

## The Clarion



St. Clare Fraternity

APRIL 2021

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

MINISTER: Andy Zampini 302-354-6777

VICE MINISTER: Carolyn Protin 302-424-2441

### Reminder

THANK YOU for continuing to support our Common Fund! Even though we are not meeting in person we are still supporting our Apostolates: St. John the Apostle Food Basket, the Franciscan Missions, and the Clermont Foundation. 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

**April 8 11:00am**

Mass at St. Edmond Church followed by the Chapter of Elections

**It is very important that you make every effort to be present for our Council Elections. We need your prayers and your presence.**

### OUR FRATERNITY GATHERINGS IN 2021

April 8  
May 13  
June 10  
July 8  
August 12  
September 9  
October 14  
November 11  
December 9

### MINISTER’S MESSAGE

Dear Sisters and Brothers,  
On April 8<sup>th</sup>, our Fraternity will elect its new Council for the next three years. Since the Rite of Elections is such an important part of our Fraternity’s life, I want to share the following prayer and ask that each of us pray it as we move toward our April Gathering:

“Give us, O God,  
Leaders whose hearts are large enough  
To match the breadth of our own souls  
And give us souls strong enough  
To follow leaders of vision and wisdom.

Give us leaders  
Who lead us to virtue  
Without seeking to impose their own version of virtue on others.

Give us leaders who will provide for the advancement of our Order,  
Without dictating to others to achieve it.

Give us insight ourselves  
To choose leaders who can tell  
strength from power,  
growth from greed,  
leadership from dominance.

We beg you, Great God,  
give us vision as Secular Franciscans  
to know where holy leadership truly lies,  
to pursue it diligently,  
to ask it to respect the integrity of every person in the entire Order.  
AMEN.

Peace and Good!  
Andy

## APRIL PROFESSION ANNIVERSARIES

Janice McCarthy 4/15/1984  
Dick McCarthy 4/15/2084  
Rhona Prescott 4/20/2010

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Andrea Lipchak, ofs 4/4  
Beverly Stoner, ofs 4/6



Please continue to pray for all of our sisters and brothers and for the special intentions of:

Florence Bianco, ofs  
Janice and Dick McCarthy, ofs  
Linda Sciallo, ofs  
Lucy Deiacco, ofs  
Laraine Hofmann, ofs  
Bonnie Coté, ofs  
Mimi Farrell, ofs  
Rhona Prescott, ofs  
Celine Mallonee, ofs  
Nicole Meringolo, ofs  
Pat Dubois, ofs  
Ron & Bev Stoner, ofs  
Carolyn Protin, ofs  
Jim Mullen, ofs  
Joseph O'Neill, ofs  
Mary Moran, ofs  
Frank Rega, ofs

We pray for our deceased relatives and friends and especially:

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

Thank you, Frank Rega, ofs, for sharing the following::

The Youthful Francis, from *The Legend of the Three Companions*

One evening in Assisi, his friends chose Francis to be in charge of festivities, so that, according to his whim, he would pay their expenses. He made arrangements for a sumptuous banquet, as he had done so often in the past.

When they left the house bloated, his friends walked ahead of him, singing throughout the city. Holding in his hand the scepter of his office as their leader, he fell slightly behind them. He was not singing, but was deeply preoccupied. Suddenly he was visited by the Lord who filled his heart with so much tenderness that he was unable to speak or move. He could only feel and hear this marvelous tenderness; it left him so estranged from any sensation that, as he himself said later, even if he had been completely cut to pieces, he would not have been able to move.

When his companions glanced back and saw him so removed from them, they went back surprised at seeing him already *changed into another man*. They asked him: "What were you thinking about that you did not follow us? Were you perhaps thinking about taking a wife?"

He answered in an unequivocal voice: "You are right! I was thinking about taking a wife more noble, wealthier, and more beautiful than you have ever seen." *They laughed at him*. For he said this not of his own accord, but because he was inspired by God. In fact, the bride was the true religion that he later embraced, a bride more noble, richer and more beautiful because of her poverty.

From that very hour he began to consider himself of little value and to despise those things which he had previously held in love. Since he was not entirely detached from worldly vanities, this change was not yet perfect.





## ST. CLARE FRATERNITY - DELAWARE

### DUTIES OF THE COUNCIL

(Updated: February, 2021)

#### COUNCIL

##### COMPOSITION:

Minister  
Vice Minister  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Formation Director  
Councilor At Large  
Councilor - Infirmarian  
Spiritual Assistant

#### DUTIES OF THE COUNCIL:

1. To promote the initiatives for fostering fraternal life, for improving the human, Christian, and Franciscan formation of its members.
2. To make concrete and courageous choices, appropriate for the situation of the Fraternity, especially Apostolates.
3. To accept and admit to profession new members.
4. To animate and guide the Fraternity.
5. To establish fraternal dialogue with members in particular difficulties and adopt appropriate measures.
6. To receive requests for withdrawal and decide on suspension of a member from the Fraternity.
7. To decide on use of available funds.
8. To assign duties to councilors and/or other professed members.
9. To request the competent superiors of the four orders for suitable religious assistants.
10. To perform those other duties as identified in the Constitution and statutes.

#### MINISTER

The Minister, as the primary person for the fraternity, shares co-responsibility with the Council to guide the fraternity. The Minister is expected to put into practice the decisions of the Council and will keep the Council informed about what he/she is doing.

#### DUTIES:

1. To call, preside and direct the meetings of the Council and Fraternity, to prepare an agenda for the meetings.
2. To convoke an election chapter of the Fraternity every three (3) years.
3. To prepare annual reports to be sent to the Council of higher level after it has been approved by the Council of the fraternity
4. To exhibit both in word and action a genuine commitment to the Gospel and Franciscan way of life.
5. To request, with the consent of the Council, the pastoral and fraternal visits, at least once every three (3) years.
6. To put into effect those acts which the Rule and Constitution refer to his/her competence.

## **VICE-MINISTER**

The Vice-Minister should be prepared to assist and support the Minister, and to assume complete responsibility for the Fraternity when the Minister is absent or sick. The Vice-Minister should possess qualities of leadership, allowing him/her to lead others.

### **DUTIES:**

1. To collaborate in a fraternal spirit and support the Minister.
2. To exercise the functions entrusted by the Council.
3. To take the place of the Minister in both duties and responsibilities in the event of absence or temporary impediment.
4. To assume the functions of the Minister when the office remains vacant.
5. To resume (temporarily) function of absent councilors.

## **SECRETARY**

The Secretary is someone who is “the right hand of the Council and the Minister”. He/she is responsible for recording the salient points of every meeting; accurate historically, and interestingly written. The Secretary is the historian and archivist of the Fraternity.

### **DUTIES:**

1. To record and complete the official acts of the Fraternity and of the Council.
2. To update and preserve records i.e. Fraternity roster, admissions, professions, deaths, withdrawals and transfers.
3. To provide pertinent important facts to the various levels as directed by the Council.

## **TREASURER**

The Treasurer is responsible for the common fund, contributions, and disbursements of finances of the Fraternity. The Treasurer is a permanent member of the Council.

### **DUTIES:**

1. To maintain and keep accurate accounts of all financial transactions of the Fraternity.
2. To report monthly to the Council as to the status of all those transactions.
3. To prepare with the Council the annual report to the region.
4. To send to the region the annual fair share contribution from the Fraternity.
5. To prepare the annual budget with the Council.

## **FORMATION DIRECTOR**

The Formation Director is the agent of information for all members, so that all brothers/sisters and candidates will be enlivened by the Holy Spirit to follow Christ in the pattern and rule that St. Francis gave. He/she must have knowledge of documents, general Constitution, OFS Rule, Vatican II and changes in Church and the Franciscan Order.

### **DUTIES:**

1. To coordinate the formative activities of the Fraternity.
2. To instruct and enliven the inquirers during the time of formation, the candidates and the professed.
3. To inform the Council of the Fraternity prior to profession concerning the suitability of the candidate for commitment to the Rule.
4. To assist the Minister in the ceremonies of Welcoming, Rite of Admission, and Profession.
5. To arrange the Retreat Day prior to Rite of Admission and Profession.
6. To arrange and apply a yearly schedule of ongoing formation.
7. To report monthly on the status of all in initial formation.

## **COUNCILOR – INFIRMARIAN**

The Councilor – Infirmarian is the primary contact with those Fraternity members who are sick and infirmed and represents the entire Fraternity in extending charity to those Fraternity members in need.

### **DUTIES:**

1. To accept all communications about the sick and infirmed (i.e. phone, e-mail, etc.).
2. To inform the entire community about the requests for prayers.
3. To visit or organize visits to the sick and infirmed when possible.
4. To report to the Council monthly.
5. To send appropriate cards and / or notes (sympathy, get-well, other special occasions).
6. To remember Fraternity members who have died in various Fraternity prayer services.
7. To submit expenses for cards, postage, travel, etc. to the Treasurer.

## **COUNCILOR AT LARGE**

The Councilor at Large serves by providing his / her input into the deliberations of the Council and by performing duties assigned by the Minister.

### **DUTIES:**

1. To be willing to perform tasks that will facilitate the smooth operation of the Council and the Fraternity as assigned by the Minister.
2. To perform other administrative or organizational tasks as needed.