

October 2024



Our Gathering

Thursday, October 10, 2024

We are back at
St. Edmond's Church

Agenda

- ❖ Candidates meet with their instructor
- ❖ Mass (in the church)
- ❖ Lunch & Fellowship
- ❖ Business Matters
- ❖ On-going formation – Mary, Francis & Clare by Fr. Cocco including personal reflections from his pilgrimages.
- ❖ Evening Prayer



Mary Moran
Loretta Hanley
Sandy Paulen

You have volunteered to bring dessert to our October gathering.

2024 Theme

Gospel to Life - Life to Gospel

Minister's Message

The month of October has been dedicated to the holy rosary – a set of prayers said in honor of the Blessed Mother. Pope St. Pius V's Holy League won a major naval victory against the Ottoman Empire in the Battle of Lepanto on October 7, 1571. The Holy League was a coalition of Catholic states formed by Pope Pius V and Don John of Austria in response to the Ottoman Empire's threat to destroy Rome and enslave Christians in Europe.

Pope Pius V attributed the victory to the intercession of Our Lady of the Rosary, and to commemorate the victory he established the Feast of Our Lady of Victory. He also asked all Christians in Rome to pray the Rosary for victory.



EVENING PRAYER

Thursday, Twenty-Seventh Week in Ordinary Time

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. Page 902

4 Vol. Page 1041

Hymn: Day Is Done

1 Vol. pg. 1523, Number 42

4 Vol. pg. 850

Presider: Marty Rendon

Antiphonarian: Beverly Stoner

Reader: Pepper Tully

Formation, Formation, FORMATION!!!

By Rhona Prescott, Formation Director

How blessed are we Secular Franciscans to have a glimpse of such a beautiful death. We see how our Seraphic Father welcomed his own passing from life on earth to new life in Heaven, the promised Resurrection. Many of us are approaching this end stage of life on earth. This is the perfect time to make amends for any wrongdoing, to go to Confession, to repair relationships with family, friends, with our dear Lord and to embrace the certainty of our own passing. It is the perfect time to consider any pain or suffering as God's way of cleaning our slate and to be with Him with eternal joy, to see our earthly family and friends, to welcome Sister Death.



Around the world in October, we Franciscans celebrate the Feast of St. Francis (**October 4**). One part of our annual observance is a service on the evening of October 3, known as the "Transitus," or "passing" of St. Francis. It's a simple time of storytelling and prayers that recall how, at the moment of his death, Francis called out "Welcome, Sister Death!"



PRIMEROS PASOS Early Childhood Learning Center

Georgetown, DE

To honor our mother Mary, we are once again collecting for this much needed learning center.

Whatever you can contribute please bring to our gathering this month.

The center is requesting the following:

- Diapers – sizes 3, 4, 5, 6
- Pull-ups – sizes 4T – 5T
- Baby wipes (non-scented for sensitive skin)
- Walmart Gift Cards
- Composition Books
- Laundry Detergent - All (Free & Clear)
- Washable markers
- Dry Erase Markers

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

Something to Ponder...

By Bev & Ron Stoner

CLIMATE CRISIS

Taken from

Catholic Climate Covenant: Season of Creation 2024

"Developed nations", through the emission of greenhouse gases, are contributing to the warming of our planet. We are changing our climate in dynamic and dangerous ways. This **climate crisis** is destroying vast numbers of species and threatening life on our planet. We are experiencing more violent storms, wildfires, heatwaves, droughts and floods with damaging sea level rising causing human suffering especially to the poor and marginalized. Pope Francis in his 2021 encyclical **Laudato Si** highlighted the destructive force of "greed, exploitation, disrespect, disconnection and systemic degradation" of the richness of Creation by the process of development. Humans for centuries have ordered our lives and economies according to the logic of markets rather than the limits of the Earth.

Questions: As a Franciscan, how can I respond to the challenge of **Laudato Si**? How can we do this as a fraternity?



The Rule – What we have promised

Chapter Two - *The Way of Life*

16. Let them esteem work both as a gift and as a sharing in the creation, redemption, and service of the human community.

Reflection- Another concrete means of proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ is expressed in attitudes toward work. Through working the Secular Franciscans discover their workaday world as the arena of their salvation and at the same time exemplify the saving Christ to others. So, human labor is a blessing, both received and bestowed. By working, a person shares in the creative power of the Father, renews the face of the earth along with the Son, and brings the love of the Holy Spirit to the human community. Such an attitude toward work can reshape one's own and others' values and actions regarding labor and management, business and economics, living wage and welfare, proper use of one's own talents and the resources of others.

*Excerpt from:
From Gospel to Life
The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order With Commentary*

Service Opportunity!!

Code Purple

**DONATE PACKAGED FOOD & WATER
FOR OUR HOMELESS GUESTS**

+++++

THANK YOU – COOKING SLOTS ALREADY FILLED!

Please help St. Jude's Food Ministry for Code Purple to collect 2,000 packaged food items and 50 cases of water for the men sheltering at St. Jude's and the women sheltering at the Lutheran Church of Our Savior in Rehoboth this winter. We will have a DRIVE-THROUGH/DROP-OFF collection in the parish parking lot on Nov. 8 and 9 for packaged food, and on Nov. 17 for water.

Please sign up using the link below, which includes instructions on what specific items we need and when to deliver them.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094FAEAE2FA0FEFCF8-50791700-stjude>. (This link is easier to use if you access the St. Jude bulletin online.)

These goods will provide our guests with portable breakfast and snacks as they leave the shelter early each morning. The packaged food will also supplement and provide alternatives to our hot meals.

We so appreciate the wonderful people who signed up to cook and bring hot meals to the Parish Life Center in response to our earlier outreach. *Thanks to these volunteers, our need for hot meals for this season is already filled.*

For more information about the Food Ministry specifically, please email Joan Russo at russo.joan.russo@gmail.com or Evelyn St. Martin at stmartinsib@gmail.com.

Thank you and God bless you!

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

Janice McCarthy, ofs
Bonnie Coté, ofs
Nicole Meringolo, ofs
Rhona Prescott, ofs
Carolyn Protin, ofs
Kathleen Murphy, ofs
Sandy Paulen, ofs
Diane Zell, ofs
Jackie Boyd, ofs
Judy Bennett, ofs
Fran Butler, 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
Diane Barbacano, ofs
Dick McCarthy, ofs
Linda Sciallo, ofs

The Transitus Service



October BIRTHDAYS

Sandy Paulen	10/6
Fr. Cocco	10/10

October PROFESSIONS

Jim Mullen	10/8/2015
Jeri Pierce	10/8/2015
Jackie Boyd	10/9/2009
Frances Butler	10/9/2009
Mary Moran	10/9/2009
Tom Carter	10/9/2014
Connie Kemp-English	10/10/2013
Nicole Meringolo	10/13/2011
Bonnie Cote	10/14/2010
Natalie Blakely	10/14/2010
Carolyn Protin	10/16/1991
Judy Bennett	10/16/1994



Tom & Fr. Cocco



Kate, Marty, Maureen & Kathleen carrying the habit.
Joe carrying the relic of St. Francis.



Rhona reading from the life of St. Francis



Tom's Tidbits

by Tom Carter

Pope Innocent III, among other accomplishments, had the distinction of canonically recognizing the Franciscan Order, the Dominican Order, and the Waldensian Order. Never heard of the Waldensians? They were founded by Peter Waldo but went off the rails by failing to yield to local Bishops regarding preaching and other errors. They were declared heretic by Rome in 1184 and subsequently excommunicated. To this day the Franciscans and Dominicans may preach in all Diocese unless forbidden to do so by the local Ordinary.

Future Fraternity Gatherings

2nd Thursday of each month

Please make note!

2024

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)

September 11th (St. Jude's)

October 9th



Looking Ahead...

National Zoom Webinar
800th Anniversary of St. Francis’
receiving the Stigmata

Sunday, October 6, 2024 3PM EST

- *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.

Copy and paste the following link in your browser!

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89190866341?tk=FcTWGyvILaxHnTJxdLLByF4hgZ8vAZdt77GCNK3mYqU.DQcAAAAUxDCdpRZVaG5HeUtYalFGR0drM0FXNUNRSG1BAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA&pwd=Epio8TcstTh5eiOvzah327zag83Qjo.1&uuid=WN_WqF-JapJQhC7SOd7zxDmcp

Secular Franciscans
and Moral Dilemmas in Secular Culture

October 26, 2024
9:30 - 3:30pm

Deadline to register is October 19th

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/OFSMoralDilemmas#/>

\$30.00 (Includes lunch)
Payable at the door (cash or check)

Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in America
1400 NE Quincy St., DC

Fr. Charley Miller OFM will speak to us concerning the many moral dilemmas that we face today. Sadly, some of these moral dilemmas threaten to divide us, while we strive to keep in unity. He will present where the Catholic church stands and why; then points of view of dissenters. Some of the issues include: sexual and gender issues, reproductive issues, just war, end of life, options for the poor, and advocacy for social change as individuals and as a group.

Laughing With St. Sarah

(Patron saint of laughter)



Council Corner

from Thursday, October 3rd

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

- Arrangements will be made for Seraphic Masses for Dick McCarthy & Linda Sciallo.
- Soon our library will be available when our monthly gatherings take place. Rhona & Mary Moran are working on the administrative details.



Pennies & Nickels



Thank you...

for your continued support of our Common Fund.

Please, place your offering in an envelope with your name on it. Know that this information is held confidentially ONLY by our treasurer and minister.

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

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