



Pater Noster Fraternity

Queen of Peace Region

Newsletter - May 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 April 2018 - Clare of Assisi: A Heart Full of Love: Introduction; May Chapter 1

Initial Formation April 2018 - The Franciscan Journey: Chapter 13; May Chapter 14

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

In the News

Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation: Gaudete et Exsultate (Rejoice and be glad)

"Our Defense of the Innocent Unborn Needs to be Clear, Firm and Passionate." Pope Francis

Another way of saying the quotes from the Arlington Catholic Herald below: Don't let your "Love for the sinner" be drowned out by your "Hate for the sin."

[The Arlington Catholic Herald reports:](#)

Holiness is holistic, he said, and while each person has a special mission, no one should claim that their particular call or path is the only worthy one.

"Our defense of the innocent unborn, for example, needs to be clear, firm and passionate for at stake is the dignity of a human life, which is always sacred, and demands love for each person, regardless of his or her stage of development" the pope wrote.

"Equally sacred, however, are the lives of the poor, those already born, the destitute, the abandoned and the underprivileged, the vulnerable infirm and elderly exposed to covert euthanasia..."

And, he said, one cannot claim that defending the life of a migrant is a "secondary issue" when compared to abortion or other bioethical questions.

"That a politician looking for votes might say such a thing is understandable, but not a Christian," he said.

Focus on the Franciscan Journey

May's Initial Formation is Chapter 14 from The Franciscan Journey with additional reading Pope Benedict XVI: Spe Salvi (Saved in Hope). 11-30-2007

"...the fire which both burns and saves is Christ himself, the Judge and Savior."

"This encounter with him, as it burns us, transforms and frees us, allowing us to become truly ourselves."

"...enabling us to become totally ourselves and thus totally of God."

Spe Salvi

The paragraph made me think of this song, which you can find a YouTube video, if you like.

Spirit Song - John Wimber

Oh, let the Son of God enfold you

with his Spirit and his love;

Let him fill your heart and satisfy your soul.

Oh, let him have the things that hold you,

and his Spirit, like a dove,

Will descend upon your life and make you whole.

Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

Oh, come and sing this song with gladness
as your hearts are filled with joy.

Lift your hands in sweet surrender to his name.

Oh, give him all your tears and sadness,

give him all your years of pain,

And you'll enter into life in Jesus' name.

Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

Romans 8:9

But you are not in the flesh; on the contrary, you are in the spirit, if only the Spirit of God dwells in you.

Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.

Editor's Notes: This is my first take on the newsletter, so please don't hold back any comments or suggestions. The first page will basically stay this way, [except for the picture which was added by the minister], but everything I do will evolve enough to hopefully get better and stay fresh. Here is what I am planning for the other four sections of the newsletter. All are welcome to contribute anything you run across that would be good for us. The overall goal is to keep everything positive and not go negative on any section.

In the News: Anything that we run across in the news that has a positive take on a current issue related to Secular Franciscans or Catholicism.

Calendar Of Events: This will be a list of upcoming events. Regardless of the timeframe, it will be a rolling list, so as soon as events occur they will be removed, to include a Franciscan saint to focus on.

Focus on the Franciscan Way: Our initial formation manual is "The Franciscan Way" and this month's article is related to the chapter that we are going over this month. However, this section is more general, issues related to Secular Franciscans or Catholicism.

Prayer requests and Praise reports: For this section I thought we could have everyone email me a prayer request and praise about a week before the meeting. This way we can bear each other's burdens and rejoice when God answers prayers and brings his blessing to us.

Lamentations 3:22-23

The LORD's acts of mercy are not exhausted, his compassion is not spent; They are renewed each morning. Great is your faithfulness!