

October 2025



Our Gathering

Thursday, October 9, 2025



Our gatherings are now back at:
St. Edmond

Schedule

- ❖ Orientation class meets
- ❖ Mass
- ❖ Lunch (in the church hall basement)
Desserts provided by Kathleen & Elena
- ❖ Business Matters
- ❖ On-Going Formation – Franciscan Crown
Rosary by Pepper Tully
- ❖ Evening Prayer

EVENING PRAYER

Thursday in the 27th week of ordinary Time

If using your phone, please use the *Divine Office* app.
(Printed copies will be available)

1 vol. Week III, pg. 902

4 vol. Week III, pg. 1041

Hymn: Hail, Holy Queen (song sheet provided)

Presider: Pat Dubois

Antiphonarian: Loretta Hanley

Reader: Mary-Anna Harvie

2025 Theme

**The Omnipresence of the
Franciscan Way of Life**

Minister's Message

I read the most impressive article in the Catholic Standard recently. It was written by our very own Father Emmanuel of St. Edmond's Parish. He portrays a very clear and inspiring message on the meaning of pilgrimages. We don't need to travel to a faraway land but instead live our daily lives in our very own resort town in the First State as if we were on pilgrimage.

I give you **Pilgrimage: Beyond the Destination.**
(see page 6)

Kathleen



Two important duties of the fraternity council will have vacancies soon. Our Treasurer, Andi is stepping aside after five years of dedicated service. And, our Councilor/Newsletter Editor, Elena is stepping aside after faithfully serving in this position for three years. Have you taken your turn on Council yet? This is a very rewarding opportunity for you to serve your fraternity. One of these duties may be calling for your gifts and talents. Do not let fear stand in your way of serving your fraternity!! If you're being nudged about one of these, call me!

A gentle reminder...

If work, health issues or significant family obligations hinder you from attending the gathering, please contact
our vice minister,
Pepper Tully
973-809-2344
Pepper32738@gmail.com

Formation, Formation, FORMATION!!!

By Rhona Prescott, Formation Director

“Lions and tigers and bears, oh my”

This mantra from the Wizard of Oz, spoken when Dorothy, the Tin Man and Scarecrow traverse a dark forest, may resonate now, in the early Fall, when certain holidays cause us a sense of confusion; one of unfocused unrest. An old Irish superstition pegs this season as “the thin time”, meaning when natural and spiritual worlds touch each other, a time of risk and of danger; a time, like Dorothy and her friends experienced in the darkness of the forest; a time that we, too, sense the nearness of that darkness.

We Catholics honor St’s Michael, Gabriel and Raphael on September 29th, then the Holy Guardian Angels on October 2nd. Soon after, All Hallows Eve (Halloween), All Saints Day and All Souls Day. For us, as the Bible affirms, the Archangels bring safety, Godly messages and healing. Our personally assigned Guardian Angels bring discernment, safety, guidance and direction. Yet, concurrently, our children and grandchildren play “Trick or Treat”, satanist witches assign very real spells and curses, local Covens become active; good and evil are intertwined. There are Holy Masses and Black Masses. There is pretend time to dress up and beg candy; there is also real evil and human sacrifice. There are Angels and Saints; Witches and Goblins...all brought to consciousness within one month’s time. Too close for comfort, too thin the boundaries between good and evil. Too close to assume safety; physical and/or spiritual.

This is the time to draw closer to Our Lord and His angels and His Saints. Also, a time to ensure physical safety and spiritual direction for our friends, relatives, ourselves and our children. It is a time for enhanced prayer, more frequent reception of the sacraments, petition and, most of all, thanksgiving to the God who watches over those of us who trust in Him. Let us do just that...and ask Him to protect ourselves and our little ones.

Let us embrace our Archangels and our Guardian Angels without need for a mantra. Let us guard against evil.

Giving for October



Jim Martin – Director

Shepherds Office Georgetown, DE

It's getting cooler here in Sussex County and folks without a home need clothing that will help them stay warm. The Shepherds Office is committed to those they serve, and they need help doing so.

The following is a short list but these items are very much needed.

Men's sweatpants - (sizes L and XL)
Men's long sleeve T- shirts - (size L and XL)

Bring what you can to our gathering!

Responses to our past donations

By Rhona Prescott

Shepherd Office

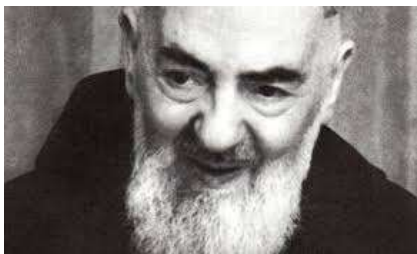
Past gifts of much, much food were so-o-so welcome. Jimmy actually came to my house to get them!

Also, past gifts of fast-food gift cards were a hit that I actually witnessed. The people not only get the food, but hours of being welcome at the restaurants... which let them charge phones, shave and wash up at the places, and get in out of inclement weather. You should have seen their faces...

Jane's Nurse Clinic

They went crazy over the sunglasses. No one thinks about eye strain and, of course, they look “cool”

Padre Pio's Guardian Angel Prayer



*Oh, my Holy guardian Angel,
care for my soul and my body.
Enlighten my mind that I may better know the
Lord my God and love Him with all my heart.
Watch over me when I pray so
I won't give into life's distractions.
Sustain me with your counsel as I live as a
righteous Christian and
help me to do good works with a giving heart.
Protect me from the cunning of the adversary
and lift me up when I am being tempted
so I may win the fight against evil.
Stay beside me at all times, never stop
watching over me until I'm called back to the
father's house, where we will praise together
our Great God for all eternity.
Amen.*

The Archangels

St. Raphael St. Michael St. Gabriel



To learn more about these powerful angels
follow this link:

[https://missions.ewtn.com/seasonsandfeastdays/
holyarchangels/](https://missions.ewtn.com/seasonsandfeastdays/holyarchangels/)

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

Fran Butler, ofs
Bonnie Coté, ofs
Rhona Prescott, ofs
Pepper Tully, ofs
Nicole Meringolo, ofs
Judy Bennett, ofs
Carolyn Protin, ofs
Bev & Ron Stoner, ofs
Joe O'Neill, ofs
Kathleen Murphy, 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
Janice McCarthy, ofs



October BIRTHDAYS

Sandy Paulen 6th
Fr. Cocco 10th

November BIRTHDAYS

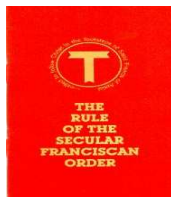
Ellen Oneto 23rd

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
Natalie Blakely	10/14/2010
Bonnie Cote	10/14/2010
Carolyn Protin	10/16/1991
Judy Bennett	10/16/1994

November PROFESSIONS

Elena Spitzer	11/10/2011
Kate Meire	11/30/2001

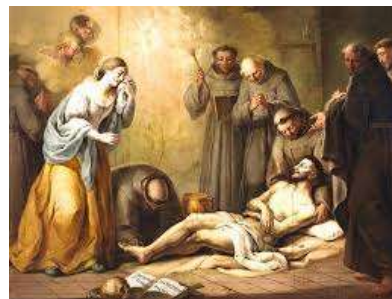


The Rule – What we have promised

Last month concluded the reflections on the rule.
I pray they have been a good companion for you.

St. Francis Transitus – Meeting Sister Death

10. 3. 1226



Our Transitus Celebration

10. 3. 2025



Tom, Maureen, Kate & Mary
carrying the habit



Mary-Anna, Kathleen carrying the relic
of St. Francis, Fr. Cocco



Fr. Cocco, Pepper reading from
The account by Thomas of Solano

Pope Leo's Prayer Intention

October



**For collaboration between
different religious traditions.**

Let us pray that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice and human fraternity.



Looking Ahead



Pre-Profession Retreat
November 17, 2025

Delizabeth Diaz-Martinez
Mary-Anna Harvie
Mary McKeon
Sandy Paulen
Diane Zell

In preparation for profession of promises in the Secular Franciscan Order these candidates will be spending the day with Rhona and Mary M. to reflect on their journey towards Profession.
Pray for these sisters!!

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 Dir: Rhona Prescott 302-864-7280
Councilor: Tom Carter 302-344-1414

Future Fraternity Gatherings

2nd Thursday of each month

Please make note!

2025

November 13th

December 11th

2026

January 8th

February 12th

March 12th

April 9th

May 14th

June 11th

July 9th

August 13th

September 10th

October 8th



Pennies & Nickels



Thank you...

for your continued support of our Common Fund.

If you are unable to attend the gathering,
send your donation check,
payable to St. Clare Fraternity,
to our temporary treasurer:

Mary Ellen Tully
32738 Harburg Dr.
Lewes, DE 19958

Laughing With St. Sarah

(Patron saint of laughter)



Pilgrimage: Beyond the Destination

Rev Emmanuel Dolphyne

In this Jubilee Year of “Pilgrims of Hope,” Catholics are invited to see pilgrimage not only as a physical journey to holy places, but as a daily walk of faith shaped by patience, encounters, and trust in God.

When we think of pilgrimage, we often picture long treks to shrines, journeys to Marian sanctuaries, or visits to the Holy Land and Rome. These sacred places are deeply meaningful, but the true value of pilgrimage goes far beyond reaching a destination. At its core, pilgrimage is about our movement towards God and how He shapes us along the way. Every prayer spoken, every act of kindness shown, and every hardship endured is part of this larger spiritual journey.

The first lesson pilgrimage offers is to embrace the journey, not just the goal. We live in a world that prizes results and quick success, and it is easy to focus only on reaching the end while overlooking the importance of the steps that bring us there. Life, however, is full of detours, delays and challenges. The pilgrim spirit reminds us that these moments are not wasted. They are opportunities for growth in patience and deeper trust in God’s providence. Instead of hurrying through life, the pilgrim learns to walk slowly with Christ, finding meaning in the small, everyday steps.

The second lesson is the importance of encounter. Pilgrimage is never a solitary endeavor. Even when we begin alone, the journey invariably brings us into contact with others-fellow travelers, communities and even strangers who soon become companions in faith. These encounters enrich the journey and remind us that Christian life is lived in communion. As Jesus teaches in Matthew 25, every time we meet another person, we also meet Him. Pilgrimage opens our eyes to the ways God comes to us in the stories, struggles and joys of those we encounter. It is in these moments of shared humanity that our faith deepens and hope becomes alive.

Finally, pilgrimage teaches us the value of struggles and challenges. Anyone who has walked a long road knows the toll it can take: tired feet, sore muscles or the unexpected obstacle that slows the pace. Similarly, our spiritual lives are marked by setbacks, temptations and moments of weakness. Yet these very struggles can become a place of grace. They cultivate humility, resilience and a renewed dependence on God. Pilgrimage helps us understand that even the most difficult stretches of the road are not meaningless-they are part of God’s way of forming us into true disciples.

As the Church celebrates this Jubilee Year, the invitation to be “Pilgrims of Hope” extends to every Catholic. It is not reserved only for those who can travel to great shrines or distant holy sites. Each one of us is called to live as a pilgrim in our ordinary lives-within our families, workplaces, parishes, and communities. What matters most is not simply arriving at the destination, but learning to walk each day with faith, hope and love.

Let us therefore embrace the pilgrim spirit: to walk patiently with Christ, to welcome others along the way, to accept challenges with trust and to carry hope in every step of our journey. In doing so, we will discover that the true pilgrimage of life is not only about where we are going, but about how we allow God to transform us along the way.