



THE CLARION

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

November / December 2024

Pax et Bonum

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Minister's Message

God's Special Time

Wow! "Tis the Season," is approaching. The season of Thanksgiving and Christmas, a time to gather with FAMILY and FRIENDS. A time to PRAY, a time of JOY, a time to GIVE, a time of HOPE, a time to TRUST, a time to WORSHIP, a time to SHARE and a time to LOVE! Tis the time, under the son, which points us upward to receive our Savior Jesus Christ. Luke 2:11, "Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord." The angel announced to the shepherds the coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We now wait patiently for the second coming, a time to receive Him. When He arrives again, those who are In Christ will be taken away in an instant, a time to be ready.

I hope everyone enjoyed the much-needed retreat at Aisling Retreat House with the Three Sisters. The timing was perfect, preparing our hearts and minds for a season worth living. Please remember to pray and vote for the best candidate. Almost forgot, go, and receive our Lord and God often in the most perfect way, the Holy Mass, here on earth. Truly, "*God's Special Time.*"

Love,
Phil

From the Desk of Sr. Mary Therese

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

In our Franciscan tradition, Advent is an important time on our spiritual journey. Saint Francis instructed his Friars to fast from All Saints Day until Christmas Eve, in preparation for the great celebration of the Incarnation. This was in keeping with the early Christian tradition of fasting before we feast, so that we can really celebrate the feast.

We live in a culture that does not recognize the spiritual value of Advent. People put up Christmas decorations right after Thanksgiving and parties start early in December. By contrast, our church liturgies are focusing on the anticipation of the Messiah and upon those who heralded and awaited his coming, including Isaiah, John the Baptist and Mary, his Mother. So I encourage you once again to stay focused on Advent, which won't be difficult since we pray the Liturgy of the Hours every day.

As you know, the new liturgical year begins with the First Sunday of Advent, which is December 1st this year. As our liturgical year comes to a close during November, let us review the past year and ponder how our Lord has accompanied us and called us to a deeper relationship during this year. If there is anything we need to let go of, this is the time to give it over to our God and be free to begin again. Let our celebration of Thanksgiving be truly that, a time of gratitude for the gift of following Christ in the Franciscan spirit.

While any of us may need to participate in social and secular celebrations of Christmas during December, let's keep our hearts in the spirit of anticipation. Then we will be truly ready to celebrate the Christmas season, which starts with Christmas Eve and extends through the Baptism of the Lord on January 12, 2025. I think it's great that our fraternity's celebration together will occur during this Christmas Season, on the wonderful Feast of the Epiphany on January 5. May Saints Francis and Clare guide us as we prepare our hearts welcome Jesus once again in simplicity and joy!

Sister Mary Therese, osf

Holy Father's Prayer Intentions**November****For anyone who has lost a child**

We pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community and receive peace and consolation from the Holy Spirit.

December**For pilgrims of hope**

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

November Birthdays

Kathy Clagg..... 11/13
Sr. Cecilia Reilly (Feast) 11/22

November Profession Anniversaries

Mary Lou Gennaula..... 11/2/1993
Shirley Hewitt 11/4/2000
Frank Klem 11/20/2016

November Necrology

Anna Corcoran 11/17/1990
Pauline Figdore 11/20/1981
Carolyn Hill..... 11/11/1999
Cathy Livelsberger 11/11/2021
Betty McCormick..... 11/29/1990
Dolores Pickell..... 11/7/1991
Mildred Seymore 11/12/2002

Important Dates in November

Nov. 1 - All Saints Day (Solemnity)
Nov. 2 - All Souls Day
Nov. 4 - St. Charles Borromeo
Nov. 11 - Veterans Day
Nov. 16 - St. Agnes of Assisi
Nov. 17 - St. Elizabeth of Hungary
Nov. 21 - The Presentation of the BVM
Nov. 22 - St. Cecilia (Sister's Feast Day)
Nov. 28 - Thanksgiving Day
Nov. 24 - Our Lord Jesus Christ the King
Nov. 30 - St. Andrew, Apostle

December Birthdays

None

December Profession Anniversaries

Jackie Redding..... 12/6/1998

December Necrology

Gertrude Daylor 12/30/1977
Francis Rang..... 12/30/1994
Ruth Ratti..... 12/4/2016
Charles Redding..... 12/23/1970

Important Dates in December

Dec. 9 - Immaculate Conception of BVM
Dec. 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe
Dec. 15 - The Blessed Virgin Mary
Queen of the Franciscan Order
Dec. 24 - 1st Christmas Crib, Greccio, 1223
Dec. 25 - The Nativity of the Lord
Dec. 28 - The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
Dec. 29 - The Holy Family
Dec. 31 - New Year's Eve

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
- Angie Hedler
- Sherlynn Holland
- Margaret Kern
- John Kitelinger
- Dona Klem
- Debbie Loveland (Kathy's sister)
- Jackie Redding
- Sr. Cecilia Reilly
- Joe & Anastasia (Pat's Grandson)

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 (Phil Pascoe) know.

November and December Gatherings

Our Gathering in November will be on the THIRD Sunday, the 17th at 1pm in the administration building conference room. Prayer will be the Liturgy of the Hours.

There will be no Franciscan Gathering in the month of December.

Prayer for Vocations

Heavenly Father, we beg you to send us many holy vocations, and to help those given such callings to respond freely, generously, and faithfully. May their self-offerings and consecrations offer you fitting praise. Amen.

Scripture Reading

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." ~ **Luke 2:11**

