

The Clarion

St. Clare Fraternity Rehoboth Beach, DE



2026 Theme

**Preach the Gospel at all times,
and when necessary, use words.**

**AUGUST 2026
at St. Jude's**

Council Members

Minister: Kathleen Murphy 301-535-7011

Vice Minister: Pepper Tully 973-809-2344

Secretary: Mary Moran 302-644-1448

Treasurer: Vacant

Formation Dir: Rhona Prescott 302-864-7280

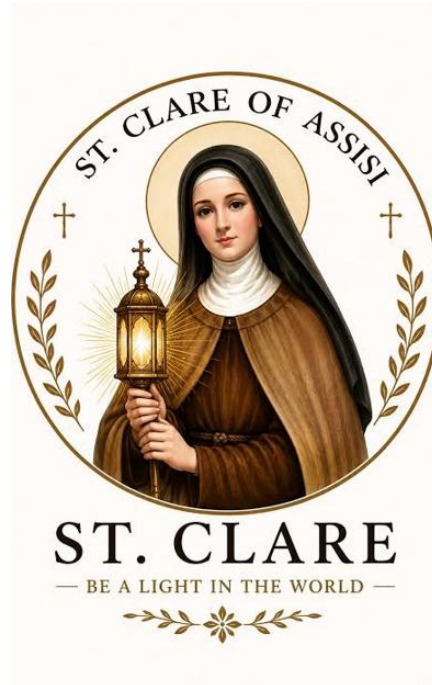
Councilor: Tom Carter 302-344-1414

**If you are unable to attend the gathering,
send your donation check,
payable to St. Clare Fraternity,
to our temporary treasurer:
Mary Ellen (Pepper) Tully
32738 Harburg Dr.
Lewes, DE 19958**

**If work, health issues or significant
family obligations hinder you from
attending the gathering, please
contact
our vice minister,
Mary Ellen (Pepper) Tully
973-809-2344
pepper121248@gmail.com**

**Fraternity members are always welcome to attend
Council meetings on the first Thursday of each month.
Please notify a council member if you plan to attend.**

Minister's Message – August 2026



St. Clare was inspired and moved by the preaching of St. Francis, and therefore, dedicated her life to serving Jesus. She said, “do not be disturbed by the clamor of the world which passes like a shadow.” She also said that “we become what we love and who we love shapes what we become.”

I would like to take a moment to give thanks to God for giving us Brother Michael. He has been our Spiritual Assistant for the past 2 ½ years. His calling to become a priest has been a lifelong desire. We wish him well and will pray for him along his journey. I leave you with this prayer Brother Mike:

“May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind always be at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
and the rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again, may God hold you
in the palm of His hand.

Peace and Blessing to all - Kathleen

GATHERING SCHEDULE

- ❖ Mass and the Rite of Admission for Sandy Garber, Marilyn Butler Murphy and Pauletta Riley
- ❖ Lunch
- ❖ Business Matters
- ❖ On-Going Formation – Brother Michael Meza
- ❖ Brother Michael's Farewell
- ❖ Evening Prayer

OFS Evening Prayer August 2026

(Please remember to bring your Christian Prayer book, your Liturgy of the Hours Vol. 3, or your cell phone to use the Divine Office app for Evening Prayer as we are making an effort to cut down on paper use. Thank you!)

Thursday in the 19th week of Ordinary Time

1 vol. Pg. 902
(Vol. IV) 4 vol. Pg. 1041

Hymn: For the Fruits of His Creation
1 vol. pg.1521 #37
4 vol. pg. 1040

Presider: Kathleen Murphy
Antiphonarian: Marilyn Butler-Murphy
Reader: Joe O'Neill

Formation, Formation, FORMATION!

August 15th is the Feast of the Assumption of Mary.

Roman Catholic Dogma, proclaimed by Pope Pius XII, makes that statement of belief infallible. All Roman Catholics, under pain of sin, must accept it as absolute fact. I noticed on my Franciscan calendar that, this year, it is suddenly not a holy day of obligation and although it falls on a Saturday, that Sunday is simply designated as Ordinary time. And last year, on the Feast, I was at a different Roman Catholic Church and the Priest said, in his homily, that Mary's body was buried by St John's house in Ephesus, Turkey, where Mary went to live after Jesus was crucified. Having concern, I looked up the Dogma which said Mary was taken up, body and soul, to heaven. She was not buried. Then I found out that Eastern Orthodox Catholics believe that she was buried. Apparently, the belief we, of the Roman Church hold, is supported by centuries of word of mouth and we believe by faith, not by absolute factual evidence; yet it is actual Dogma. The Pope, our Pope, descending from St Peter, declared it true through the guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is for us, a "leap of faith", but binding.

Being only a lay person without a degree in Theology, I find myself wondering why such a statement came from the altar during Mass. Is there now, debate? Well, I do not know but I do read, here and there, that the role of Mary seems diminished. I read that some of our Marian Shrines are being questioned as legitimate. Oh my goodness! I see that Satan is busily at work to have us question the authority of the Church; that he is planting doubt.

So the reason I write about this is to encourage fact checking... about many things, including Church teaching. Maybe especially regarding Church teaching. Ecumenicism is wonderful. however I find myself checking things out more and more. It seems to me that we are following, at times, the preaching of denominations not established directly by Christ. Our Roman Catholic documents are easily accessed through the internet. Have a look for yourselves. We are Roman Catholic, not Eastern Rite, Byzantine or Protestant. We believe. We believe. We believe. We defend our Faith.

Beware and stay vigilant. Be ready to explain and defend our faith, in Church circles, on pilgrimages and retreats, wherever and whenever we suspect our childhood beliefs have been altered. It is what we vowed when we were Confirmed.

Pray to Mother Mary. She is our mother too. She came to us through God, our Father by way of Jesus.

Remember oh most gracious Virgin Mary That never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, sought thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided Inspired with this confidence I fly unto thee, oh Virgin of virgins, my

Mother. To thee I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful

O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions but in thy mercy, hear and answer me. Amen.

And just an "aside": My full blooded Italian mother taught me that on August 15th, anyone who bathed in the salt water ocean would be healed. So my thought is to honor my Heavenly Mother by praying on her day and thanking her for being my way to Jesus and...maybe...going for a swim in our nearby Ocean or Bay. What say you?

Rhona, Formation Director



Franciscan Saint of the Month

St Clare of Assisi is a spectacular saint in our Catholic Church and the patroness of our St Clare Fraternity. Her feast day is August 11th. St Clare's unwavering commitment to her faith, her radical renunciation of material wealth, and her influential leadership in fostering spiritual growth, still inspires people around the world.

She founded the Poor Clare Nuns, an order of women who are discalced (wearing only sandals, year-round) and cloistered (living within a closed

convent and focusing on contemplative prayer, day and night, and continuous fasting from all but the minimal intake of food).

Clare considered silence a means of avoiding the tumultuousness of life and of committing any sins of the tongue, so, even now, the Poor Clares do not speak, except at prayer and by special permission.

Chiara or Clare, was born into the royalty of Assisi on July 16, 1194, and became a lifelong follower of St Francis. She was expected to marry into wealth to enhance her family's standing, but chose instead a very different path. After hearing the preaching of St Francis, so touched was she that she fled from her home and secretly met with Francis at the Portiuncula Chapel, where Francis cut her beautiful long hair and dressed her in a rough penitential habit of drab color. Thus, she renounced any possible leaning toward any life but that of holy virginity and temperance. Together with St Francis, she founded the Order of Poor Clares which still exists today. Many years after Clare founded the Poor Clares, her two biological sisters and her widowed Mother also professed to her order of nuns. Mother Angelica was a Poor Clare, living a modern version of taming the innumerable sins of the tongue and focusing only on God, with her ministry of technical communication; the ETWN television and radio network.

Clare is best known for her defense of her convent from invaders by carrying the Blessed Sacrament to the door, when death was imminent. She did this at least twice with the enemy quietly turning away. One especially notable event was her bringing a Monstrance containing the Eucharist to the door and raising it high, when the Saracens threatened to kill all of the nuns.

St Clare is the patron saint of television, because when she became too ill to attend Mass, she saw the entire Mass projected on her bedroom wall!

Clare died on August 11, 1253 and was canonized two years later by Pope Alexander IV.

PRAYER FOR THE INTERCESSION OF ST. CLARE

God of mercy, you inspired St Clare with the love of poverty. By the help of her prayers may we follow Christ in poverty of spirit and come to the joyful vision of Your glory in the Kingdom of Heaven. We ask this through your son, Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit forever. Amen.

Pax et Bonum, Rhona

Remember:
August gathering at
St. Jude's

Future Fraternity Gatherings

2nd Thursday of each month

Please make note!

2026-2027

September 10 (St. Jude)

October 8 (St. Edmond)

November 12

December 10

January 14, 2027

February 11, 2027

March 11, 2027

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No August Professions

September Professions

Beverly Stoner 9/14/2002

Ron Stoner 9/14/2002

August Birthdays

Frank Rega 8/14

September Birthdays

Marinela (Nela) Wintjen 9/3

Vincent Bertone 9/10

Maureen Ciano 9/22

Tom Carter 9/23

Kate Meire 9/24

Jackie Boyd 9/28

Diane Zell 9/28

Pope Leo's Prayer Intention
AUGUST 2026



The Pope's Prayer intention for the month of August is
for evangelization in the city

Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and
loneliness, we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel,
discovering creative paths to build community.

DONATIONS

Desserts for



Kathleen Murphy

Shepherd's Office

Shepherd's Office is in need of these items
this month:

**More men's white t shirts, L and XL
Fast food \$10 gift cards**



Thank you... for your continued support of our Common Fund.

Each month we donate

**\$200 to Shepherd's Office in Georgetown, DE
\$50 to Nurses & Neighbors in Rehoboth, DE**

Next month will be our September Fraternity Family Reunion.
Start thinking about what you'd like to bring to the table.

If anyone is interested in being in charge of a raffle or silent
auction of some sort for the event, let the Council know. Any and
all ideas are welcome.

More will be discussed at the August gathering

We pray for all our fraternal sisters and brothers and their intentions:

Fran Butler, ofs
Jim Mullen, ofs
Bonnie Côté, ofs
Nicole Meringolo, ofs
Judy Bennett, ofs
Carolyn Protin, ofs
Kathleen Murphy, ofs
Rhona Prescott, ofs
Marty Rendon, ofs
Mary-Anna Harvie, ofs
Marilyn Butler-Murphy
Ron & Bev Stoner, ofs
Mary McKeon, ofs
Sandy Paulen, ofs
Delizabeth Diaz-Martinez, 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 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

Celebrating TWO GREAT SAINTS

One Spirit of Love and Holiness



BIRTHDAY OF
ST. CLARE

JULY 16, 1194



CANONIZATION OF
**ST. FRANCIS
OF ASSISI**

JULY 16, 1228



“Go, my brothers, and begin to serve the Lord God...
and always and in all places give thanks to Him,
and let no one be left undone.”

– St. Francis of Assisi

TWO SAINTS, ONE SPIRIT OF LOVE,
POVERTY, AND TOTAL TRUST IN GOD.

#friarsnotebook