



THE CLARION

St. Conrad Fraternity, Order of Franciscans Secular
St. Margaret of Cortona Region
Hanover, Pennsylvania

July / August 2024

Pax et Bonum

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Minister's Message

The Trip of a Lifetime

Grace and Peace that only comes from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to you my Franciscan Sisters and Brothers In Jesus Christ.

I suppose everyone has been asked some time or another, if you could travel any place in the world, where would you want to go? I guess that question was answered for me some time ago and I can't put my finger on when that exactly happened. I do know that I was gradually progressing into a deeper and stronger relationship with our Lord. Then I had this desire to travel to the place where Jesus lived and walked, I just had to go there, the Holy Land. That dream became a reality back in December of 2011. I also took my son Zachary to share that awesome experience. I will always remember that trip; the Holy Land was a wonderful place to visit.

I want to talk about another trip which is out of this world and is beyond comprehension to describe. I have received an invitation to attend this wonderful trip; all I must do is accept the invitation. I have known about this trip for some time and have been preparing to go; I just need to be ready when the time comes to depart. The trip will cost nothing, everything has been paid for; I was informed not to bring any baggage for everything would be provided. I am dying to go on this Trip of a Lifetime because I will be accompanied by someone who loves me very much. You see I only accepted the invitation because I love this person, He first loved me. "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love Him."

Everything is ready all are invited you only have to say yes and trust in the Lord. He will come and take you on the Trip of a Lifetime.

My Secular Franciscan Brothers and Sisters may you have a wonderful summer time filled with joy. Remember to receive our Lord Jesus as often as possible in the Eucharist during Holy Mass. "May the Lord Bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace." Amen

Bonservant of Christ.
Phil

From the Desk of Sr. Mary Therese - A SUMMER NOTE

At this time of year, plants are growing and while we drive by corn fields and other growing things, we probably experience a bit of excitement. Our Lord Jesus used nature and the process of growth to teach us about God and life in the Gospel. Recently, Pope Francis was reflecting upon the Gospel story of the sower and the seed.

Jesus describes the Kingdom of God through the image of the seed that is planted, sprouts and grows to maturity. The Lord invites us to have "confident expectation," the Pope said, as the whole process takes time and requires our trust and collaboration.

Even with quality and abundant seeds and well prepared soil, a farmer needs patience and trust, the Pope observed, as the plants do not sprout immediately. Eventually the seeds open and the shoots sprout through the soil and grow to bring an abundant harvest, revealing the underground miracle in progress, the Pope explained. He went on to say, "The Lord places in us the seeds of His word and His grace, good and abundant seeds, and, without ever ceasing to accompany us, He waits patiently." The Lord cares for us always during the process of our own growth with the confidence of a Father, the Pope said, but the Lord gives us time so that these seeds may open, grow and develop to when they "bear the fruits of good works." The Pope said the Lord wishes that nothing be lost and "everything should reach full maturity" like the ears of grain described in the Gospel.

The Lord also teaches us to "sow the Gospel confidently wherever we are" the Pope said, and then to wait patiently as the seed grows and bears fruit in us and others. Confident patience is the key, he stressed, as we should not become discouraged when we do not seem to see immediate results. The "miracle" is often at work beyond appearances, and in due course will bear abundant fruit, he assured.

So I propose two reflection questions for you over this summer growing season:

1. Am I open and nurturing to the seeds of the Gospel and God's grace that have been placed within me? Do I have "confident expectation" that God will bring it to fruition in my life?
2. How am I called to "sow the Gospel confidently" right where I am and to wait patiently for the growth that only God can give?

Peace and All Good,
Sister Mary Therese, OSF

Holy Father's Prayer Intentions

July

For Pastoral Care of the Sick

The Holy Father asks "for the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick to give strength from the Lord to those who receive it and their loved ones, becoming a visible sign of compassion and hope for everyone."

August

For Political Leaders

Pope Francis invites prayers "so that political leaders may serve their people, work for comprehensive human development and the common good, attending to those who have lost their jobs and prioritizing the poorest."

A Secular Franciscan Wedding

Congratulations to our Fraternity family member, Kathleen (Kathy) Clagg and Jon Thomas Kightlinger who were married on Saturday, June 8, 2024, at the St. Anthony Shrine in Emmitsburg, Maryland. Many members of our St. Conrad Fraternity were on hand to help celebrate this joyous and beautiful event. Please pray for Kathy and Jon as they begin their marriage journey.

July Birthdays

Mary Barrick..... 7/26

August Birthdays

José Barata..... 8/26
Mary Harp..... 8/20
Jackie Redding..... 8/9

July Profession Anniversaries

Judy Topper.....7/13/2003
Jeff Topper.....7/13/2003

August Profession Anniversaries

Sister Cecilia Reilly..... 8/22

July Necrology

Genevieve Licklider.....7/27/1986
Maurice Malone..... 7/1/1996
A. Louis Ratti7/30/1981
Shirley Redding.....7/19/1991
Eleanor Tevington7/11/1997

August Necrology

Gerard Cohee 8/7/2007
Lawrence Eckenrode.....8/22/1981
Joseph McCormick.....8/22/1997
John Pickell8/29/1968

Important Dates in July

July 1 - St. Junipero Serra
July 3 - Feast of St. Thomas, Apostle
July 4 - St. Elizabeth of Portugal
July 15 - St. Bonaventure
July 17 - St. Francis Solano
July 25 - Feast of St. James, Apostle
July 26 - Sts. Joachim and Anne,
Parents of the BVM
July 30 - Blessed Solanus Casey

Important Dates in August

August 2 - Our Lady of the Angels of
the Portiuncula
August 4 - St. John Vianney, Cure of Ars
August 6 - Transfiguration of the Lord
August 11 - St. Clare of Assisi
August 14 - St. Maximilian Kolbe
August 15 - Assumption of the BVM
August 21 - St. Pius X, pope, 3rd Order
August 22 - Queenship of the BVM
August 24 - St. Bartholomew, Apostle
August 25 - St. Louis IX, king, 3rd Order

Fraternity Prayer Vine

Please continue to pray for the health and the intentions of:

- Mary Barrick
- Pat Bilz
- Fr. Richard Forcier, OFM Conv
- Concetta Glorioso-special int.
- Angie Hedler (Mary H’s Aunt)
- Sherlynn Holland
- Bishop Colm O’Reilly
- Margaret Kern (Mary B’s mother)
- John Kightlinger
- Dona Klem
- Debbie Loveland (Kathy’s sister)
- Jackie Redding
- Sr. Cecilia O’Reilly
- Helen McCarthy (Kathy’s Aunt)
- Diana Duke



Reminder: If you want your prayer need(s) added to the prayer vine, OR if you wish to have your name or intention removed, please let your editor know.

Franciscan Obituary**Mary Lou Gennaula, OFS**

Mary L. Gennaula (Neil) OFS, formerly of Brownsville, Pa. and residing in Gettysburg (Bonneauville), passed away Sunday, June 2, after a lengthy illness. She was 79.

Mary Lou was twice widowed, preceded in death by husband Ray D. Neil (California, Pa.) and husband Charles Gennaula (California/Gettysburg). She also is predeceased by parents Stephen and Helen Kosick (LaBelle, Pa.) as well as faithful canine companions Shaggy and Mohawk.

She was a member of the Catholic Secular Franciscan Order and was a devout Catholic active at St. Joseph the Worker in Bonneauville. She previously worshipped at St. Thomas Aquinas (California, Pa.) where she was administrative assistant and religious-education coordinator, and she has been lector, Eucharistic Minister and religious-education instructor at both parishes.

A teacher by trade, she spent most of her career at Brownsville Catholic School, previously teaching high-school biology at prestigious school districts like Fox Chapel (Pittsburgh) and Thomas Jefferson High School (Fairfax County, Va.). She was awarded the Good Egg Award by the Diocese of Greensburg for kindness and teaching excellence, and she loved combining her love of science with religious education. Before illness, she was an active walker, reader and collector of antiques. Her baking and cooking were legendary.

Mary Lou professed and became a Secular Franciscan on November 2, 1993.