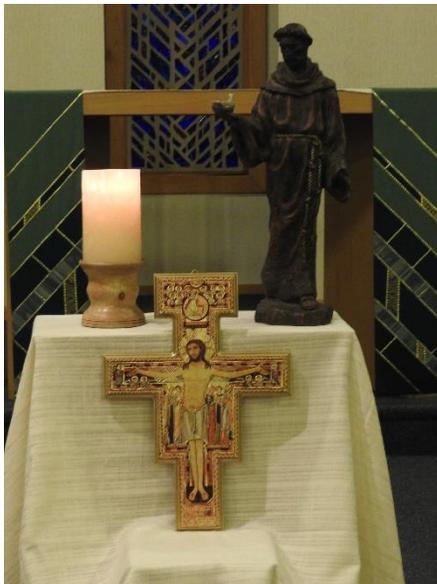


"I have done what is mine to do; may Christ teach you yours!" —Francis of Assisi

### Minister's Reflection

Its October again, and with it a sea of change outside. May that sea of change correspond with our interior lives, as we live out our call to continuous conversion. As I find myself once again the minister of Fr Solanus Casey Fraternity, I pray for God's guidance and your patience as I endeavor to fulfill all the duties of this office of service to you, my brothers and sisters in fraternity. I am thankful for the guidance and leadership Bob has provided over the past few years as minister. I also am grateful for the opportunity to serve for a time as the minister of formation for the fraternity, walking with both Pat Nacey and Darlene through the process. I had never served as formation minister before, so the experience was one of new horizons for me, rewarding, and a blessing to share in our candidate's growth in the Franciscan way. Speaking of candidates, we hope to discover some new one's this month at Holy Angel's Church in Moose Lake. It's an opportunity for us as a fraternity to get to know this parish community, and for them to know us a little. Many thanks to Keith and Ellen for making arrangements. As I write this message, we celebrate the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary (Oct 7<sup>th</sup>). As our Rule states, "Franciscans should express their ardent love for her by imitating her complete self-giving and by praying earnestly and confidently." As you pray your rosary, may your thoughts turn to "complete self-giving" and what that means for you in our fraternity and in your community. —Franz



### This month's Fraternity Gathering

**October 21, 2018 – Pot luck and gathering after Mass (see schedule below)**

Holy Angels Catholic Church (**NOTE CHANGE**)  
60 Hartman Drive  
Moose Lake, MN

Agenda:

1. Opening Prayer: Keith
2. Liturgy of the Hours: Bob
3. Gospel sharing: Jane
4. Ongoing formation: Barb, Reflection 8 in *Live Like Francis*
5. Holiday planning
6. Business:
  - a) Stewardship prayer and collection
  - b) Approve September minutes
  - c) November meeting ministries:  
Opening prayer:  
LoTH:  
Gospel sharing:  
Formation:
  - d) Finance report, payments, approvals
  - e) Formation and JPIC reports
  - f) Other?
7. Vocations and closing prayers

Next month's meeting: November 18, 2018

Ongoing formation: Franz, TBD

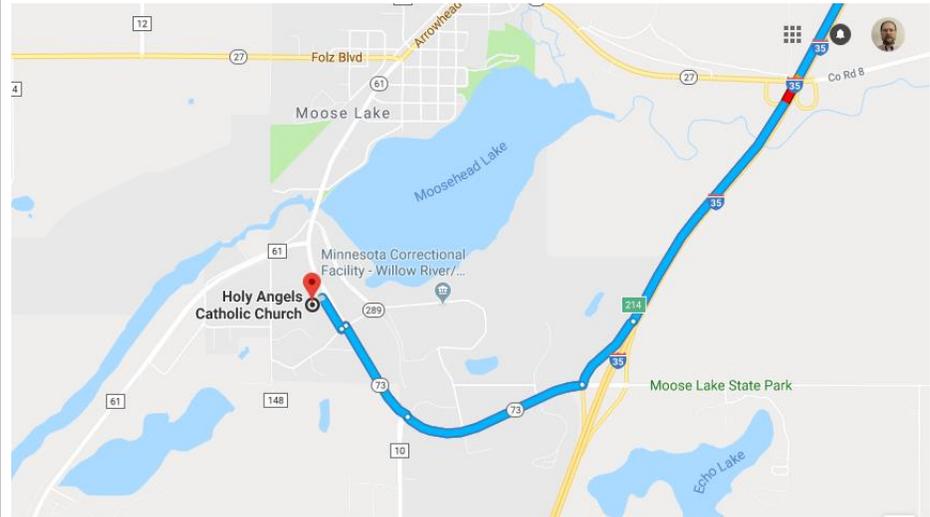
### Just a reminder of the schedule for this month's meeting:

- We will gather about 9:45 a.m. at Holy Angels to set up for the coffee and rolls.
- We will attend the 10:30 a.m. Mass together.
- After Mass we will serve refreshments for the people of the parish and socialize, followed by clean up.
- We will then proceed with our regular pot-luck and meeting.

### Directions to Holy Angels

- Get on I-35 S
- Follow I-35 S to MN-73 N in Carlton County. Take exit 214 from I-35 S –37 min (41.9 mi)
- Continue on MN-73 N. Drive to Hartman Dr in Moose Lake—3 min (1.3 mi)

**Holy Angels Catholic Church**  
60 Hartman Dr, Moose Lake, MN



### Gospel Reading, Twenty Ninth Sunday of Ordinary Time: Mk 10:35-45

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Jesus and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you."

He replied, "What do you wish me to do for you?"

They answered him, "Grant that in your glory we may sit one at your right and the other at your left."

Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Can you drink the cup that I drink or be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?"

They said to him, "We can."

Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink, you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right or at my left is not mine to give but is for those for whom it has been prepared."

When the ten heard this, they became indignant at James and John. Jesus summoned them and said to them, "You know that those who are recognized as rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones make their authority over them felt. But it shall not be so among you. Rather, whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all. For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many."

### ODDS 'N' ENDS

If you haven't done so already, check out this month's *Northern Cross*. On page 4 is an article from Franz about our establishment Mass alongside one of Darlene's pictures.

Be sure to check out the new NAFRA website, <https://secularfranciscansusa.org/>. It is dynamic and informative, with lots of new features. Some sample headlines you can currently find there:

**"2018 State of the Order"**

**"Upcoming Franciscan Holy Days"**

**"Celebration thanking God for 40 years of our Holy Rule (Venice, Florida)"**

**"A Message to Secular Franciscans Regarding the Recent Scandal in the Churches of Pennsylvania"**

As you read this the 2018 National Fraternity Chapter is taking place in St. Louis. Ministers from around the country are meeting to listen to the Spirit's direction in how to best animate and guide the SFO in the United States. This meeting will also feature the election of our national leaders for the next three years. Please keep all these leaders in your prayers.

—Bob

## Faith Matters

At last month's meeting we had a lively discussion during our ongoing formation discussion around Bishop Zubik's "rules" for promoting civility in public life. We all concluded that his article was a very Franciscan in spirit. Coincidentally, I ran across this offering on the USCCB web site that carried on the same theme. I thought it would be worth quoting this month since our nation is in the midst of a difficult and polarized election cycle. This comes courtesy of Jill Rauh, Assistant Director for Education & Outreach at the USCCB Department of Justice, Peace & Human Development. —Bob

In *Amoris Laetitia*, Pope Francis calls dialogue "essential" for family life. His guidelines on dialogue are easily applicable to civil society as well.



Can you imagine how this election cycle might be different if we challenged ourselves, candidates, political parties, commentators, ourselves, and others to follow Pope Francis' advice?

1. **Recognize the real "importance" and dignity of the other person.** Recognize others' right "to think as they do and to be happy." Pope Francis challenges us to acknowledge the values of the other's "deepest concerns" and what he or she is try to say (no. 138).
2. **Try to understand where the other person is coming from:** his or her pain, disappointments, fear, anger, hopes, and dreams (no. 137).
3. **Put yourself in the other's "shoes";** try to "peer" into his or her heart. This is the starting point for dialogue (no. 138).
4. **Be ready to "listen patiently and attentively to everything the other person wants to say."** Dialogue requires the "self-discipline" of waiting until someone is finished speaking before responding. And, it means *truly* listening to what someone else is saying—not planning a comeback before the other person has even finished speaking (no. 137).
5. **"Keep an open mind."** We need not stick to our own "limited ideas and opinions," but we must "be prepared to change or expand them." Our goal is "synthesis" that enriches everyone involved in the dialogue. We don't seek unity in diversity, Pope Francis says, but rather "reconciled diversity" (no. 139).
6. **Our goal is to advance the common good.** Respect and appreciation for the "other" are necessary prerequisites (no. 139).
7. **Try not to offend, and don't vent.** We must choose our words carefully, be sensitive to how others feel, and never seek to inflict hurt. We must also avoid a "patronizing" tone, which "only serves to hurt, ridicule, accuse and offend others" (no. 139).
8. **Love everyone.** "Love," Pope Francis writes, "surmounts even the worst barriers." When we come from a place of love, we can better understand others (no. 140).
9. **Base positions on beliefs and values,** not on the desire to "win" an argument or be "proved right" (no. 140).
10. **Pray!** True dialogue, Pope Francis reminds us, "can only be the fruit of an interior richness" nourished by our quiet time with God through reading, reflection, prayer, and "openness to the world around us" (no. 141).

These are challenging words from Pope Francis. How might our own families be different if we took his words to heart? Our parishes? Our neighborhoods? Ourselves? Our society? The current election cycle?

Pope Francis' vision is a vision of joy-filled love. Let's share it!