

## The Little Portion

## St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina Fraternity



### March 2021

Next Fraternity Zoom Meeting  
Thursday March 25th @ 7:30 pm

### Ordo Saecularis Franciscanus St. Margaret of Cortona Region

#### Agenda

##### 7:30 Opening Prayer

##### Ongoing Formation:

We begin a new book- *Dating God* by Dan Horan which was sent to you in the mail.

**Discussion.** We will discuss questions that were sent out via email on March 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Facilitator:** Stan Glodek

##### Closing Prayer

#### Prayer Intentions

The Simmons Family

Especially Mary

Ron Teller

Jeffrey Teller Jr.

Baby Ava (Donna's Grand Niece)

Wes Wise

Catherine Fischer and her sister Mary Ann.

Margaret Wise's mother Ruth

Armando- Ginger's father

Dawn- Margaret's daughter

**For those in the Book of Intention.**



St. Francis, St. Clare and St. Pio pray for us.

#### March Profession



Mary Simmons celebrates 35 years!

3 /23/1986

#### Upcoming Profession Ceremony

**Who:** Anne Dulik and Roland Willard

**When:** April 17, 2021

**Time:** 11 am

**Where:** St. Joan of Arc Church

**Mass Celebrant:** Fr. Chris Dudek

All members of the Fraternity should make every effort to attend to support and celebrate Anne and Roland as they make their final commitment to the Franciscan Order and St. Padre Pio Fraternity. This is a joyous occasion for the entire Fraternity. We are grateful to the Holy Spirit who has led them on their Franciscan Journey.

Current Guidelines for masks and social distancing will be observed. There will not be any formal celebration with cake following the Profession until we are able to meet in person. At that time the Fraternity will celebrate with cake and refreshments.

March Birthday

Bonnie Ng 3/22



#### Words of Padre Pio

"May the sorrowful Virgin obtain for us her Son's permission to enter ever more deeply into the mystery of the Cross. And together with her rejoice in Jesus' sufferings. The most certain proof of love is to suffer for the beloved, and so since the Son of God suffered such sorrows for pure love, there is no doubt that the Cross he bore has become as loveable as love itself".

From: *Words of Light: Inspiration from the Letters of Padre Pio*. Page 138.

## Year of St. Joseph

“Along with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Joseph may have known more about God’s plan of salvation than anyone else. There is such a contrast between what Joseph knew and his silence. It was this very silence that was the essence of his Mission.

Silence was part of the humble carpenter’s unique mission. Unlike the disciples, who were called to make Christ known to the world, Joseph’s mission was to hide Jesus from Herod who sought to kill him. Throughout his childhood, Joseph continued to keep Jesus’ identity secret until the day of his manifestation. He fulfilled his mission well because when Jesus began his public ministry, people asked “*Isn’t this the carpenter’s son?*” (Matt. 13:55). For this mission, God chose and prepared someone who was able to keep silence. Being silent and drawing attention away from himself was Joseph’s primary charism. St. Joseph is the man of silence.”  
From: *St. Joseph the Protector: Nine-Day Preparation for the Entrustment to St. Joseph* by Fr. Mark Goring, CC. p.16.

### Jesus Crucified

O the Pain, O the Pain...My God... How  
excruciating  
For love of me,  
For love of all,  
To forgive me,  
To forgive the world,  
To embrace me,  
To embrace all who believe.  
O the Pain,  
My God, Your Pain.... With grateful heart I thank  
and praise you.  
Crucified, my God crucified,  
What do You ask of me? Give me an open  
heart...Willing and ready.  
Crucified, my God, crucified, Draw me closer  
and closer. Speak gently that I might hear.  
Crucified, my God, crucified, Lead me to love  
deeply. And serve generously.  
Crucified, my God, crucified.  
Help me sit quietly, in stillness.  
And contemplate Your goodness. Crucified, my  
God, Crucified, Unite me in suffering,

Poem from : *Franciscan Flowers: Prayer and Poetry*. Sr. LaDonnaM Pinkelman,O.S.F. Page 2

### Thank You

A special thank you to Richard Elliott who volunteered to send out birthday cards last Fall to Fraternity members. The cards are beautiful with a Franciscan touch. Richard makes his own cards with a special program he has. When your birthday comes around you are in for a special card. Thank you Richard.

### Reminder

Please remember to support the Fraternity with your monthly Fair Share Offering. Send a check to :  
[Stan Glodek, 1106 Macbeth Court, Bel Air, MD 21015](#)

**The message of the Cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.  
1Cor. 1: 18**

## **Fraternity Discussion - Secret 7**

Br. Emmanuel summarized the chapter by mentioning several important points:

- Reception of the Eucharist is uniting mind, heart, body and soul with Christ.
- We exist/were created to be in union with God, to ground ourselves in His loving presence.
- In Eucharist, God is present in His essence.
- There is no limit to the amount of times that we can receive Christ every day.
- The Baptized have an awareness of this in a particular and privileged way.
- As we grow in the desire to receive our Lord, we grow in a complete spiritual Communion.
- Spiritual Communion is not a substitution of sacramental Communion, but a continuing spirit of our last reception and our anticipation of our next.

**St. Maximilian Kolbe explains, “At times, spiritual Communion brings the same graces as sacramental.”**

1a. Why then, is it still necessary for us to receive sacramentally?

- “True spiritual Communion is an anticipation of an extension of sacramental Communion.”
- However, if we are unable to receive, spiritual Communion can bring the same graces as sacramental, “since God always desires our union with Him.”

1b. Why is it so important to receive spiritually as well as sacramentally?

- A “false person” can receive without desiring Christ.
- We need to have a spirit of reverence and awe when receiving Eucharist.
- Growth in the way we receive is a part of our ongoing relationship with God.

1c. How can you make every spiritual communion an anticipation of sacramental Communion?

- We can attend liturgy with the specific intent to unite sacramentally with Christ.
- Realize that our conversion and catechesis is ongoing.

**St. Thomas says there are two ways to receive the Eucharist, sacramental and spiritual.**

2a. Which do you think most people receive? 2b. Which way do you most often receive?

- We all need to work on spiritually receiving Eucharist.
- It can become a habit or routine for many.
- We can “compartmentalize” receiving Communion to what we do on Sunday at Mass.
- We can become “distracted” during Mass
- This chapter helps us to realize that we need to strive to be in union with Christ.
- There are times when we have thought more deeply about Eucharist, such as Roland when he served as an altar boy.
- NOT being able to receive has helped us to realize that we need spiritual communion.

**Spiritual communion is commonly thought of as merely something you do when “real” Communion isn’t available.**

3. How has this chapter changed the way you view spiritual Communion?

- This chapter redefines spiritual Communion as deep union with Christ.
- During pandemic, many have learned the prayer of St. Alphonsus for spiritual communion.

**Many of the saints made spiritual Communion a daily occurrence, even a way of life.**

4. How can you make spiritual Communion an important part of your daily life?

- Stop, pray, and ponder union with Christ during the day.
- Think about what we are doing when we receive Eucharist.
- Set alarms on our phone, sign over a door, etc. as visible/audible reminders to pray and seek union with God throughout the day.
- This is a good thing for us to focus on particularly during Lent.

**Throughout our lives we each go through a continuing process of spiritual growth.**

5. How can you see spiritual Communion helping you along your spiritual journey?

- It will help me to unite more fully with Christ more often.
- Saying the spiritual communion prayer can help us receive more often.
- We can be motivated by the example of the saints;
  - Padre Pio is an example
  - Maximilian Kolbe received spiritually every 15 minutes.
- Take whatever measures we can to feed our spiritual needs and our soul.
- Remember the childlike faith with which we received when we were younger. “God, do your stuff!”

Submitted by Ginger Bahr, O.F.S.

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