

ST MARY OF THE ANGELS FRATERNITY
ORDER OF THE SECULAR FRANCISCAN
THE ANGELUS * JANUARY 16, 2022

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

Our January Meeting Will Be By ZOOM Only

Social Time 12:30, Meeting begins 1 PM

Introductory Prayers

Announcements:

Our Monthly Mass For Our Living and Deceased Members Is Now Being Offered on the

3rd Sunday of every Month at the 11:00 Mass At Our Lady of Grace Church, Leisure World

Mention of our PRO LIFE Spiritual Bouquet

Requests for prayers to our Daily Prayer Group

Your Birthday Year is Needed by National

Thank You to our Volunteers who make monthly meals for the Dorothy Day Shelter

Presentation by John DiBenedetto on

Reflection 21, Live Like Francis

“Setting A Good Example”

Christian Prayer Led By Tom

Presentation on the TRINITY

Closing Prayers

Genie's Monthly Announcements:

Happy Birthday to our Spiritual Assistant Mike Huether (Jan. 21st), Hazel Cummings and Brenda Dawson (Jan 23rd), Marilyn Wall (Jan 25th).

Prayer Need: Jim and Marilyn Wall (Jim's Health is deteriorating).

Please give something if you can to the St. Stephen's Pantry at St. Judes.

WHERE THERE IS DOUBT, FAITH

This is the fifth of my articles on the Peace Prayer of St. Francis, based on “Instruments of Christ: Reflections on the Peace Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi” by Albert Haase, OFM. This month, we will review the fourth line of the prayer listed above.

The story of the woman at Jacob's well in the Gospel of John (John 4: 1 – 42) gives us an example of how we can remedy the absence of faith. In the story, Jesus stops at Jacob's well while passing through Samaria encountering a Samaritan woman. Having no bucket, he asked the woman for a drink. But little did the woman know that it was not the quenching of physical thirst that Jesus was looking for. The woman was referring to the topic literally while Jesus was addressing a deeper thirst for wholeness and happiness desired by all of humankind. To lead her to this deeper kind of thirst, Jesus inquires about the woman's husband. As we know of the story, the woman informs Jesus that she does not have a husband. Jesus, then, reminds her of her past five husbands and the man she is currently with who is not her husband. What Jesus was emphasizing to her is that love is not just about our own desires or “thirsts” but it involves a firm and deliberate commitment.



To establish real faith in people, we need to acknowledge their skills that they may not realize they have. We also encourage their talents while affirming their goodness. We need to plant faith and confidence amid their doubts. For some, this can be a true spiritual journey. As we mature into adulthood and grow in our relationship with God, doubt can still come about. During our spiritual journey, we may sooner or later undergo a sort of spiritual cleansing. This experience could be prompted by a number of things such as the loss of good health, cherished possessions, or even loved ones in our families or among our friends. Any of these has the potential of being a spiritual crisis. It could lead to our favorite spiritual practices suddenly becoming meaningless or uninviting. This could even include the sacraments: recep-

practices suddenly becoming meaningless or uninviting. This could even include the sacraments: reception of them no longer is encouraging, refreshing, or challenging for our faith. We eventually find ourselves questioning God's love, providence, and presence in our lives. We may begin to doubt our spiritual beliefs or even have misgivings about God's very existence. When we read about the lives of the saints, we find many of them complaining about this issue, saying such things as: "God, if this is how you treat your friends, no wonder they're so few!".

We need to keep reminding ourselves that doubt is a natural and normal part of any spiritual journey. The life of faith is not necessarily a "practice makes perfect" thing. The more we learn to travel in the footsteps of Christ (or our founder Father Francis, especially), the more challenging it becomes: to let Christ live in us. As St. Paul so precisely said: "And it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me." (Galatians 2:20). During those doubting times, our faith is not diminishing, but maturing. So, during this process of spiritual maturation, we are reminded that it is a matter of focusing on God and not ourselves. Whenever we catch ourselves thinking of anything else other than God, then we are off the path and need to get back to where we should be.

During this process, we need to be persistent and patient in prayer. This is where the Peace Prayer, among many others, comes in. It challenges us as peacemakers to have the self-confidence and persistent God-centered faith available to offer to those who are doubtful. It is here that we fulfill our vocations as Franciscans and become like Christ to others calling them back to faith.

Mike



Minister's Message:

I read with interest in this month's message by Mike, our dedicated and committed Spiritual Assistant about Jesus and the woman at the well. Mike makes the point that at the well "What Jesus was emphasizing to her is that love is not just about our own desires or "thirsts" but it involves a firm and deliberate commitment."

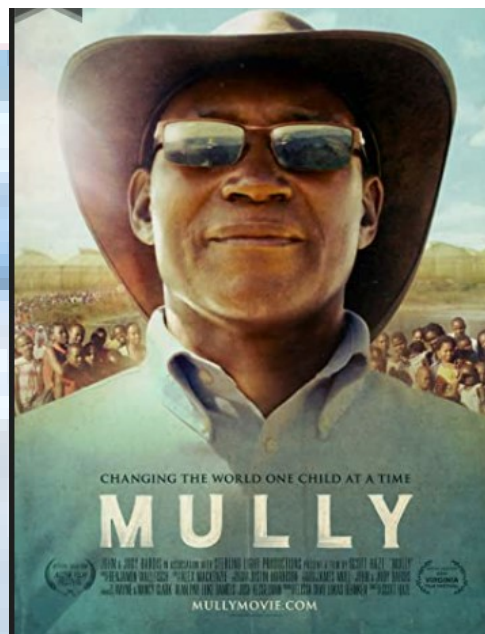
So what happened to the woman at the well? Did she get the message? Her name, given to her after her meeting with Jesus, is St. Photine, also known as St. Photini. She is venerated as a very great saint and martyr by the Eastern Church. She brought many people to Christ and suffered greatly for her loyalty to Jesus. Apparently, she certainly got the message of having a firm and deliberate commitment which Mike talks about.

Speaking about firm and deliberate commitment, I have to confess that although my first 3 weeks of Advent fasting starting on the Feast of St. Martin of Tours went pretty well, the last 3 weeks went pretty badly. There is no doubt in my mind that saying prayers is much easier than fasting. My life got super busy and my excuse mode came into full play and I had more failures than successes. My firm and deliberate commitment kind of got lost in the mire. I can only console myself by thinking that something is better than nothing.

I am attaching an excerpt from the Internet about St. Photine. I hope you take a few moments and read it. She is considered by some in the Eastern Church from the earliest centuries as being as great as or even surpassing the apostles and disciples. For what? For her firm and deliberate commitment. For sharing her enlightenment that she received from Christ Jesus.

Modern day saints showing firm and deliberate commitment also show us the way. My son John sent me a link to an online movie about a man from Kenya named Charles Mully. John told me that this man was born into an orphanage in Kenya but went on to become fabulously wealthy. He then sold all of his possessions to help orphans. God grants him modern day miracles of biblical proportions to help him serve and protect the children. He and his wife have cared for over 23,000 orphans and currently provide a home for about 3,000 orphans in a handful of orphanages in Ndalani, Yatta, Kitale, Kilifi, Lodwar and Dar es Salaam in Tanzania.

Here is the link but you can probably more easily google MULLY Movie to see it. https://watch.amazon.com/detail?gti=amzn1.dv.gti.06afb05c-d95c-6666-53d4-c24a22fb6910&ref_=atv_dp_share_mv&r=web



January is dedicated to the
HOLY NAME OF JESUS!

The Jesus Prayer
Lord Jesus Christ,
Son of God,
have mercy on me,
a sinner.

Honor the Holy Name of Jesus!

The invocation of the holy name
of Jesus is the simplest way of
praying always... -CCC2668

"God greatly exalted him and
bestowed on him the name that is
above every name that at the
name of Jesus every knee should
bend, of those in heaven and on
earth and under the earth, and
every tongue confess that Jesus
Christ is Lord, to the glory of God
the Father." -*Phlp 2:9-11*

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.

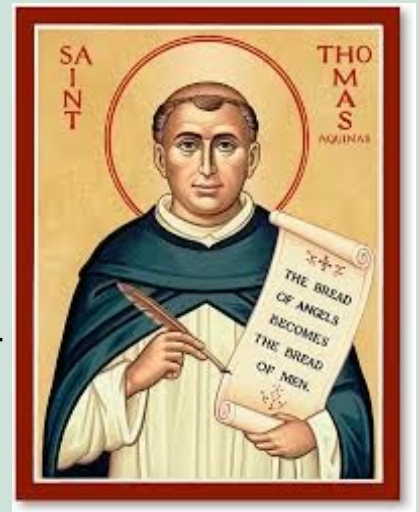


St. Thomas of Aquinas — January 28

Thomas is believed to have been born in the castle of Roccasecca in the old county of the Kingdom of Sicily, which is now known as the Lazio region of Italy, in 1225. His parents were well-off, but as the youngest son Thomas was expected to enter the monastery. At 5-years-old, Thomas began his education at Monte Cassino, where he remained until the military conflict between Emperor Frederick II and Pope Gregory IX reached the abbey. He was then transferred and enrolled at the studium generale in Naples. It is believed that Thomas was introduced to his philosophical influences - Aristotle, Averroes, and Maimonides - at the university, where he also met John of St. Julian, a Dominican preacher, who influenced him to join the recently founded Dominican Order.

When Thomas' family learned of his decision, his mother Theodora arranged for him to be moved to Paris. When Thomas was travelling to Rome, his brothers captured him and returned him to their parents at the castle of Monte San Giovanni Campano.

Thomas was held captive in the castle for one year as his family tried to keep him from joining the Dominican Order. In the year he was held, Thomas tutored his sisters and communicated with members of the Dominican Order.





January Franciscan Calendar

**January—Month of the Holy Name of
Jesus and His Holy Childhood**

1. Feast of the Circumcision of Our Lord—
Holy Day of Obligation; Plenary Indulgence
possible (Chant in public Veni Creator)
2. Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus
3. Bl. Chriatiane Menaburi, Virgin,
Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1310
4. [Bl. Angela of Foligno, widow, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1310](#)
5. Bl. Pierre Bonilli, priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1935
6. Feast of the Epiphany—Holy Day of Obligation
7. [St. Charles of Sezze, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1670](#)
8. [Bl. Roger de Toddi, priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1237](#)
9. [Bl. Gilles de Lorenzana, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1518](#)
10. [Bl. Gregory X, Pope, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1276](#)
11. [St Thomas of Cori, priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1729](#)
12. [St. Bernard of Corleone, lay brother, Capuchin religious, d. 1667](#)
13. Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ
14. [Bl. Oderic de Pordenone, priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1331](#)
15. [Bl. James of Pieve, priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, martyr d. 1304](#)
16. [Sts. Berard and Companions, Protomartyrs of the Order, d. 1220](#)
17. [Sl. Matthew of Girgenti, Bishop, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1451](#)
18. Bl. Jeanne of Saint Mary, virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1360
19. Bl. Marcel Spinola y Maestre, Bishop, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1906
20. [Bl. Jean-Baptiste Triquerie, priest, conventual religious, martyr d. 1794](#)
21. Bl. Joseph Nascimbeni, priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1922
22. [St. Vincent Pallotti, priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1850](#)
23. Feast of the Marriage of the Blessed Virgin Mary
24. [Bl. Paula Gambarà-Costa, widow, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1515](#)
25. Bl. Emmanuel Dominguo y Sol, priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1909
26. Bl. Georges Matulwicz, Bishop, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1927
27. [St. Angela Merici, virgin, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1540](#)
28. [Bl. Bienvenu de Recanati, priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1289](#)
29. [St. Francis de Sales, Bishop, Doctor of the Church, Corderbearer, d. 1622](#)
30. [St. Hyacintha de Mariscotti, virgin, religious of the Third-Order Regular \[living in community, under a Rule\], d. 1640](#)
31. [St. John Bosco, priest, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1888](#)