



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

At the final session of the Spiritual Assistants class I heard a wonderful presentation by a fellow SA student, Mary Kopelke, on a very difficult subject to talk about: human trafficking. It’s an issue for us to especially pay attention to up here, since Duluth/Superior is a major entry point for trafficked individuals. And it’s an issue for us Franciscans called to “be in the forefront in promoting justice.”

As Mary told us, “Human trafficking is a form of modern day slavery. It is a crime involving the exploitation of someone for the purpose of engaging in commercial sex acts or labor services against his or her will.” It happens in all 50 states and according to the FBI Minnesota ranks as the 13th largest center for this practice. It’s embarrassing to me as a human being and a Franciscan that this practice, which Pope Francis has labeled “a true crime against humanity,” is taking place literally under our noses.

What can we do? I don’t have any particular wisdom about this subject but I do know that as Catholics and Franciscans we have a call to respect life and promote human dignity. There are people working on the issue and resources out there. As a start I think we should educate ourselves both individually and as a fraternity about this scourge. Perhaps it would make a good ongoing formation discussion. —Bob

This month’s Fraternity Meeting

June 18, 2017 12:30 p.m. – Pot luck and meeting

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

Meeting Agenda:

1. Opening Prayer: Bob
2. Liturgy of the Hours: Darlene
3. Gospel sharing: Keith
4. Ongoing formation, The San Damiano cross: Franz (bring the enclosed picture)
5. Cliff Notes “Way of Life”: Everyone
- 6.
7. Business:
 - a. Stewardship prayer and collection
 - b. Approve May minutes
 - c. July meeting ministries:
Opening prayer:
LotH:
Gospel sharing:
Formation:
 - d. Finance report, payments, approvals
 - e. Formation and JPIC reports
 - f. Other?
8. Vocations and closing prayers

Next month’s meeting: July 16, 2017

Ongoing formation: Clare of Assisi

REGIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Newly elected Queen of Peace Regional Executive Council:

- Minister: Hazel Martin, OFS
- Vice-Minister: Tim Taormina, OFS
- Treasurer: Kathy Fraser, OFS
- Secretary: Mona Wolney, OFS
- Formation Director: Margi Florence, OFS
- MN, ND, SD, WI councilor: Jo Lambert, OFS
- IA councilor: Keith Gass, OFS
- NE councilor: Luis Alvarez, OFS
- Regional Spiritual Assistant: Kathy Taormina, OFS

Linzy Martin will be joining Cynthia Gunsolly and Mary Higgins as the Region’s JPIC Co-animators.

Instead of creating its own disaster response team, the OFS is joining with the St. Vincent DePaul Society to respond to natural disasters within our nation. SVDP already has a system and staff in place. More information will be coming from the JPIC folks.



Most, High, Glorious God, enlighten the darkness of our minds. Give us a right faith, a firm hope and a perfect charity, so that we may always and in all things act according to Your Holy Will. Amen.

Gospel Reading, Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ:

Jesus said to the Jewish crowds: "I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world."

The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" Jesus said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died, whoever eats this bread will live forever."

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

The Regional JPIC Co-animators ask that fraternity members check out the regional JPIC web pages to stay up-to-date on the latest initiatives. Simply go to the Queen of Peace web site and click on the JPIC link in upper middle of the page. The address for the region is:

<http://queenofpeaceregion.org/>

—Jane

ODDS 'N' ENDS

Thanks to the recommendation and support of all of you I successfully completed the Spiritual Assistant course and was commissioned at the recent regional meeting. You can see in the picture the new tau cross which the Region is using to identify SAs. The timing of the commissioning ceremony, the Vigil Mass for Pentecost, was very fitting considering the symbol of the Spirit added to the traditional tau cross.

Many thanks to those of you who showed up for the Franciscan wake service for Mike Polson, which was held last month. Thanks, too, for your spirit of flexibility and cooperation as the heavy rains forced us to adapt our plans and move the prayers to the restaurant. I think it turned out well in spite of the challenges. —Bob



