

**St Mary of The Angels Fraternity
Order of the Secular Franciscan
The Angelus**

November 20, 2022



**Minister: Susan Jamison
Vice-Minister: Sonia Bernardo
Spiritual Assistant: Michael Huether Formation Director: Tom McGrath
Secretary: Portia Fiesta Treasurer: Carmencita Fiesta
Counselors: Lilian Soriano, Mary Bajo & Irma Jean-Baptiste
The Angelus: Mary Badjo & Susan Jamison**

The Holy Souls Can Not Pray For Themselves



OUR NOVEMBER MEETING

ELECTIONS!

It is so very important that all active members of the Fraternity show up and vote! We need a quorum! We need your vote!

Thank you to everyone who has so generously offered to run for office thus far, we are grateful to each and every one of you, Michael Oliver, John DiBenedetto, Porita Fiesta, Carmencita Feista, Michaela Sylla, Alina Zygmunt, Sonia Bernardo and Dick Shaffer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy Birthday Jaime Bernardo on November 18th

Mass for the living and deceased fraternity members will be celebrated at Our Lady of Grace on November 2th, at 11 AM>

November 29th is the Feast of All Saints of the Seraphic Order. This is a very special day for Franciscans to commemorate saintly Franciscans of the past and ask for their intercession and guidance.

November is the month we remember the Holy Souls.

A HUGE SHOUT OF THANKS to everyone who took the time to come out and pray outside of Carhart's Bethesda Office as part of the 40 Days For Life Fall 2022 Campaign!

Portia, Carmencita, Lilian, Aurea, Susan, Tom and Ahren and a couple of Portia and Carmencita's Friends!

40 Days For Life Prayerful Witness Campaign MAKES A HUGE DIFFERENCE AND SAVES LIVES

(AND QUITE POSSIBLY SOULS TOO)!



228 Lives Saved Worldwide Since September 28! That They Know About!

22,289 Lives Saved Since 2007 When the Campaign Started! That They Know About!

SPIRITUAL ASSISTANT'S MESSAGE

November, 2022

Greetings, my Franciscan sisters and brothers in Christ! With this article of on-going formation, I start my next series by returning to a resource book I read last year and used as a basis for articles I wrote from January to August of 2021. The book is entitled, "The Franciscan Charism in the Third Millennium" by Anselm W. Romb, OFM Conv. In it, he devotes a chapter expounding his thoughts on the many roles secular Franciscans have played in the spread of the Franciscan Charism through the last eight centuries. I will in these next few articles of mine give my reflections and comments on how he feels the seculars have really taken on this apostolate of our Father Francis over the last eight hundred years. I hope it to be as interesting and informative for you as it was for me.

Our Franciscan charism tells us that the gospel life can be successfully lived in any status, time, or place of life. It is a vocational call directed to married and celibate lay men and women and clergy to become apostles of the Church. Therefore, all of humankind should be able to see their particular condition of life fulfilled by Franciscans anywhere and their special situations in life addressed through the evangelical life. Franciscans attempt to model something special for the Church rather than claim to do something special. Franciscans are models of the life of Christ at any moment for office workers, parish priests, cloistered men and women, clowns, ditch-diggers, teachers, scientists, etc. Franciscans need to enter all walks of society in order to properly fulfill their charism. Our three first orders have made efforts at doing this. They continue to be the largest ecclesial group in the Church oriented to a single charism...

In chapter six of the Second Rule, our Father Francis tells his friars to be "as pilgrims and strangers in this world, serving the Lord in poverty and humility." Not meant to be a world-shaking, but more subtle an endeavor. This movement of St. Francis was more "secular" in contrast to the existing religious life; not allowing his brothers to be recluses or hermits. However, he did provide for those who needed seclusion with a special rule of life which required at least four brothers to enter a community of silence and prayer. The solitary life was not to be for Francis's followers. St. Bonaventure decreed at the Chapter of Assisi in 1269 that hermits were not permitted to make profession in the Order. The original twelve of Francis's followers came from many walks of life (as did the apostles of Christ)—priest, lawyer, businessman, peasant, soldier. Having had experience in the world, they were better equipped to transform it.

The poem of St. Francis, "The Canticle of Brother Sun", is a reflection of men making the profane world into a sacred world. In this work of his, St. Francis calls the natural world and even Sister Death to praise the Lord our God. The Franciscan charism cannot be defined and made relevant without a reference to secularity. Our Father Francis referred to the Order as a gift for the salvation of the world. As a movement, its ministerial work far exceeds that of priests and brothers, nuns, and sisters.

In my next article, we will talk more of how the secular way of serving God came to be the basis of the lay Franciscan movement and how it became the ministry that Francis most desired. We'll also look into the cloistered Franciscans role in the charism of our Order.

May all of my Franciscan sisters and brothers have a blessed advent season of preparation for celebration of the Nativity of our Lord and Savior and also a Happy, Healthy, and Joyous Thanksgiving, together with all your families!

Peace, Mike



“On November 29, the Church celebrates the many Franciscan saints who followed in the footsteps of St. Francis. It is a special day for all Franciscans to celebrate the feast of ‘All the Saints of the Seraphic Order.’

According to tradition, St. Francis of Assisi prayed the following prayer:

"O Lord Jesus Christ, two favors I beg of you before I die. The first is that I may, as far as it is possible, feel in my soul and in my body the suffering in which you, O gentle Jesus, sustained in your bitter passion. And the second favor is that I, as far as it is possible, may receive in my heart that excessive charity by which you, the Son of God, were inflamed, and which actuated you willingly to suffer so much for us sinners."

In response to his earnest prayer, the Lord appeared in the form of a seraph, or a six-winged angel (They are usually considered the highest order of angelic beings, immediately above the Cherubim, and their special duty is to love God).

Then Jesus bestowed on St. Francis the wounds of his suffering. St. Francis had been marked with the love of Christ, the stigmata.

St. Francis died two years later in 1226, leaving the world the Franciscan Order, which became synonymous with the Seraphic Order. To this day, seraph wings and seraphs are symbolic of the Franciscan Order....”

The final Rule of life for Franciscan friars was also approved on this day in 1223. To commemorate this, and all the saintly examples produced in the Franciscan Order, on this day all the saints of the Seraphic order are remembered at Franciscan churches.

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/saint/all-saints-of-the-seraphic-order-feast-733>

November 2022, Minister's Message

Greetings Folks! Please pray for the **Holy Souls** with vigilance this month! There are a lot of folks who are suffering greatly to realize this dream of being in Heaven. They can not help themselves to get there as much as they long to. We can help them. Let us remember them in this special month of November dedicated to the **HOLY SOULS**.

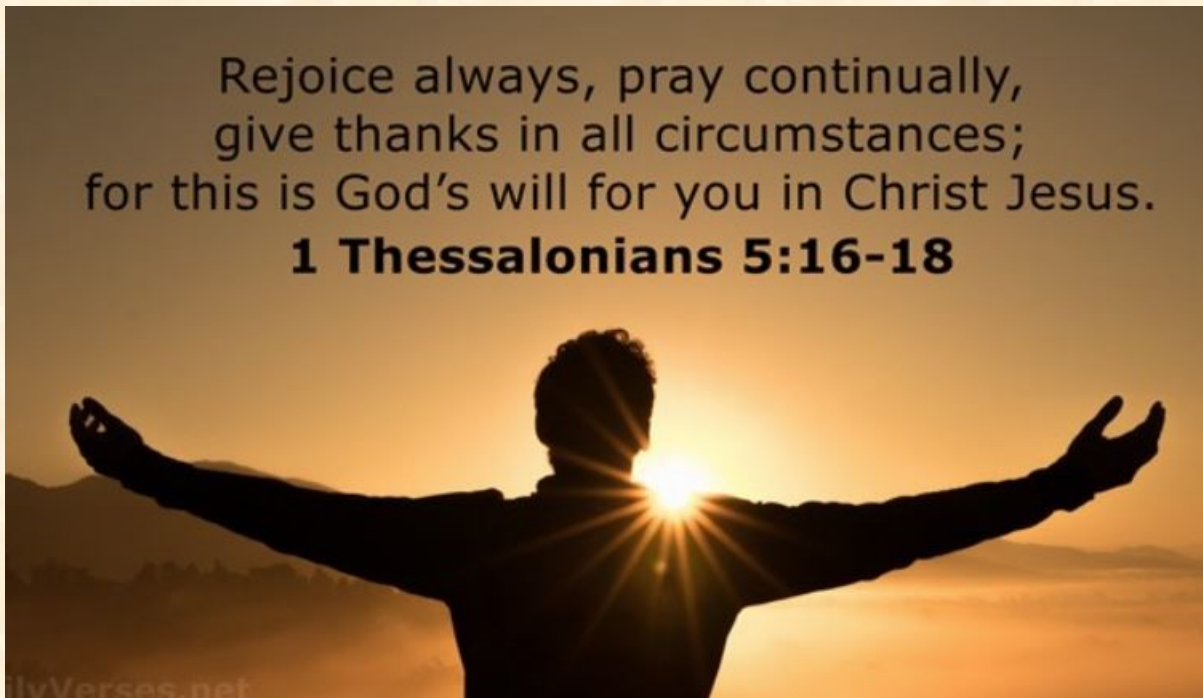
I have been blessed to be Minister these past six years. The grace for this leadership is waning.... I can feel it. It is nice to know that you are leaving a post when it is your time to leave. I hope I feel the same way when it is my time to pass to the next life.

Here is a repeat from last part of last year's message that I think bears repeating: There are many challenges and trials in this life. But you knew that. There is so much beyond our control. Our joy is in the Lord and our firm hope is our future with Him in Heaven forever. Jesus Christ truly walks with us every single minute. **When we meet a trial, let us remember to keep on giving it to Jesus in prayer and supplication and then thanking Him in advance for His loving response to our prayers.**

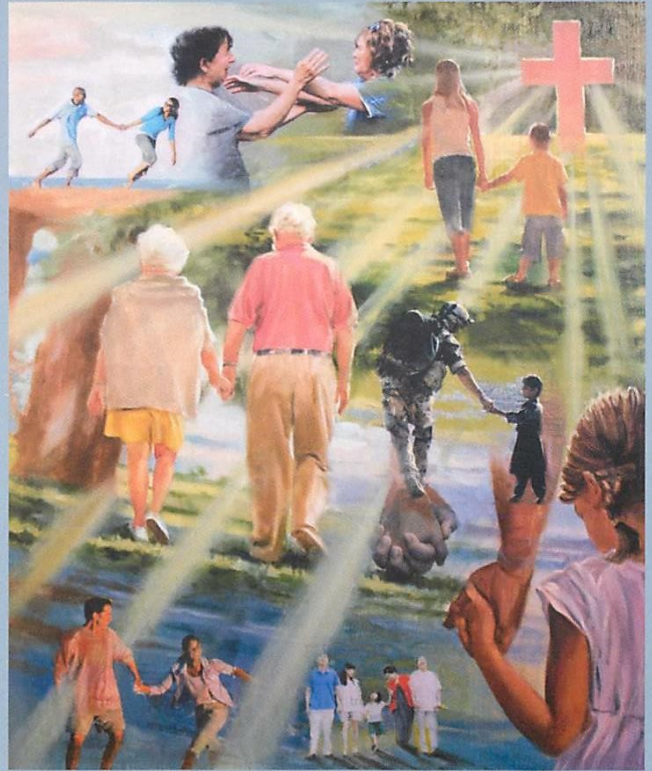
Yesterday I listened to a podcast rosary with wonderful meditations about Blessed Solanus Casey, the saint who always encouraged people to thank God ahead of seeing His response to their prayers of supplication and to remember that God cares, God hears and God answers, even if it is not the answer which we wanted or in the time we wanted. In Heaven we will see and understand.

You can find that podcast on this website, it is titled **"Thanking God Ahead of Time"**: <https://www.schooloffaith.com/rosary-archive>.

Rejoice always, pray continually,
give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



When We Meet Again in HEAVEN



Cover Art:

“When We Meet Again in Heaven”

by master artist Gordon Daugherty,
reflects the joy of meeting all those we
have loved in our lifetime in heaven again.

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✧ AT THE DEATH OF A PARENT ✧

God of our faith, You strengthen us in the bonds of family through faith, hope, and love. Look upon (Name), our father/mother who now rests with You. Bring comfort and peace to those of us who remain in sadness as we mourn the loss of one whom we loved dearly. Amen.

✧ AT THE DEATH OF A SPOUSE ✧

Eternal God, give peace to (Name), who was united to me in love and friendship. I miss them dearly. May the love and devotion of his/her life on earth bring him/her a lasting reward in heaven. Look with compassion on me and my family. Strengthen our faith and comfort us in our loss. Amen.

✧ AT THE DEATH OF AN ELDERLY PERSON ✧

God of mercy, look with love on Your servant (Name) who has set down the burden of life's years in death. As he/she served You faithfully throughout his/her life, may You give him/her the fullness of Your peace and joy in heaven. We give thanks for the long life of (Name), now caught up in Your eternal love. Amen.

✧ WHEN DEATH COMES AFTER A LONG ILLNESS ✧

Most loving God, Your servant (Name) suffered great deal with illness and pain, but always tried to place his/her trust in Your mercy. We beg You, give rest to (Name). Look upon his/her sufferings and grant him/her refreshment, light, and final rest and peace. Amen.

✧ WHEN DEATH STRIKES SUDDENLY ✧

Lord, we mourn the sudden death of (Name). We are in shock and do not understand your will. Be gentle with us as we try and understand your will and strengthen our belief that he/she has entered into Your loving presence. Amen.

✧ SUICIDE ✧

God, lover of souls, look gently upon Your servant (Name), whose distress and burdens of life overcame them. Remember the faith of those who mourn and satisfy their longing for that day when all will be made new again in Christ, our risen Lord, who lives and reigns with You forever and ever. Amen.

✧ AT THE SEARING PAIN OF A CHILD'S DEATH ✧

O God, You gave us a son/daughter, and now they have been called home to You before us. Take him/her into Your arms as we did and hold them tight. Hear our parents' prayer: that one day we may come together in Your Presence again as a family where every tear will be wiped away with joy. Amen.

✧ A PRAYER TO MARY ✧

Most Holy Virgin, Mother of Mercy, Comforter of those who mourn like you did at the death of your Son, remember all those who have died so they may enjoy that kingdom which has been prepared for them. Amen.



Help the Poor Souls!

“There are many indulgences, applicable only to the Souls in Purgatory, that can be obtained during the month of November. From the fourth edition of the *Enchiridion of Indulgences*, 1999:

1. A *plenary indulgence*, applicable only to the souls in purgatory, is granted to the faithful who,

- on any and each day from November 1 to 8, devoutly visit a cemetery and pray, if only mentally, for the departed;
- on All Souls' Day (or, according to the judgment of the ordinary, on the Sunday preceding or following it, or on the solemnity of All Saints), devoutly visit a church or an oratory and recite an Our Father and the Creed.

2. A *partial indulgence*, applicable only to the souls in purgatory, is granted to the faithful who,

- devoutly visit a cemetery and at least mentally pray for the dead;
- devoutly recite lauds or vespers from the Office of the Dead or the prayer *Requiem aeternam* (Eternal rest).”

An **indulgence** is "the remission before God of the temporal punishment due for sins already forgiven as far as their guilt is concerned, which the follower of Christ with the proper dispositions and under certain determined conditions acquires through the intervention of the Church which, as minister of the Redemption, authoritatively dispenses and applies the treasury of the satisfaction won by Christ and the saints. An indulgence is partial or plenary according as it removes either part or all of the temporal punishment due sin" (*Indulgentiarum Doctrina*, n.1-2).

To obtain this remission there are proper dispositions and certain conditions predetermined by the Church that must be met. Firstly, one must have the intention to gain the indulgence, and perform the works at the time and in the manner prescribed.

To gain a **Plenary Indulgence** (only one per day), the faithful must be in the state of grace and the following conditions must accompany the prescribed act:

1. have the interior disposition of complete detachment from sin, even venial sin;
2. receive the **sacrament of confession**
3. receive the **Holy Eucharist** (it is certainly better to receive it while participating in Holy Mass, but for the indulgence only Holy Communion is required)
4. and recite **prayers for the intentions of the Holy Father** (one Our Father and one Hail Mary is suggested as a minimum, but any other additional prayers may be added).

All attachment to sin, even venial sin, must be absent. If some of the above conditions are not fulfilled, the indulgence becomes partial.

More details about the timing of these requirements:

It is appropriate, but not necessary, that the sacramental Confession and especially Holy Communion and the prayer for the Pope's intentions take place on the same day that the indulgenced work is performed; **but it is sufficient that these sacred rites and prayers be carried out within several days (about 20) before or after the indulgenced act.** Prayer for the Pope's intentions is left to the choice of the faithful, but an "Our Father" and a "Hail Mary" are suggested. **One sacramental Confession suffices for several plenary indulgences, but a separate Holy Communion and a separate prayer for the Holy Father's intentions are required for each plenary indulgence."**

Excerpted from: <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/activities/view.cfm?id=1178>

Do that and this!:

St. Gertrude's Prayer to Release 1000 Souls From Purgatory and Pray for Sinners Including Us!



Prayer for The Poor Souls in Purgatory.

Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy souls in purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen.

REPRINT:

Happy Anniversary to St. Mary of the Angels Fraternity!

Nick emailed his best wishes to all of us on our Anniversary as a Fraternity! Nick wrote in part:

“November 4, feast of St. Charles Borromeo, was the Canonical establishment of St. Mary of the Angels fraternity. I was at the First Mass in the Chapel at St. Jude's, with Fr. Peter Sheridan as celebrant. Lucille Leach was our Minister then. I think Lucille and Genie Dutton were the organizers of the new fraternity.

I shared the email with Sonia and Alina, and Sonia wrote back:

“ Thank you Nick, You are right! Our fraternities Canonical establishment was November 4, 1989. Our first Spiritual Assistant was Fr.Peter Sheridan. However five of us started this fraternity, Lucille Leach, Sonia and Jaime Bernardo, Paul and Janet Turner.”

Alina then added this:

“The fraternity started out as a “spirit-filled seed” that grew in the hearts and souls of the five following Franciscans: Lucille Leach, Sonia and Jaime Bernardo, and Janet and Paul Turner. From there, with the nurturing of the ministers and newly professed members, the fraternity grew and grew, developing deep roots in our Catholic Christian faith and its ideals. The same Holy Spirit that reached out to St. Francis has touched our fraternity over these many years to keep it active and alive.

Continuing the theme of a “growing plant/tree,” the fraternity is an organic unit that will change as needed to suit the current environment. Its core values will always remain the same; however, as new leaves (members) are added, its branches will continue to reach out and thrive. The stem/trunk will be strong and straight to support the new growth, as its chosen leaders follow faithfully the Catholic doctrines.

Let us all continue to “fertilize” our precious fraternity by enthusiastic participation and needed volunteerism. Each of us us plays an important role in keeping our fraternity healthy and

thriving. With



gratitude



and heart-felt

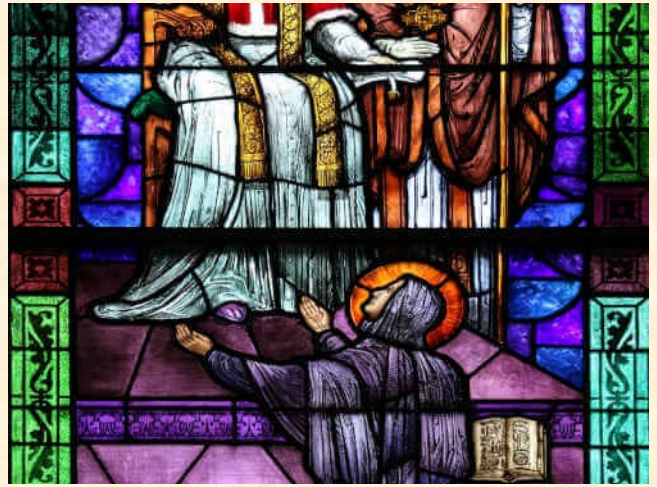


appreciation, Alina

LET'S REALLY CELEBRATE THESE AMAZING NOVEMBER FEAST DAYS!

November 13— St. Frances Xavier of Cabrini

Starting from absolute zero, Mother Cabrini miraculously began her work among Italian immigrants. She would work almost exclusively with, and for, Italians the rest of her life. She begged, pleaded, and cajoled. She pulled every lever of charm and persuasion she could reach. It worked. Her deep spirituality and constant state of motion soon put her in contact with Italian benefactors eager to help their own. Mother Cabrini was then seemingly everywhere, doing everything. She founded hospitals, orphanages, schools, workshops, and convents in New York, Denver, Cincinnati, Pittsburg, St. Louis, San Francisco, and Chicago. She trekked to Nicaragua, Argentina, and Brazil. She sailed back to Italy nine times. She became an American citizen but remained fully Italian in her identity and a source of pride for America's many "Little Italies." Mother Cabrini's relentless energy, remarkable administrative skills, shrewdness, humility, and charisma quickly built an empire of charity. When she died in Chicago, she left behind sixty-seven institutions and a robust Order of dedicated nuns. On July 7, 1946, she became the first United States citizen to be canonized a saint.



November 16- St. Gertrude the Great

Gertrude lived a "nuptial mysticism" in which she was Christ's bride and the Mass was the wedding banquet at which a chaste self-giving consummated the sacred bond of lover and beloved. Gertrude's vowed virginity was the proof and basis of her enduring commitment to Christ, a promise made in the company of His mother, Mary, and all the angels and saints. Gertrude composed her spiritual diaries at the express command of her spouse, Christ. Their hymns, prayers, and reflections also show a profound concern for the holy souls in purgatory. Gertrude continually begged Christ's mercy on them, and Christ responded that merely petitioning for the release of such souls was sufficient for Him to grant the favor. In Gertrude's visions, Jesus speaks to her almost exclusively at Mass and during the Liturgy of the Hours. This is consoling. Most Catholics meet Christ more through

the Sacraments than through books, so Christ appearing in priestly vestments, holding a chalice, or standing at an altar is absolutely congruent with our experience of Sunday Mass. Apart from her writings, few details of Gertrude's life are known. She left virtually no footprint besides her life of quiet fidelity as a contemplative nun.

Like John the Baptist, she decreased so the Lord could increase. Gertrude's alluring private revelations became common spiritual reading among the saints of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries and continue to fire the imagination of all who read them today.

LET'S REALLY CELEBRATE THESE AMAZING NOVEMBER FEAST DAYS!

1. **Feast of All Saints – Holy day of Obligation**
2. **Commemoration of all of the Faithfully Departed** – Plenary Indulgence for the holy souls when one visits a church or chapel and recites a Pater and a Credo
3. **Bl. Helen Enselmini, Virgin, the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1231**
4. **St. Charles Borromeo, Bishop, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1584**
5. **Feast of the Saints Relics**
6. **Bl. Margaret of Lorraine, Virgin, the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1521**
7. **Bl. Raynier of Arezzo, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1304**
8. **Bl. John Duns Scotus, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1308**
9. **Bl. Gabriel Ferritti, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1456**
10. **Bl. Louis Guanella, Priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1915**
11. **Bl. Mary Crucifixa, Virgin, the Franciscan 3rd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1826**
12. **Bl. John of Peace, Confessor, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1340**
13. **St. Didacus of Alcala, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1463**
14. **St. Nicholas Tavelich and Companions, Martyrs, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1391**
15. **Bl. Sebastien de Jesus, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1734**
16. **St. Agnes of Assisi, Virgin, the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1253**
17. **Bl. Jane of Signa, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1307**
18. **Bl. Salome of Cracow, Virgin, the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1268**
19. **St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Virgin Patroness of Franciscan Third Order Secular, Plenary Indulgence (renewal of Tertiary engagement), d. 1231**
20. **Bl. Migagros Ortells, Virgin, Capuchin religious, Martyr 1936**
21. **Feast of the Presentation of the Holy Virgin Mary**
22. **Bl. Salvator Lilli, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, martyr 1895**
23. **Bl. Marie de Jesus Bon Pasteur, Virgin, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1902**
24. **Bl. Timothy Trajonowski, lay brother, Conventual religious, martyr 1942**
25. **Bl. Humilis of Bisignano, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1637**
26. **St. Leonard of Port Maurice, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1751**
27. **St. Francis Anthony Fasani, Priest, Conventual religious, d. 1742**
28. **St. James of the March, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1476**
29. **Saints of the Seraphic Order**
30. **Bl. Anthony Bonfadini, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1482**