



# *Pater Noster Fraternity*

Queen of Peace Region

Newsletter – October 2018

St. Stephen the Martyr Catholic Church

Gonderinger Parish Center

16701 S St., Omaha, NE 68135

## **Vision:**

“The Pater Noster Secular Franciscan Fraternity exists to bring Christ’s love, mercy, compassion and forgiveness to a world in need of God.”

## **On-Going Formation 2018 -**

Clare of Assisi: A Heart Full of Love  
October Chapter 5; November Chapter 6

**Council Officers** as of April 2018 – Please pray for them as they are praying for us.



## **Mission:**

“The mission of Pater Noster Fraternity is to proclaim, and witness to the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Inspired by the example of St. Francis and St. Clare, we strive to humbly serve all people, especially the poor and forgotten. We celebrate joyfully the gift of life in all creation and recognize God’s living presence in the world.”

## **Initial Formation 2018 -**

The Franciscan Journey:  
October Chapter 18 & 19; November Chapter 20 & 22

Left to right:

**SA:** Sr. Mary Ann Schmieding, OSF

**Councilor 2:** Cecilia Padilla, OFS

**Minister:** Luis Antonio Alvarez, OFS

**Vice Minister:** Joseph Norman, OFS

**Treasurer:** Linda Mertz, OFS

**Councilor 1:** Kent Riesberg, OFS

**Formation Director:** Andrea Walther, OFS

**Secretary:** William Whipple, OFS

## Saint of the Month



## Saint Bridget of Sweden Franciscan Third Order Secular

**Born**-1303 Uppland, Sweden

**Died**-23 July 1373 Rome, Papal States

**Venerated**-in Catholic and Lutheran Church

**Canonized**-7 October 1391 Pope Boniface IX

**Major shrine**-Vadstena Abbey

**Feast**-23 July

8 October (General Roman Calendar of 1960)

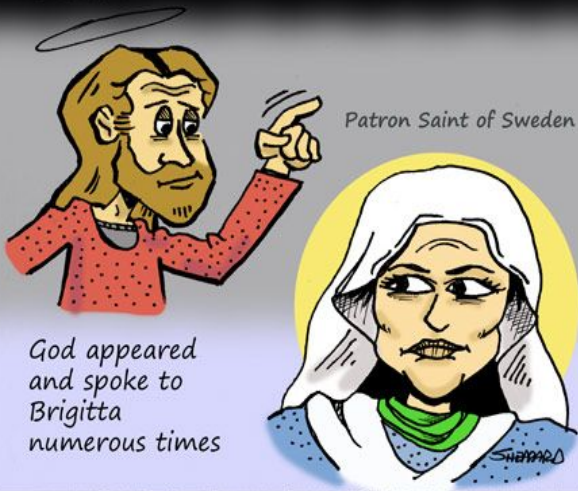
7 October (Sweden)

**Attributes**-Pilgrim's hat, staff & bag; crown, writing-book.

**Patronage**-Europe, Sweden, Widows

## SAINTS FUN FACTS

From Sweden, Brigitta was a mystic and Saint, founder of the Bridgettine nuns. The order spread throughout Europe with monasteries from Scandinavia to Italy. Brigitta was also a wife and mother of eight children.



Saint Bridget of Sweden was born about the year 1302 in Sweden, and belonged to an illustrious as well as pious family. Shortly after her birth, Bridget lost her saintly mother. Her father then undertook to raise her with the aid of an aunt.

As a very young girl, St Bridget manifested a decided inclination for things spiritual. At the age of ten, God favored her with a vision of the Crucified. The thought of the unspeakable torments which our Lord endured on Calvary affected her so deeply that she shed copious tears, and from that moment the sacred Passion was the subject of her meditation.

## **Saint Bridget continued...**

Saint Bridget of Sweden wished to consecrate her virginity to the Lord, but obedient to the wish of her father she married Prince Ulf, a young man of solid virtue and in every way deserving of her. Both joined the Third Order in order to strengthen themselves in the works of piety and the practice of penance. God blessed their marriage with eight children, and Bridget made it her sacred duty to raise them in the fear of God.

Among her charities there stands out especially her service to the poor and the infirm; she waited on them with great care, sometimes even washing their feet and kissing them.

During the return journey from Compostela, where they visited the grave of the Apostle St James, Ulf fell seriously ill at Arras. St Denis then appeared to Bridget at night and assured her that her husband would recover. He also foretold events which would take place in their lives. Ulf soon afterward entered the Cistercian monastery of Alvastra, where he died in the odor of sanctity in 1344.

Saint Bridget of Sweden now divided her estate among her children and the poor, clothed herself in a coarse garment with a cord for a girdle, and began to lead a very austere life.

She built a convent for nuns at Vadstena and gave them the rule of St Augustine, thus founding the Order of Our Savior. She spent two more years partly at Vadstena and partly at Alvastra, where her husband had died. Then, at God's command, she went to Rome, where she practiced the virtues in a high degree.

St Bridget labored much for the return of the papacy to Rome, and was charged by God to deliver several messages to Popes Innocent VI, Urban V, and Gregory XI.

In 1371 she made a visit to the Holy Land in compliance with a command from our Lord. There He bestowed on her extraordinary graces and imparted to her a knowledge of His sacred mysteries.

Upon her return to Italy she was stricken with a grievous illness, which afflicted her for an entire year. Having foretold the day of her death, she passed into the joys of eternity on July 23, 1373, at the age of 71 years.

St Bridget was laid to rest in the Poor Clare convent of St Lawrence in Panisperna. The following year her body was removed to the convent at Vadstena in Sweden. Many miracles were wrought at her intercession, and Pope Boniface IX canonized her.

## The 28 Admonitions of St Francis of Assisi

### This Month - Number 17

The humble servant – On the humble servant of God

Blessed is the servant, who does not brag himself up more over the good which the Lord says and does through him, than what the Lord says and does through another person. That person sins, who expects more from his neighbor, than what he is willing to give of himself to the Lord God.

1. What is Francis' norm here to evaluate our humility?
2. How does this advice/admonition compare to Admon. 13?

These questions led to a good discussion on how it is to be humble it is particularly hard to accept compliments. You want to be grateful and accept the give of a compliment that another is offering you, but you don't take credit for what God is really responsible for.

## Prayer requests and Praise reports:

-Brother Steve - For healing for my daughters Elena and Lucia and for their return to the Church.

-Brother Dave - For my son Joshua's addiction recovery and return to the Church.

-Brother Dave - For my daughter's struggle with her disabilities and children.

-Brother Dave - For my wife Marylou's struggle with sleep and energy.

-Brother Dave - Praise for my daughter Angel's new job and new apartment.

-Brother Dave - Praise for sciatica, it is much better

-For our Franciscan brothers and sisters and family members who are ill and alone.

-For an increase of vocations to the Franciscan communities.

-For an end to abortion, euthanasia and all offenses against life.

-For the recently departed, that they may be embraced in the arms of our blessed Lord.

-For the innocent bishops, priests, deacons, and all who work for the kingdom of Christ who are going to suffer for the sins of others.

-For the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church, that she will be purified more and more.

## **Calendar Of Events:**

**October 3, 2018:**

Transitus of St Francis of Assisi

St. John Vianney Catholic Church

Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Omaha, NE

7:30 PM

## **Upcoming Events:**

**October 10, 2018**

Council Meeting

**October 21, 2018**

Gathering

**November 14, 2018**

Council Meeting

**December 12, 2018**

Advent Retreat

**December 18, 2018**

Gathering