

“I have done what is mine to do; may Christ teach you yours!” —Francis of Assisi

If you’ve been following the news this year, even just a little, you know that immigration is a hot topic in our country. Here’s an excerpt from a statement issued by the Franciscan Action Network:

From the beginning of our country, Franciscans have been involved with immigrants in our communities. Many members of our Franciscan communities are made up of the children and grandchildren of immigrants. We learn from our historic Catholic experience, that the immigrant is not always welcome in America and we work hard to remind all people of our history when crafting a fair and honest policy that would take us in to the future. . .

The Catholic position toward migrants, immigrants and refugees is grounded in Catholic Social Teaching which is based on the Gospel, papal encyclicals, and pastoral letters of bishops, including U.S. bishops. . .

The U.S. Bishops issued a pastoral letter, *Strangers No Longer: Together on the Journey of Hope*, in 2003 in which they applied teachings of the Popes to the reality of the United States, and named five principles that guide Catholic Church response to public policy proposals dealing with immigration:

1. Persons have the right to find opportunities in their homeland.
2. Persons have the right to migrate to support themselves and their families.
3. Sovereign nations have a right to control their borders. (But this is not an absolute right. Nations also have an obligation to the common good, and the U.S. should establish an immigration system that provides legal avenues for people to enter the country in a safe, orderly and dignified manner to obtain jobs and reunite with their families.)
4. Refugees and Asylum Seekers should be afforded protection.
5. The human rights and the human dignity of undocumented migrants should be respected.

Nearly every one of our families has an immigration story to tell. My father’s family came from Europe seeking a better life; my mother’s crossed the Mexican border as refugees from a civil war there. What are the stories of your families? How can they help us respond as Catholics and Franciscans to immigrants in our midst? —Bob

JPIC – (Justice, Peace, and the Integrity of Creation)

Lisa Kremer of Little Portion Fraternity, Marshall, MN, has been awarded the National JPIC award for 2017. One of our own! Congratulations, Lisa!

Remember we are serving at Damiano September 16, 8:30 – 1:30. Let me know if you can help. —Jane

This month’s Fraternity Gathering

August 20, 2017 12:30 p.m. – Pot luck and gathering

Holy Family Catholic Church, lower level
2430 West 3rd St., Duluth
Park in the lower (gravel) parking lot

Agenda:

1. Opening Prayer: Keith
2. Liturgy of the Hours: Bob
3. Gospel sharing: Pat
4. Ongoing formation, Servant Leadership: Franz
5. Business:
 - a. Stewardship prayer and collection
 - b. Approve July minutes
 - c. September meeting ministries:
Opening prayer:
Loth:
Gospel sharing:
Formation:
 - d. Finance report, payments, approvals
 - e. Formation and JPIC reports
 - f. Other?
6. Vocations and closing prayers

Next month’s meeting: September 17, 2017
Ongoing formation: St. Clare

Gospel Reading, Twenty Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time: Mt 18:21-35

Peter approached Jesus and asked him, "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus answered, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times. That is why the kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who decided to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the accounting, a debtor was brought before him who owed him a huge amount. Since he had no way of paying it back, his master ordered him to be sold, along with his wife, his children, and all his property, in payment of the debt.

At that, the servant fell down, did him homage, and said, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back in full.' Moved with compassion the master of that servant let him go and forgave him the loan. When that servant had left, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a much smaller amount. He seized him and started to choke him, demanding, 'Pay back what you owe.' Falling to his knees, his fellow servant begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back.' But he refused. Instead, he had the fellow servant put in prison until he paid back the debt.

Now when his fellow servants saw what had happened, they were deeply disturbed, and went to their master and reported the whole affair. His master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you your entire debt because you begged me to. Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant, as I had pity on you?' Then in anger his master handed him over to the torturers until he should pay back the whole debt. So will my heavenly Father do to you, unless each of you forgives your brother from your heart."

REGIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

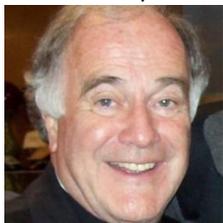
FALL GATHERING

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

ST. BONAVENTURE PARISH~AMBROSE HALL
901 E 90th St, Bloomington, MN 55420

On the eve of the Feast of St. Dominic, the founder of the Dominican Order and a contemporary of St. Francis, the Queen of Peace Region Secular Franciscans present:



FR. JOSEPH P. GILLESPIE, O.P.
Pastor of St. Albert the Great
Parish

ODDS 'N' ENDS

The cause of Venerable Solanus Casey just keeps moving along. The latest step in the journey is noted in the headline below. The article stated that that the exhumation on August 1st "was to both officially identify the body and to collect relics that will be used to venerate Casey after he is beatified Nov. 18." To read more and see a picture of the crypt follow this link: <https://www.ncronline.org/news/people/friars-remains-exhumed-relics-collected-ahead-beatification-mass> Keep those prayers coming.

The Built Upon a Rock Fest, a free concert featuring two well-known Catholic rock bands will be held September 17 on the grounds of the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Rosary, Duluth. The national headliner will be The Thirsting, a live touring band based out of Portland known for high energy shows with a powerful Catholic message.
—Bob

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Friar's remains exhumed, relics collected ahead of beatification Mass