

**ST MARY OF THE ANGELS FRATERNITY
ORDER OF THE SECULAR FRANCISCAN
THE ANGELUS * JUNE 6, 2021**



MONTH OF THE
Sacred Heart



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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: Susan Jamison**

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

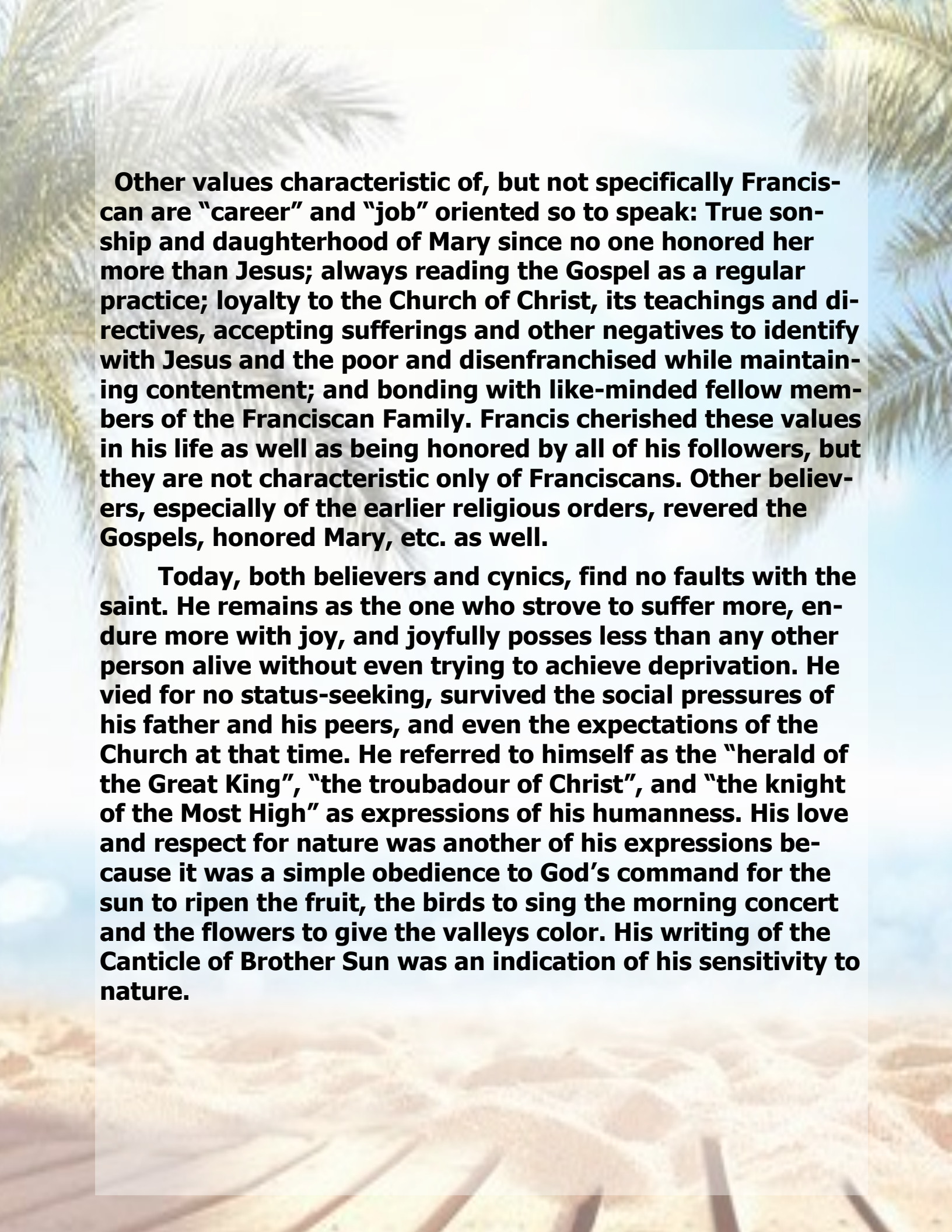
June, 2021

This month of June, which is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we have three candidates making their profession, John DiBenedetto, Michaela Sylla and Michael Oliver. While we watch these three make their solemn Franciscan professions, I know we will each be reliving our own professions and commitments to the Lord. So what is the heart of our Franciscanism? Well if it were living in the forest in a hut with no heat, while suffering the stigmata and being blind, we would all be out. Thankfully following Saint Francis's heart is a little easier than following his lifestyle. Saint Francis had a joyful grateful heart that constantly was turning away from himself and towards our Lord and our Lady. He constantly strove to love, to worship and adore God and constantly tried to dispel the darkness in his own mind, heart and soul. Obviously He did this very very well. The joyful faithful heart of Saint Francis is a great model for all of us and one which we have embraced with our own hearts pledged to service and prayer. Let us we pray earnestly for our three candidates and for one another as we endeavor to more faithfully live out our profession.

Portia and Carmencita were kind enough to arrange for their building's party room in Leisure World for our June meeting as well as for the reception after the profession. This is a little easier than traveling out to Poolesville. We hope you can all come to both events. The reception after the profession Will be catered. Please bring food to share for our meeting. This Angelus has more details so please look for them or contact me. Thank you

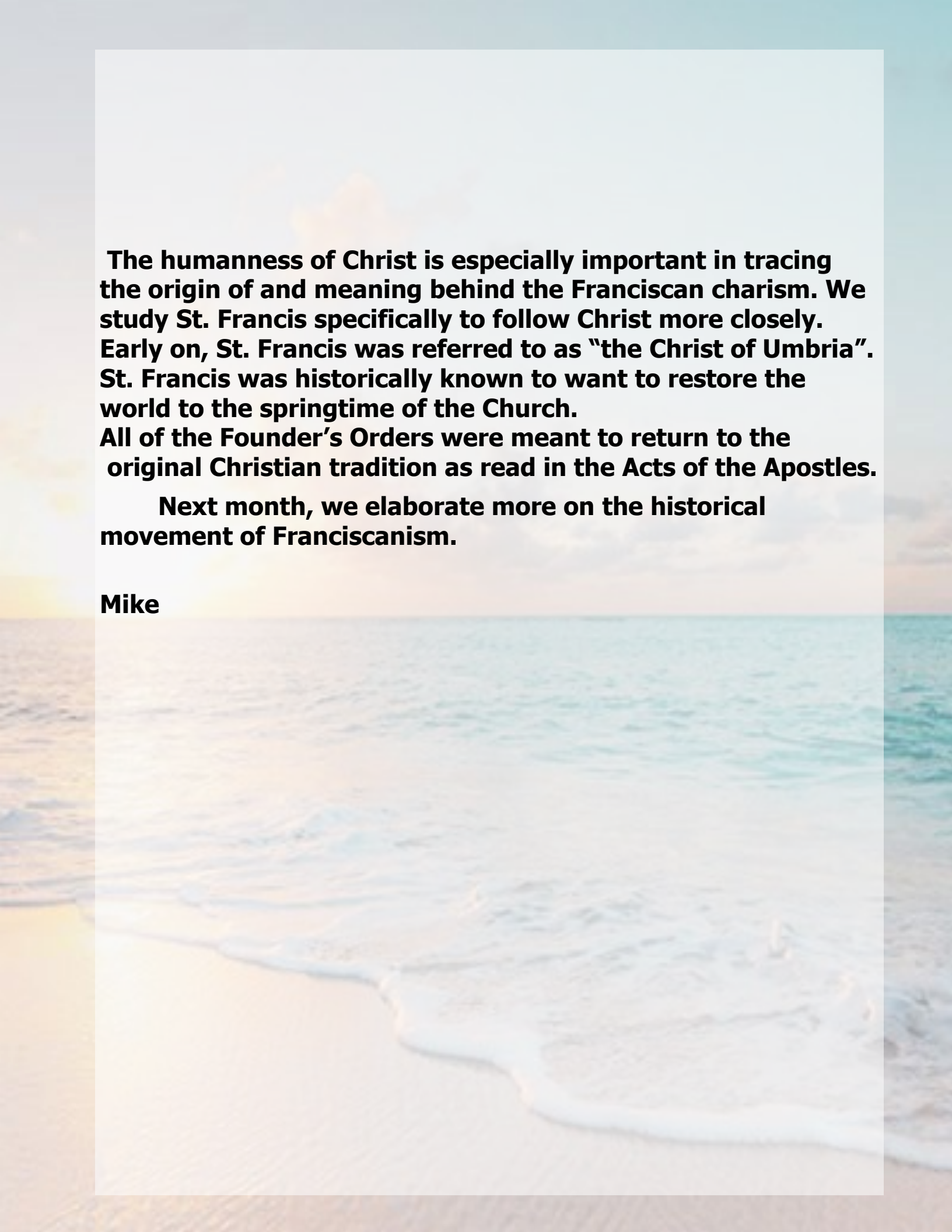
This is the sixth of my next several articles on how relevant the Franciscan charism is in today's times. I once again acknowledge our reference used here: "The Franciscan Charism in the Third Millenium by Fr. Anselm Romb, OFM Conv.

In a totally different way in the Church, Francis stressed the humanness of Christ. We as Franciscans are familiar with his and his followers' introduction of the Christmas Crib of Greccio, the Stations of the Cross, the passion events, and the feasts of the Immaculate Conception and St. Joseph to named a few. The theologians of the Order concentrated on the "humanity" of Christ, while Francis portrayed profoundly the "humanness" of Christ, which is altogether different but still a corollary of the humanity. "Humanness" defines a whole person being engaged with emotions as catalysts in ascertaining and living out values for both religious and lay. Francis desired of his followers to be able to express their love for each other freely: "That we have passed from death to life we know because we love the brothers." (I John 3:14). Just as Jesus did, we are to express both positive and negative feelings easily. This is indicative of our mastery of our emotional life. We allow our feelings to prompt our actions and give the drive for our endeavors while attracting others to our lifestyle. Having joy while we do this makes our spirituality believable and acceptable. All Christians, and especially those who are Franciscan, know all too well the use of feelings in communicating with God. We argue, complain, show tenderness, share happiness, show fear and anxiety, sorrow, and relief. We know Jesus, too, was angry, despaired, was tender, wept, and experienced loneliness and betrayal.



Other values characteristic of, but not specifically Franciscan are “career” and “job” oriented so to speak: True sonship and daughterhood of Mary since no one honored her more than Jesus; always reading the Gospel as a regular practice; loyalty to the Church of Christ, its teachings and directives, accepting sufferings and other negatives to identify with Jesus and the poor and disenfranchised while maintaining contentment; and bonding with like-minded fellow members of the Franciscan Family. Francis cherished these values in his life as well as being honored by all of his followers, but they are not characteristic only of Franciscans. Other believers, especially of the earlier religious orders, revered the Gospels, honored Mary, etc. as well.

Today, both believers and cynics, find no faults with the saint. He remains as the one who strove to suffer more, endure more with joy, and joyfully possess less than any other person alive without even trying to achieve deprivation. He vied for no status-seeking, survived the social pressures of his father and his peers, and even the expectations of the Church at that time. He referred to himself as the “herald of the Great King”, “the troubadour of Christ”, and “the knight of the Most High” as expressions of his humanness. His love and respect for nature was another of his expressions because it was a simple obedience to God’s command for the sun to ripen the fruit, the birds to sing the morning concert and the flowers to give the valleys color. His writing of the Canticle of Brother Sun was an indication of his sensitivity to nature.



The humanness of Christ is especially important in tracing the origin of and meaning behind the Franciscan charism. We study St. Francis specifically to follow Christ more closely. Early on, St. Francis was referred to as “the Christ of Umbria”. St. Francis was historically known to want to restore the world to the springtime of the Church. All of the Founder’s Orders were meant to return to the original Christian tradition as read in the Acts of the Apostles.

Next month, we elaborate more on the historical movement of Franciscanism.

Mike

LETS REALLY CELEBRATE THESE AMAZING JUNE FEAST DAYS!

St. Anthony of Padua — June 13



Anthony died at the age of just thirty-five in 1231, about five years after Saint Francis had died. He was canonized less than one year later. In 1946 Saint Anthony was declared a Doctor of the Church due to the richness of his sermons and writings. He was conscious as he succumbed to death. In his last moments, the brothers surrounding his bed asked him if he saw anything. Saint Anthony said simply, “I see the Lord.”

Saint Anthony of Padua, we seek your powerful intercession to have the right words on our lips to inspire the faithful and to correct and guide the ignorant. Through your example, may our words also be buttressed by our powerful witness to Christ.

Birth of St. John the Baptiste — June 24

Today’s feast is placed three months after the Annunciation, on March 25, because that gospel scene tells us that Elizabeth, John’s mother, was six months pregnant at the time. Three more months take us to June 24. (The one day discrepancy between March 25 and June 24 is an accident of counting. If December and June each had thirty-one days there would be no discrepancy.) Three related feast days line up beautifully: March 25, the Annunciation; June 24, the birth of John the Baptist; December 25, the birth of Christ. John’s birth foretells Christ’s birth. Although the historical chronology may not be exact, the dates show the theological interconnection among the three feasts.



All parents are naturally curious to discover the sex of their child in utero. Some allow themselves to be told the sex. Others wait in suspense. Elizabeth and Zechariah were told by a winged messenger of God Himself that they would have a boy. That little boy grew to be a man, a great man, who accepted death rather than swallow his words criticizing the powerful Herod Antipas. John ran ahead of Christ, clearing the ground so that the Lord’s pathway would be clear. This forerunner baptized the Christ, preached and prophesied like the Christ, fasted and prayed like the Christ, and died for the truth like the Christ. But he did not rise from the dead like the Christ. There is only one Easter. We rejoice at Saint John the Baptist’s birth, because what followed merits rejoicing. We rejoice at his birth, because we rejoice at the great and generous God who intervenes in our lives, who discovers us before we discover Him.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday to
Susan Jamison on June 24th

Happy 15-year anniversary to Joseph
Tap Nguyen!

Tap Nguyen will be moving in a few months to Philadelphia with his family. He hasn't been able to join us due to Covid because of young children in his house.

He sends his love and farewells to us and asks us to please pray for him as he seeks a new church community and possibly a fraternity. This month, Tap celebrates

15 years as a Secular Franciscan. It would be wonderful to send your greetings to him at his present home at 19205 Forest Brook Rd., Germantown, Md. 20874.

Keep him in prayer.

Our month Mass for the living and deceased members of St. Mary of the Angels Fraternity will be **Saturday, June 5th at 08:30 a.m.** at the Shrine of St. Jude.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayers of thanksgiving for Brenda Dawson, home from the hospital. She is recovering well and offers her prayers of gratitude to us.

Pray for the needs and intentions of our fraternity members.

St. Stephen's Food Pantry at St. Jude's

The needs are continuing for non-perishable food items for the needy in our neighborhood.

See www.facebook.com/StStephenfoodpantry for details.

You can click on the church webpage at www.shrinestjude.org, and find St. Stephen's Pantry where you can make a one-time gift. We will also accept cash

and check donations as well as gift cards to grocery stores.

Blessings, Genie

The adress at Leisure World is:

Fairways South 3330 N Leisure World BLVD Code 298.

For our Gathering on June13 use main Gate and mention you are with St Mary of the Angels Fraternity going to Fairways south. Fiesta Family. Unit 914.

Either three gates mention St Mary of the Angels Fraternity with Fiesta unit 914.