

August 2024



Our Gathering Thursday, August 8, 2024

Agenda

- ❖ Inquirers meet with their instructor
- ❖ Rite of Admission ceremony (in the church)
- ❖ Mass
- ❖ Lunch & Fellowship (in Religious Ed. Bldg.)
(bring your own food & drink)
- ❖ Business matters
- ❖ Evening Prayer

REMEMBER



June thru September

We are meeting at:

St. Jude's
152 Tulip Dr.
Lewes

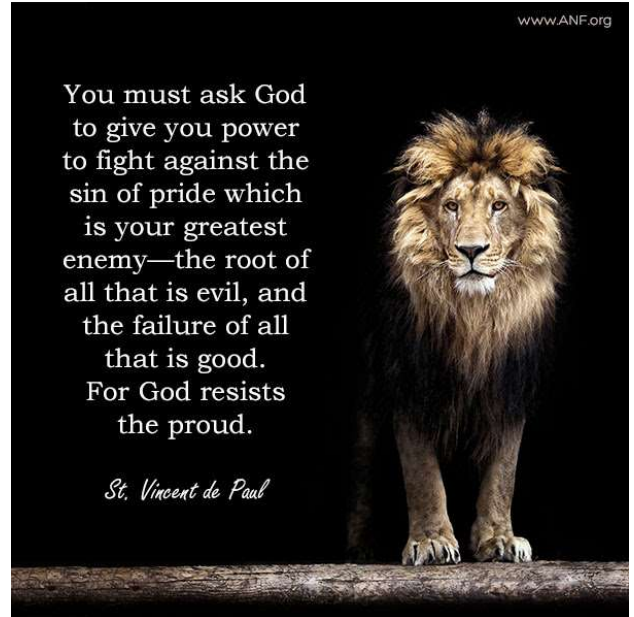
A GENTLE REMINDER...

IF WORK, HEALTH REASONS OR SIGNIFICANT FAMILY OBLIGATIONS HINDER YOU FROM ATTENDING THE GATHERING, PLEASE CONTACT OUR VICE MINISTER, PEPPER TULLY
973-809-2344
PEPPER32738@GMAIL.COM

2024 Theme

Gospel to Life - Life to Gospel

Minister's Message



You must ask God to give you power to fight against the sin of pride which is your greatest enemy—the root of all that is evil, and the failure of all that is good. For God resists the proud.

St. Vincent de Paul

Peace and Many Blessings,
Kathleen

EVENING PRAYER

St. Dominic, Pastor (Memorial)

If you are using your phone, please use the Divine Office app.

If you are using your Christian Prayer or the LOH books, please see below.

(A few printed copies will be available)

1 Vol. Ants. & Psalms: pg 830, Reading, Responsory, Canticle Ant., Intercessions: pg 1432
Concluding Prayer: pg 1221

4 Vol. Ants. & Psalms: pg 896, Reading, Responsory, Canticle Ant., Intercessions: pg. 1772,
Concluding Prayer: 1303
(Hymn will be distributed)

Presider: Kathleen Murphy
Antiphonarian: Joe O'Neill
Reader: Rhona Prescott

We pray for all our fraternal sisters and brothers and for the special intentions of:

Janice and Dick McCarthy, ofs
Linda Sciallo, ofs
Bonnie Coté, ofs
Nicole Meringolo, ofs
Mimi Farrell, ofs
Rhona Prescott, ofs
Carolyn Protin, ofs
Patty Derrick, ofs
Kathleen Murphy, ofs
Judy Bennett, ofs



We pray for our deceased relatives and friends and especially:

John Zell, ofs
Mary Lou Zell, ofs
Deacon Buddy Bianco, ofs
Deacon Bob Leonzio
Barbara Petrisko, ofs
Bill Farrell, ofs
Bill Walker, ofs
Dee Matthews, ofs
Laraine Hoffman, ofs
Florence Bianco, ofs
Celine Mallonee, ofs
Alicia Bourne, ofs
Fr. Ronald Pecci, ofm
Lucy Deiaco, ofs
Maury Robb, ofs
Dianne Douglas Barbacano, ofs



OUR FOOD COLLECTION THIS MONTH WILL GO TO:

MARY'S HOUSE PANTRY

**MARY MOTHER OF PEACE
LONGNECK**

ITEMS NEEDED:
**TUNAFISH, PASTA & SAUCE, CEREAL,
CANNED VEGETABLES, PEANUT
BUTTER, JELLY,
SOUP, CANNED FRUIT**



Pennies & Nickels



Thank you...

for your continued support of our Common Fund.
If you are ever unable to attend the gathering, send your donation check, payable to St. Clare Fraternity, to our treasurer:
Andrea Lipchak, OFS
41 Tiffany Drive
Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971



August BIRTHDAYS

Frank Rega 8/14

August PROFESSIONS

None



**No one is scheduled to bring
desserts.**

**Do not be concerned!
We will be having cake and
fruit salad!! 😊**



*Remember
your prayer partner
in your daily prayers*



Do you have something that you believe is
**“for the good of the fraternity”
or perhaps a personal reflection
about your spiritual journey?**

Please send it to Elena
(elenacspitzer@gmail.com)
for publication in the newsletter.

Something to Ponder...

By Bev & Ron Stoner

OUT OF THE WILDERNESS BUILDING CHRISTIAN FAITH AND KEEPING GOD’S CREATION

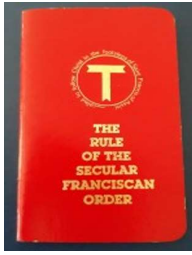
(Article taken from Creation Justice Ministries)

“But Jesus withdrew to the wilderness and prayed.”
(Luke 5:16) RSV

Wilderness, places of wild and unexpected grandeur, is an essential part of American character. It provides unique opportunities for recreation, solitude, renewal and wildlife protection. Many biblical events took place in the wilderness: Mose’s call to leadership, exodus of the Israelites, Elijah’s prophetic vision, John the Baptist’s preparation for Christ. Jesus and his disciples frequently retreated to the wilderness to escape the crowds, pray and renew themselves for ministry. For us, we can come out of the wilderness with a deeper respect for God’s providence, a clearer vision of our place in God’s creation and with renewed energy for ministry and service. Wilderness provides an excellent setting to experience God’s presence. Heightened physical sensory awareness parallels heightened spiritual awareness. “He leads me beside still waters, he restores my soul” (Psalms 23:2-3). Wilderness provides refuge for the persecuted and pursued, refuge from the modern world and from our trials and labors. It also provides refuge for wildlife and endangered species, preserving critical habitat for God’s creatures to flourish.

Thought question: Where do I seek God’s beauty, creation, and my personal solitude when I need to free myself from the modern world?





The Rule - What we have promised

Chapter Two The Way of Life

13. As the Father sees in every person the features of his Son, the firstborn of many brothers and sisters, so the Secular Franciscans with a gentle and courteous spirit accept all people as a gift of the Lord and an image of Christ. A sense of community will make them joyful and ready to place themselves on an equal basis with all people, especially with the lowly for whom they shall strive to create conditions of life worthy of people redeemed by Christ.

Reflection- Acceptance: We are willing to trust each other because we firmly believe that every other person is for us a teacher, revealing something to us about God's presence and power in our lives.

Equality: We choose to discover that, regardless of race, color, creed, gender, orientation, occupation, or social status, every person shares with us a common Father and a common Brother, and is every bit an equal to us.

...these qualities, as part of our counter-culture lifestyle, make us stand in contrast to some of the subtle, taken-for-granted norms of our society: like fear of reprisal, or danger, "expertism" in specializations, competitive getting-ahead, or a self-made or self-centered sufficiency. As Franciscans we offer a viable alternative for contemporary living: openness to the creative power of God in every event or person, the outstretched and unbegrudging hand of service in any circumstance, and the willingness to look beyond differences to the unifying force that binds all people together in a common brotherhood.

Excerpt from:
Called to Proclaim Christ,
Short Reflections on the SFO Rule
Benet A. Fonck, OFM

St. Clare



Feast day
August 11th

What you hold may you always hold.
What you do, may you always do
and never abandon.

But with swift pace, light step and unswerving feet, so that even your steps stir up no dust, go forward, the spirit of our God has called you.

A blessing
St. Clare of Assisi

Future Fraternity Gatherings

2nd Thursday of each month

Please make note!

2024

September 12th (St. Jude's)

October 10th

November 14th

December 12th

2025

January 9th

February 13th

March 13th

April 10th

May 8th

June 12th (St. Jude's)

July 10th (St. Jude's)

August 14th (St. Jude's)



Looking Ahead...



At Our September Gathering
Please, invite your family!!

St. Margaret of Cortona Regional Fraternity **2024 Chapter of Mats**

September 6th – 8th
Claggett Center in Adamstown, MD

The Next 800 Years

Exploring where we have been, where we are now & where we are going

It's not too late to register!

See details at the regional website.

<https://saintmargaretofcortona.org/upcoming-events/>

If you have not been to a Chapter of Mats, I highly recommend experiencing it!! It's a time of great joy being with so many fellow Franciscans.

I (Elena) have registered and would love to see you there!!

National Zoom Webinar

800th Anniversary of St. Francis' receiving the Stigmata

Sunday, October 6, 2024
3PM EST (60-75 minutes)

Preliminary plans include:

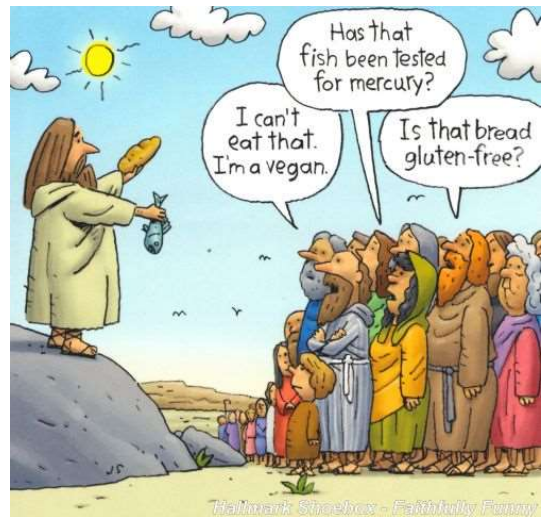
*A talk on the Stigmata by Dr. Darlene Pryds, Assoc. Prof. of Christian Spirituality and History at the Franciscan School of Theology

*A panel discussion featuring members of our national leadership. This will provide us with multiple perspectives on how Francis' experience connects to our lives as Secular Franciscans today.

The invitation to register for the Zoom event will be sent out about a month beforehand via our regional ministers and regional formation directors. If you would like the registration information to be sent directly to you, please go to groups.google.com and request to be added to "NAFRACentenaryContacts".

Laughing With St. Sarah

(Patron saint of laughter)



Council Corner

from Thursday, August 1st

In addition to what is in the newsletter, the following are a couple topics your council was focused on this month:

- We will now be contributing \$100. each to Shepherds Office and Franciscan Missions monthly.
- We will be supporting Primeros Pasos Early Childhood Learning Center in Georgetown twice a year (May & October) by collecting diapers, wipes etc. Please visit their website to learn more about them visit their website. www.primerospasosde.org

Council Members

Minister: Kathleen Murphy 301-535-7011

Vice Minister: Pepper Tully 973-809-2344

Secretary: Mary Moran 302-644-1448

Treasurer: Andrea Lipchak 302-644-4434

Formation Director: Rhona Prescott 302-864-7280

Councilor: Tom Carter 302-344-1414

Councilor-Newsletter: Elena Spitzer 301-471-7487

Formation, formation, formation!!

By Rhona – Formation Director



Every Professed Secular Franciscan should know:

The Secular Franciscan Order is an Order – canonically established in more than 800 years ago by St. Francis of Assisi with the purpose of greatest ministry amongst all populations in secular lives.



Profession is a lifelong ecclesiastical promise (non-religious vow) made before God through the Catholic Church. It is as important as our baptismal promises and is freely chosen by each member to add this responsibility to our obligation to our Christian life – there is an indelible mark on our souls because of this promise.

Profession is a solemn act and commitment. Our failings in our profession are to be included in our Sacrament of Reconciliation to our priest. Fr. Stephen King, OFM Conv. Instructed us to include this in our confession being sure to let the priest know that we are a professed member of a canonical established Order.

We promise to live in this Order by following the Rule. This requires self-sacrifice and conversion.

The smallest unit in the Order is the fraternity – not the individual. Members may serve in their parishes and communities individually; however it is when serving together that they accomplish fraternal works of service. This may include two or more members or all members of the fraternity.

Because of Franciscan spirituality and charism, all members work towards living in fraternity with each other through the Franciscan way of life.

Key values of Franciscan life:

- Faith, Service, Unity, Humility, Conversion, to name a few.
- Honor to our Catholic Church and Franciscan Order above all else.
- Service to the poor and marginalized, affirmation of the unique worth of each person, appreciation for beauty, reverence for all creation, and faith in a personal and provident God—these are the values and vision of St. Francis of Assisi

We follow St. Francis of Assisi, though there are other good charisms and saints in the church – we are Franciscan and it is in his footsteps that we find our way to Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

We stand at the forefront of social injustice. However, we are non-political – there is no room for politics in the fraternity.

“Together with our brothers and sisters throughout the world, we continue to make present the charism of our Father Francis in life and mission of Christ’s church. Ideally, the soul of every Secular Franciscan bears an indelible mark of Christ’s commandment to *love one another as I have loved you*. Our baptism and profession empower us to transcend artificial boundaries shaped by human hands and relate fraternally to all creation – animate and inanimate – fashioned by God’s own hand.” Anne Mulqueen, OFS – National Conference

