



THE CLARION

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

January / February 2025

Pax et Bonum

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Minister's Message

Joy to the World

“Joy to the world! the Lord is come; Let earth receive her King. Let every heart prepare him room. Joy to the world! the Savior reigns; No more let sins and sorrows grow; He rules the world with truth and grace.” My favorite Christmas Hymn, Joy to the World, I get goosebumps whenever I sing or hear the lyrics of this hymn. My father, during Christmas Season would sit us kids, five of us, in chairs lined up in a row and have us sing Christmas Carols until we memorized each song. That is when I began to Love, Joy to the World. “We Three Kings,” is another favorite of mine, the lyrics just jump out and beg to be heard. We celebrate the visit of the Magi to our Lord Jesus Christ this year on January 5, 2025. What a wonderful time such as this to begin a New Year, filled with the ongoing Christmas Spirit. We are still in the Christmas Season until after The Feast of the Epiphany of our Lord Jesus Christ, so enjoy this time and every day in preparation for the coming of Christ the King.

In the prison ministry we would most often ask, “*How is your Prayer Life?*” Monsignor Kenney would say to me, “Don’t ask that.” Yet we all know Jesus is not on our minds and lips all the time as He should be. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus. “*How is your Prayer Life?*” Do you receive Jesus often, in the most perfect way here on earth, the Holy Mass?

Merry Christmas and a Joyful New Year!
Phil

From the Desk of Sr. Mary Therese

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

We are about to enter the first of two periods during the Liturgical Year which are called Ordinary Time. These periods do not have this name because there is nothing special going on, but because they are the “ordered” or “numbered” weeks. The Latin word ordinalis, which refers to numbers in a series, stems from the Latin word ordo, from which we get the English word order. So the numbered weeks of Ordinary Time represent the ordered life of the Church – the period in which we live our lives neither in feasting (as in the Christmas and Easter seasons) or in penance (as in Advent and Lent), but in watchfulness and expectation of the Second Coming of Christ. The feast of the Baptism of the Lord ends the Christmas Season and begins Ordinary Time. Next is the Second Sunday of Ordinary Time and the Gospel always features either John the Baptist’s acknowledgment of Christ as the Lamb of God or Christ’s first miracle – the transformation of water into wine at the wedding at Cana. For Catholics, Ordinary Time is the part of the year in which Christ, the Lamb of God, walks among us and transforms our lives. There’s nothing “ordinary” about that!

The first period of Ordinary Time is from the end of the Christmas Season until Ash Wednesday. This period is anywhere from 4 to 8 weeks. The second, longer period is from Pentecost until the First Sunday of Advent.

This year, the first period of Ordinary Time will be almost the full 8 weeks, so it is a good amount of time in which to pray about our discipleship and to listen for Christ’s call at this time in our lives. What is his invitation to you this year? What does it mean when you hear Jesus say, “Come, follow Me”?

Calling upon the intercession and guidance of Saints Francis and Clare,

Sister Mary Therese, OSF

Holy Father’s Prayer Intentions

January

For the right to an education

Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

February

For vocations to priestly and religious life

Let us pray that the ecclesial community may welcome the desires and doubts of young people who feel called to serve Christ’s mission in priestly and religious life.

January Birthdays

Judy Topper..... 1/13

February Birthdays

No February Birthdays

January Profession Anniversaries

Mary Harp.....1/18/2020
William (Bill) McKenzie1/18/2020
Kathleen Clagg1/19/2013

February Profession Anniversaries

No February Professions

January Necrology

Savilla Byer.....1/12/1978
Mary Minor1/14/2022
Mary Cox1/21/1993
Eleanor Miller.....1/24/2014

February Necrology

Sarah Hoopes.....2/14/1999

Important Dates in January

Jan. 1 - The BVM, Mother of God
Jan. 5 - The Epiphany of the Lord
Jan. 8 - St. Angela of Foligno
Jan. 9 - The Baptism of the Lord
Jan. 20 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Jan. 16 - St. Berard and Companions
Jan. 25 - The conversion of St. Paul
Jan. 27 - St. Angela Merici
Jan. 29 - Brother Juniper

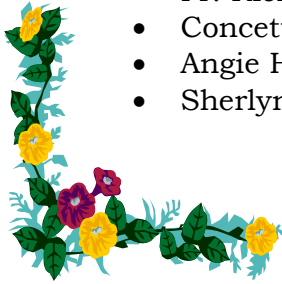
Important Dates in February

Feb. 2 - The Presentation of the Lord
Feb. 6 - St. Paul Miki & Companions
Feb. 11 - Our Lady of Lourdes
Feb. 14 - Valentine’s Day
Feb. 19 - St. Conrad of Piacenza
Feb. 22 - Chair of St. Peter, Apostle
Feb. 25 - Blessed Sebastian of Aparicio

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
- Margaret Kern (Mary B's mother)
- John Kitelinger
- Dona Klem
- Debbie Loveland (Kathy's sister)
- Jackie Redding
- Sr. Cecilia Reilly
- Joe & Anastasia (Pat's Grandson)
- Helen McCarthy (Kathy's Aunt)



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 (Bill McKenzie) know.

January and February Gatherings

Our Gathering in January will be on the Fourth Sunday, the 26th at 1pm in the Admin Building Conference Room. Prayer will be the Liturgy of the Hours.

February's Gathering will be on the 23rd, at 1pm in the Admin Building Conference Room. Prayer will be the Liturgy of the Hours.

Prayer for Vocations

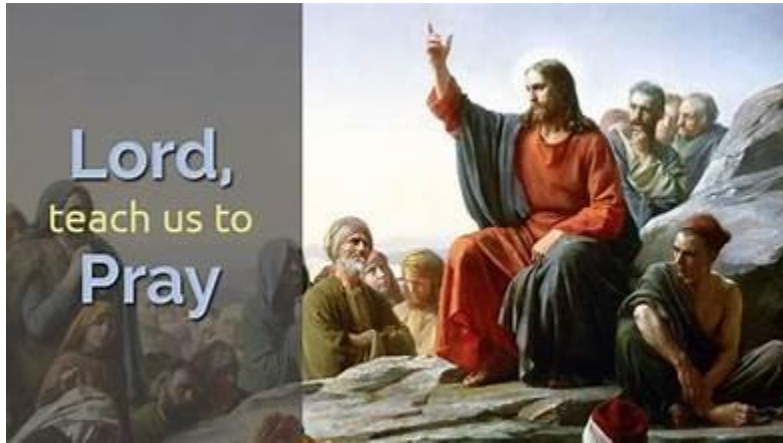
Lord Jesus, we pray to you for the Catholic priesthood. Give us more priests, but most especially we ask you to give us holy priests. Messengers of a truth that is all-encompassing and eternal, holy...

Scripture Reading

Going into the New Year let us remember this scripture reading.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

16 Rejoice always, 17 pray continually, 18 give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.



***Abba, my Father who is in Heaven
Holy, Holy, Holy be your name
Your Kingdom come
Your will be done in me
On earth as it is in Heaven
Give me this day my daily bread and
Forgive me for my sins
As I forgive those who sin against me
Don't let me fall into temptation
But deliver me from the evil one***

