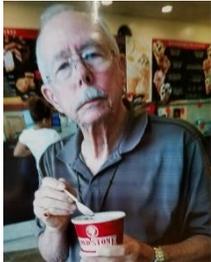




"I have done what is mine to do; may Christ teach you yours!" —Francis of Assisi

**Minister's Reflection**



I have been reflecting a lot this week on Pat Nacey, our Franciscan brother who recently died. Although professed just two years ago Pat was as committed to the Franciscan way of life as anyone I have known. What always struck me the most was Pat's eagerness to grow in his spirituality.

Many Americans—dare I say most—tend to read the Gospel through their pre-determined cultural or political lenses. In some respect this is just human nature. But it becomes a problem when, faced with a conflict between the two, they are more inclined to abandon the Gospel call rather than let the Gospel change their ideas. Pat was different. He held some strong political views. But he never let them get in the way of the Gospel or his relationship with others. Cont page 3

**Gospel for the 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
MK 4:26-34**

Jesus said to the crowds:

"This is how it is with the kingdom of God;  
it is as if a man were to scatter seed on the land  
and would sleep and rise night and day  
and through it all the seed would sprout and grow,  
he knows not how.  
Of its own accord the land yields fruit,  
first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the  
ear.  
And when the grain is ripe, he wields the sickle at  
once,  
for the harvest has come."  
He said,  
"To what shall we compare the kingdom of God,  
or what parable can we use for it?  
It is like a mustard seed that, when it is sown in the  
ground,  
is the smallest of all the seeds on the earth.  
But once it is sown, it springs up and becomes the  
largest of plants  
and puts forth large branches,  
so that the birds of the sky can dwell in its shade."  
With many such parables  
he spoke the word to them as they were able to  
understand it.  
Without parables he did not speak to them,  
but to his own disciples he explained everything in  
private.

**This month's Fraternity Gathering**

**June 17, 2018 12:30 p.m. – Pot luck and  
gathering**

Holy Family Catholic Church, lower level  
2430 West 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Duluth  
Park in the lower (gravel) parking lot

1. Opening Prayer: Darlene
2. Liturgy of the Hours: Franz
3. Gospel sharing: Barb
4. Ongoing formation: Keith, Reflection 6 in  
**Live Like Francis**
5. Remembrances of Pat Nacey
6. Franciscan wake service for Pat
7. Report on the Queen of Peace Regional  
Fraternity meeting
8. Business:
  - a) Stewardship prayer and collection
  - b) Approve March minutes
  - c) June meeting ministries:  
Opening prayer:  
Loth:  
Gospel sharing:  
Formation:
  - d) Finance report, payments, approvals
  - e) Formation and JPIC reports
  - f) Other?
9. Vocations and closing prayers
10. Next month's meeting: July 15, 2018  
Formation: Franz, Little Office of the Passion

## ODDS 'N' ENDS

At the last meeting I asked those who were part of our founding in 2010 to write up their memories of that time. It doesn't have to be long but I would like the fraternity history we're creating to capture the perspectives of all involved.

Did you remember to ask your pastor about doing a short talk on the SFO either before Mass or after Communion? It's all part of our effort to become more visible and inviting in our Twin Ports communities.

—Bob



## REGIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

During the Regional Fraternity meeting members of the REC made a strong statement of support for moving ahead with our canonical establishment. They wanted to make sure you all understand how much they are behind us. The Provincial Spiritual Assistant wants to preside at the ceremony sometime in the fall.

Lori Hinker is the newly appointed REC member focused on assisting our efforts at working with youth and serving as the liaison to the NAFRA Franciscan Youth and Young Adult (FY/YA) Commission

Spiritu Sanctus Emerging Fraternity in Brainerd is moving toward canonical establishment, also in the fall.



Ministers reflections continued from page 1...

He always tried to listen to what God was calling him to. The best example of this was his evolving view of Muslims.

Early in his formation Pat had some very harsh things to say about Muslims, both their faith and the people themselves. During an exercise where each Inquirer was asked to reflect on who the “lepers” were in their lives, I suggested to Pat that Muslims might be one of his. I also suggested that in the spirit of Francis embracing the leper, he might consider spending time at the local Islamic Center and getting to know some of the people.

Fast forward a few years, and Pat is a Professed Secular Franciscan. One afternoon I called and invited him to accompany me to the monthly community dinner held at the Islamic Center. He acknowledged feeling very nervous about this but said yes anyway. On the drive there, Pat was a bit quieter than we were normally used to.

Well, Pat being Pat, you can imagine how it went. Within a few minutes of our arrival Pat had already made several new friends and was telling his stories. That boisterous laugh we all know echoed through the social hall. One of the men mentioned looking to buy a boat. Pat immediately offered his expertise in this area, and they exchanged phone numbers. As we were walking back to the car, Pat exclaimed, “Let’s do that again! And we did, several times. In fact, the first hint I got of Pat’s failing health was when he called the day of the May meal to say he didn’t feel up to going. Like Francis in Egypt, Pat allowed himself to be transformed by the sharing of stories and breaking bread with the “enemy.”

I know each of you has your own stories of Pat. I think it would be both fitting and healing to take some time during our next gathering to share them with each other. Here’s a bit from the family’s obituary write up that I thought was worth quoting:

*He was a very active member of St. John's Catholic Church and a member of the Franciscans. Pat had a large family with 7 children . . . Pat was preceded in death by his wife Patricia Nacey and daughter Laurie Nacey. He was very active in the lives of his children and their families and greatly loved by all. Pat loved people and never met a stranger. He had a smile, hug, a joke and a ready laugh for all he met and the world was better for it.*  
—Bob

