



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

Pope Francis continually surprises us by his habit of calling out the holy in the ordinary, mundane parts of everyday life. Another example was recently highlighted in a commentary by columnist David Brooks, “How would Jesus Drive?” In his essay Brooks points to the pope’s New Year’s Eve homily. “The people who have the most influence on society are actually the normal folks, through their normal, everyday gestures: being kind in public places, attentive to the elderly. The pope called such people, in a beautiful phrase, “the artisans of the common good.” Pope Francis also said, “small deeds express concretely love for the city...without giving speeches, without publicity, but with a style of practical civic education for daily life.”

Does that sound like someone else we know by the same name? Francis of Assisi both lived and promoted among his followers that same attitude of lived grace at the margins of society. He sent his brothers to take the places of those toiling in the hot sun, to bind the wounds of the lepers, to collect alms and food to give to the poor, and to preach good news to a hurting world. How are each of us in our daily lives “artisans of the common good?” —Bob

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

Remember we are serving at Damiano January 20th, 8:30 – 1:30. Please let me know if you will be there. —Jane

Gospel Reading - 3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time

Mark 1:14-20

After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." As he passed by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting their nets into the sea; they were fishermen. Jesus said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Then they abandoned their nets and followed him. He walked along a little farther and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They too were in a boat mending their nets. Then he called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him.

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.



This month’s Fraternity Gathering

January 21, 2018 – Mass, Refreshments, Pot luck and gathering

*St Joseph’s Church
Duluth Heights (Ebony & Linden)

We will be attending Mass at 9:30a and serving refreshments after Mass. Our meeting will follow.

Agenda:

1. Opening Prayer: Darlene
2. Liturgy of the Hours: Keith
3. Gospel sharing: Pat
4. Ongoing formation: Jane, Ch. 4 & 5 of Live like Francis
5. Business:
 - a) Stewardship prayer and collection
 - b) February meeting ministries:
 - c) 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: February 18, 2018

Council Meeting Agenda

Council meeting will immediately follow the fraternity meeting.

1. Opening Prayer
2. Approve minutes
3. Review agenda
4. Preparation for Visitation
5. Membership review
6. Other
7. Comments, questions from fraternity members
8. Other business
9. Closing Prayer

ODDS 'N' ENDS

We will be gathering at St. Joseph Church at 8:45 a.m. to set up for the after Mass refreshments.

Message from Kathy Taormina Friday, December 29, 2017:

The surgery went as well as could be expected. The 1 huge blessing is that I am not confined to a wheel chair for 3-4 months (as it was a possibility) until surgery #2! I am able to walk on it as long as I can tolerate it. It's not much, but it is better than the alternative.

Christmas was celebrated with the family in my room, and thank God for FaceTime! I want to thank you all for your prayers, well-wishes, novenas, rosaries and Holy Hours. I truly felt surrounded by the love of our Incarnational Christ and of all of you.



Here's our Damiano collection nicely displayed under Pat's Christmas tree

Being Faithful

One day God had work for me to do. He showed me a rock and told me to push it with all my might. For many years I pushed and pushed, but nothing happened. I wore marks into it, but the rock hasn't moved even an inch. Discouraged I asked God, why am I failing? The Lord responded. "your task is to push the rock. Never did mention that you were to move it. I wanted you to be faithful. Now I, My child, will move the rock."