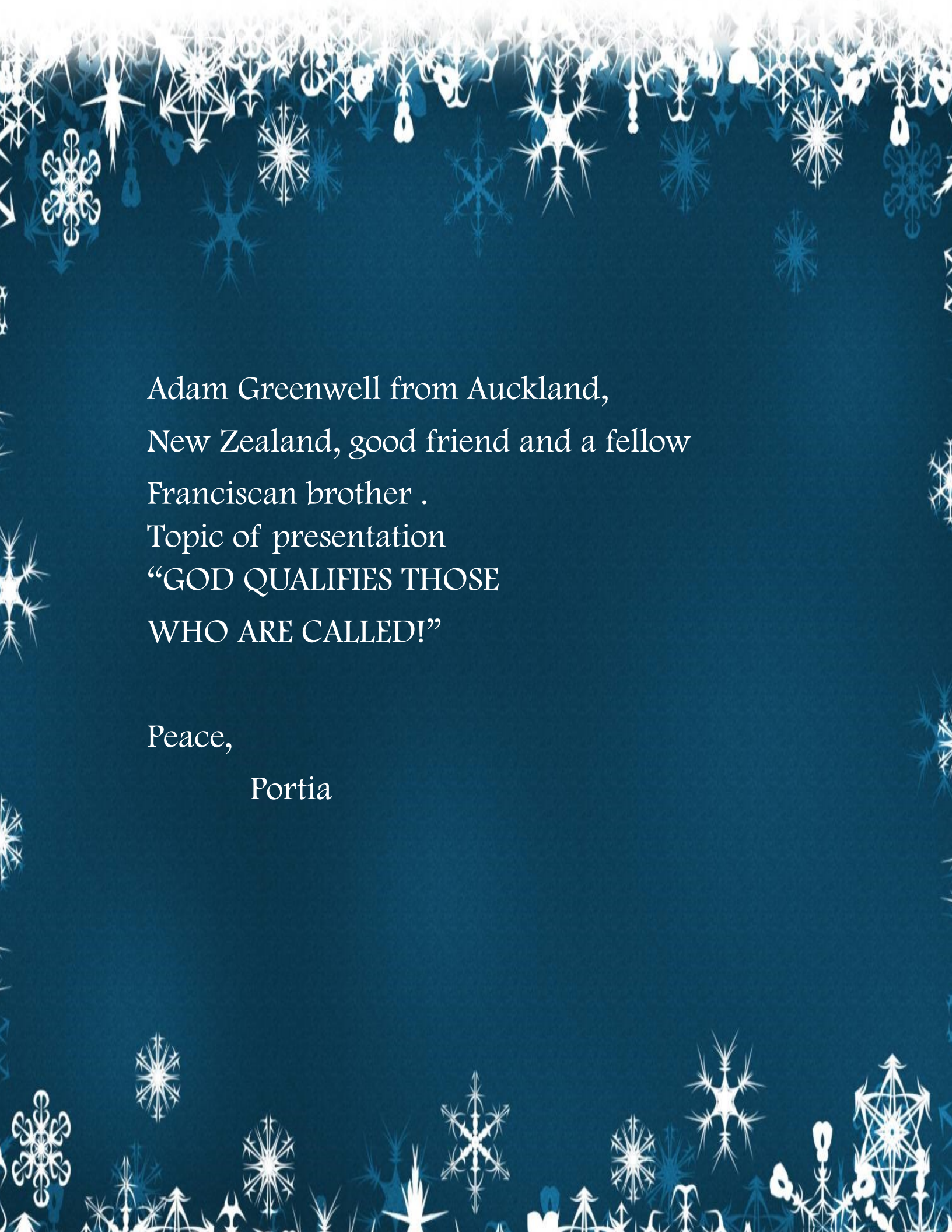
Spiritual Assistant: Michael Huether - Formation Director: Tom McGrath Secretary: Portia -



Treasurer: Carmencita Fiesta

Counselors: Lilian Soriano, Mary Badjo & Irma Jean-Baptiste

The Angelus: Mary Badjo



Adam Greenwell from Auckland,
New Zealand, good friend and a fellow
Franciscan brother .
Topic of presentation
“GOD QUALIFIES THOSE
WHO ARE CALLED!”

Peace,

Portia

Fr. Michael's Mission, Inc.

December 14, 2020



St. Mary of the Angels Fraternity Carmencita Fiesta
3330 N. Leisure World Blvd #914 Silver Spring, MD
20906

Dear Carmencita,

This letter is to acknowledge your contribution of \$240.00 to Fr. Michael's Mission, Inc. to further support those in need of adequate food, clothing and shelter. I am very grateful for your kindness and generosity. Please know that your contribution, in its entirety, will benefit the needs of the less fortunate in our community.

Thanking you for your support of Fr. Michael's Mission, Inc.
Peace and blessings,



Rev. Michael Bries

NO GOODS OR SERVICES WERE RECEIVED IN RETURN FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION

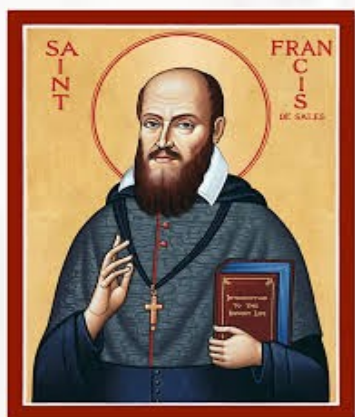
*Serving the Least Among
Us*

E-mail: frmichaelsmissioninc@gmail.com

200 Howard Street, PO Box 1115, La Plata, MD 20646

Phone: 240-601-2238 a«+ FEIN: 83-4253414

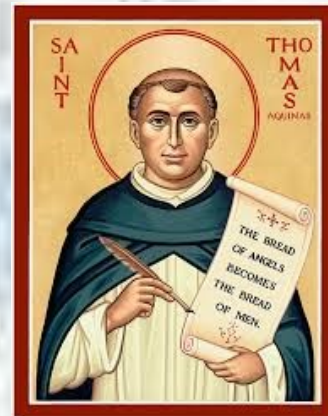
St. Francis De Sales — January 24



St. Francis de Sales was born to a noble family at Chateau de Sales in the Kingdom of Savoy near Geneva, Switzerland on August 21, 1567. He was a Bishop and Doctor of the Church. Francis was both intelligent and gentle. From a very early age, he desired to serve God. He knew for years he had a vocation to the priesthood, but kept it from his family. His father wanted him to enter a career in law and politics. In 1580, Francis attended the University of Paris, and at 24-years-old, he received his doctorate in law at the University of Padua. All the time, he never lost his passion for God. He studied theology and practiced mental prayers, but kept quiet about his devotion. To please his father, he also studied fencing and riding. God made his will clear to Francis one day while he was riding. Francis fell from his horse three times that day. Every time he fell, the sword came out of the scabbard, and every time it came out, the sword and scabbard came to rest on the ground in the shape of the Christian cross. After much discussion and disagreement from his father, Francis was ordained to the priesthood and elected provost of the Diocese of Geneva, in 1593, by the Bishop of Geneva.

Thomas of Aquinas — January 28

Saint Thomas was born of noble parents at Aquino in Italy, in 1226. At the age of nineteen he received the Dominican habit at Naples, where he was studying. Seized by his brothers on his way to Paris, he suffered a two years' captivity in their castle of Rocca-Secca; but neither the caresses of his mother and sisters, nor the threats and stratagems of his brothers, could shake him in his vocation. While St. Thomas was in confinement at Rocca-Secca, his brothers endeavored to entrap him into sin, but the attempt only ended in the triumph of his purity. Snatching from the hearth a burning brand, the Saint drove from his chamber the wretched creature whom they had there concealed. Then marking a cross upon the wall, he knelt down to pray, and forthwith, being rapt in ecstasy, an angel girded him with a cord, in token of the gift of perpetual chastity which God had given him. The pain caused by the girdle was so sharp that St. Thomas uttered a piercing cry, which brought his guards into the room. But he never told this grace to any one save only to Father Raynald, his confessor, a little while before his death. Hence originated the Confraternity of the "Angelic Warfare," for the preservation of the virtue of chastity. Having at length escaped, St. Thomas went to Cologne to study under Blessed Albert the Great, and after that to Paris, where for many years he taught philosophy and theology.



SPIRITUAL ASSISTANT'S MESSAGE

January, 2021

My next several articles are based upon a book entitled, "The Franciscan Charism in the Third Millenium" by Anselm W. Romb, OFM, Conv. Fr. Romb resides at the Marytown Franciscan Friary of Libertyville, Illinois. In this book, Fr. Romb expounds on his thoughts on the status and relevancy of the Franciscan charism of the current times. Specifically, these first few articles reference the book's chapter entitled, "Recovering the Franciscan Charism".

In scripture, chapter eight of the First Book of Samuel tells us about the elders of Israel approaching the prophet to request a new ruler for their land. They thought their present king was old and had no confidence in either of his sons becoming heir to the throne. God was not too enthralled with the elders' position on the kingship, but did tell Samuel to listen to the people. Samuel responded to the elders with a warning not to give in to secularism: desiring to be like other nations. When the new kingship was settled, however, it resulted in an improved identity as a community of God for the people of Israel. The desires of the elders and Israelites to be aligned more with the secular world ultimately proved to be a very fruitful step for Judaism on a national level. The Israelites maintained their charism as God's chosen people.

All religious orders, thus, should maintain a continuous state of growth and reformation. Those who possess a charism, like the Franciscans, should be flexible enough to preserve it and at the same time, avoid obscuring it with temporary exceptions. On May 23, 1964, Pope Paul VI addressed the leaders of various religious Orders reminding them that they can continue to be prosperous only if their activities and ways of life remain under the inspiration of their founders. In 1983, Pope John Paul II admonished all the Orders to return to their original charisms.

The Dominican Order struggles with contemplation as applied to discipleship. The Carmelites are grappling with the idea that the solitude of religious recluses and hermits can be compatible with clergy and ministry duties. The Jesuits are reconsidering their services as a missionary institution and sponsors of small and first- rate liberal arts colleges. The Benedictines are concerned with how stable their place and their origin as a lay order will relate to the mobility of modern life. Canonical exemptions do allow for religious institutes to nurture their charisms which the local diocese ordinaries could not be expected to understand within their clerical assignments of their dioceses. Some theologians wish to refer to religious priests only to be members of the diocese presbyterate. It has also been found that the religious orders are at times divided on issues since they are moved freely from one diocese to another oftentimes without long-range allegiances to programs of the local ordinaries. This has led to the argument that the religious orders should either be suppressed altogether or should be totally regulated in their assignments by the diocese bishop. The Church, of course, is best served when the religious order clergy work closely with and collaborate with the diocese priests and laity for the best of cooperation and coordination of collegial processes in areas where the religious are affected. The mission of all religious orders, however, is received primarily from the Pope, the focus of the Church's universal mission. Thus all religious personnel: priests, sisters, brothers, and laity, need to have canonical exemption for their mobility and service within the universal Church. Next month, I'll conclude this collaboration and take a look into where our Franciscan Order and family fits into the "equation".

May the Lord give you peace!

Mike

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

As we continue to struggle with the Covid isolation, I hope that your prayer life and your phone and Internet connections with other people are helping you cope with this. I have been very happy with the daily prayers that are being said on zoom. I wish I could join the group more often but my grandmotherly responsibilities (as well as my work) have prevented it. It's so important that we pray for people more than ever. So many people are passing into eternity before they expected it. Many of them need our prayers. God bless you for all that you do.
You are an inspiration to me.

Blessings,
Susan





Reflection and Prayer

Happy January Birthday!

21 – Michael Huether;

23 –Hazel Cummings and Brenda Dawson;

25 – Marilyn Wall

January 22, 9:00 a.m.

Mass at the Shrine of St. Jude for
the living and deceased members
of St. Mary of the Angels Fraternity.

Let us gather together.

Prayers:

For the needs and intentions of those in our fraternity
and prayers for the ill and recovering members.

Pray for the hungry in our
midst by also supporting

www.facebook.com/StStephenfoodpantry.

Can drop off items at the Shrine of St. Jude Church.

Check web site.

Blessings, Genie