



# *Pater Noster Fraternity*

Queen of Peace Region

Newsletter – November 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.”

## **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.”

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

Clare of Assisi: A Heart Full of Love

November Chapter 7 - Transformation

## **Initial Formation 2018 -**

The Franciscan Journey:

November Chapter 22 & 23

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



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



Although the Franciscan breviary contains the feast of St Charles on November 4th and indicates that he was Cardinal Protector of the Friars Minor, it fails to mention that he was also a Franciscan Tertiary. The fact is that he was a close follower of the Poverello, a prelate according to the heart of St Francis, and he deserves to be recognized, honored, and imitated as one of the greatest saints of the Third Order.

In his life of St Charles Borromeo, Orsenigo says that "enrolled in the Third Order of St Francis, he not only faithfully wore the habit... but above all... took the poverty of St Francis of Assisi as the model for his life."

## Saint Charles Borromeo, Franciscan Third Order

**Feastday:** November 4

**Patron of:** bishops, catechists, cardinals, seminarians, spiritual leaders

**Birth:** October 2, 1538

**Death:** November 3, 1584

**Beatified By:** May 12, 1602 by Pope Paul V

**Canonized By:** November 1, 1610 by Pope Paul V

Saint Charles Borromeo was born in the castle of Arona in 1538. His father was Count Gilbert Borromeo; his mother belonged to the Medici family, and his uncle was Pope Pius IV. It may seem strange to hear that he received the tonsure and was appointed a titular abbot, which entitled him to a big income, when he was only 12 years old; and that 10 years later, before he was ordained a priest, his uncle called him to Rome and made him administrator of the Papal States as well as the Archdiocese of Milan, and also a cardinal. However, Cardinal Borromeo, who was only 22 years old, was an exceptional young man, endowed with extraordinary gifts of mind and heart, deeply spiritual, and devoted wholeheartedly to the welfare of the Church.

## **Saint Charles Borromeo continued...**

It was due to the young cardinal's vigorous efforts and leadership that the Council of Trent was reopened and carried to a successful conclusion three years later, in 1563. In that same year, he was ordained a priest and consecrated a bishop.

The Archdiocese of Milan was in a deplorable condition, and in 1565 Pope Pius IV yielded to Cardinal Borromeo's request and permitted him to go to his see and personally to set things in order and to carry out the decrees of the Council of Trent.

Saint Charles Borromeo remained there for the rest of his life, and the reform of the Milan archdiocese was his great life's work. It is amazing how indefatigably he devoted himself to his work and how much he accomplished.

In 1569 an attempt was made on his life. A bullet struck Saint Charles Borromeo as he was kneeling in prayer, but he was miraculously preserved from harm. Far from stopping him, the difficulties he encountered only made him so much more dogged in carrying out his program. He never tired of visiting the parishes; he established the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine for the proper instruction of the children; he saw to it that the sacred liturgy was carried out in a worthy manner; he founded the Oblates of St Ambrose in order to lead the priests to personal holiness; and he conducted 5 provincial and 11 diocesan synods.

But it was the example of his own saintly life that made the deepest impression on his flock and produced the best results. He was indeed an exemplary Tertiary, a true son of St Francis. He avoided all personal finery, and his clothes were so shabby that even beggars thought they were unfit to be worn. He was ingeniously humble, and was careful to hide his merits, his penances, and his private devotions so that no praise might come to him. He did not hesitate to wash dishes, to enter the dirtiest hovels of the poor, and to instruct a poor man by sitting down with him along the roadside.

When a pestilence broke out in 1576, Saint Charles Borromeo remained at his post in Milan, and personally ministered to the sick and dying. He succored the poor until his funds were depleted; and then he sold his possessions, including his bed, to procure means to help them. After that, he no longer encountered any opposition.

Rich in merits, esteemed by all, he died in 1584, only 46 years old. He was beatified in 1601 and canonized in 1610. His tomb occupies a place of honor on the altar of the chapel in the crypt of the great cathedral of Milan. The body of the saint was checked after it was found that there was a great deal of moisture in the vault. The outer coffin was corroded, and the lid of the second coffin also rotting. The dampness had obviously surrounded the saint, yet the body of St Charles Borromeo was found incorrupt.

Saint Charles is venerated in a special manner as a patron against pestilences.

## The Admonitions of St Francis of Assisi

### Number 18

Generous compassion & patience with others

[On compassion for one's neighbor]

*Blest is the person, who accepts his neighbor in his brokenness, as he would wish to be accepted by him, if he were in a similar situation.*

*Blessed is the servant, who acknowledges all good things to the Lord God, because whoever retains anything for himself hides for himself the Lord God's money. And what he might think he has will be taken away from him.*

Based on the study compilation by  
Fr. John Sullivan, OFM, 2004

## Prayer requests and Praise reports:

- Steve Carlson - please pray for healing for daughters - Elena, Lucia, and Maria.
- Dave Garrett - for my son Joshua's addiction recovery and return to the Church.
- Dave Garrett- for my daughter's struggle with her disabilities and children.
- Dave Garrett- for my wife Marylou's struggle with sleep and energy.
- 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

### Annual Meetings

**October 3, 2018:**  
Transitus of St Francis of Assisi  
St. John Vianney Catholic Church  
Blessed Sacrament Chapel  
Omaha, NE

### Monthly Meetings

**Monthly Gathering** - 3rd Sunday  
(except in June due to Father's Day, then it is the 4th Sunday)

**Initial Formation** at 11:30 am

**Potluck** at 1:00 pm

**On-Going Formation** at 1:30 PM

**Council Meeting** - 2nd Tuesday of the month  
(Except in December when the Advent Retreat will be held)

This is the newest parish in the Archdiocese of Omaha. It is dedicated to St. Charles Borromeo, the saint we honor this month. St. Charles Borromeo, pray for us!

