



Pater Noster Fraternity

Queen of Peace Region
Newsletter – November 2019
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.”

Come and share with us our Vision and Mission to Omaha, NE and beyond!

[Previous newsletters may be found on the Queen of Peace Regional Fraternity](#)

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.”

Council Officers as of April 2018 – Please pray for us as we pray for you.



Left to right:

SA: Sr. Mary Ann Schmieding, OSF
Councilor: Cecilia Padilla, OFS - resigned
Richard Beal, OFS-(not in picture)
appointed to complete term
Minister: Luis Antonio Alvarez, OFS
Vice Minister: Joseph Norman, OFS
Treasurer: Linda Mertz, OFS
Councilor: Kent Riesberg, OFS
Formation Director: Andrea Walther, OFS
Secretary: William Whipple, OFS

Saint of the Month

Saint Elizabeth of Hungary



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Desc: Fresco cycle with scenes from the life of St. Martin of Tours, chapel in the lower church of San Francesco in Assisi, Scene: Saints, detail: St. Elisabeth v. Chr. Hungary

Date: 1322-1326

Author: Simone Martini

Source: The Yorck Project (2002) 10.000 Meisterwerke der Malerei (DVD-ROM)

In her short life, Elizabeth manifested such great love for the poor and suffering that she has become the patroness of Catholic charities and of the Secular Franciscan Order.

The daughter of the King of Hungary, Elizabeth chose a life of penance and asceticism when a life of leisure and luxury could easily have been hers.

This choice endeared her in the hearts of the common people throughout Europe.

Third Order of Saint Francis

Feast Day: 17 November

Birth: 7 July 1207

Pozsony, Kingdom of Hungary (modern-day Bratislava, Slovakia)

Death: 17 November 1231 (aged 24)

Marburg, Landgraviate of Thuringia, Holy Roman Empire (modern-day Hesse, Germany)

Venerated: Roman Catholic Church, Anglican Communion, Lutheranism

Canonized: 27 May 1235^{[1][2][3]}, Perugia, Italy by Pope Gregory IX

Patronage: hospitals, nurses, bakers, brides, countesses, dying children, exiles, homeless people, lace-makers, widows, Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Jaro and the Third Order of Saint Francis

At the age of 14, Elizabeth was married to Louis of Thuringia, whom she deeply loved. She bore three children.

Under the spiritual direction of a Franciscan friar, she led a life of prayer, sacrifice, and service to the poor and sick.

Seeking to become one with the poor, she wore simple clothing. Daily she would take bread to hundreds of the poorest in the land who came to her gate.

Saint Elizabeth of Hungary (continued)

After six years of marriage, her husband died in the Crusades, and Elizabeth was grief-stricken. Her husband's family looked upon her as squandering the royal purse, and mistreated her, finally throwing her out of the palace. The return of her husband's allies from the Crusades resulted in her being reinstated, since her son was legal heir to the throne.

In 1228, Elizabeth joined the Secular Franciscan Order, spending the remaining few years of her life caring for the poor in a hospital which she founded in honor of Saint Francis of Assisi. Elizabeth's health declined, and she died before her 24th birthday in 1231. Her great popularity resulted in her canonization four years later.

Elizabeth understood well the lesson Jesus taught when he washed his disciples' feet at the Last Supper: The Christian must be one who serves the humblest needs of others, even if one serves from an exalted position.

Of royal blood, Elizabeth could have lorded it over her subjects. Yet she served them with such a loving heart that her brief life won her a special place in the hearts of many.

Elizabeth is also an example to us in her following the guidance of a spiritual director. Growth in the spiritual life is a difficult process. We can play games very easily if we don't have someone to challenge us.

Saint Elizabeth of Hungary quotes:

"How could I bear a crown of gold when the Lord bears a crown of thorns? And bears it for me!"

"As in heaven Your will is punctually performed, so may it be done on earth by all creatures, particularly in me and by me."

"We are made loveless by our possessions."

[Franciscan Media](#)

[Catholic Online](#)

[Catholic Charities](#)

[Kings College - History Department](#)

[Litany of Blessed Mary Angela](#)

[The Miracle of the Roses](#)

[Disciple of Christ - Education in Virtue](#)

- Justice. Justice Affability Courtesy Generosity Gratitude Kindness Loyalty Obedience Patriotism Prayerfulness Religion Respect Responsibility Sincerity Trustworthiness
- Prudence. Prudence Circumspection Docility Foresight
- Fortitude
- Temperance
- Theological Virtues
- Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, pray for us!

The Admonitions of St Francis of Assisi

Admonition 3: Perfect Obedience – The power of perfect obedience.

The Lord says in the Gospels: He who does not renounce all things that he possesses, cannot be my disciple; and, Whoever wants to make his own soul secure is to lose it.

That person completely surrenders all he possesses and loses his body who has given his total self in obedience into the hands of his superior.

And whatever he does and says, provided that he himself knows that what he is doing is good and not against his will, is true obedience.

And if when the obedient person may see what is better and more useful for his soul than what the superior has prescribed for him, he may still voluntarily sacrifice them to God; and let him make the efforts to fulfill the assignments which are from the superior.

For this is the obedience under charity, because he is satisfying God and his neighbor.

If the superior should really call for something contrary to his conscience, he is allowed not to obey, but he should not leave.

And if thereby he should have to put up with persecution from some, the more he loves them for God's sake.

For whoever accepts persecution rather than be separated from his brothers, truly remains in perfect obedience, because he is offering his life for his brothers.

There are many religious, who under the guise of seeing greater things than what the superior prescribes, look back and return to the vomit of their own will; they are killers and through their bad example cause many souls to perish.

Q1. How does Francis see the Scriptural “total renunciation of all that he possesses” [poverty] as including the virtue of obedience?

Q2. What is a friar to do when he “may realize that there are many courses of action that would be better and more profitable to his soul than what his superior commands”?

Q3. The question of commands “against his conscience” surfaces here; how is the friar to react in such issues of conflict? - leave? - revolt? - get even? – give insults?

Q4. What strong word does Francis use to describe one who fails in this vow of obedience?

Q5. How does this teaching of Francis contrast to Paul Sabatier's differing opinion about Francis' teachings and the protestant reformers?

Calendar Of Events

Annual/Special Meetings

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

Professions!

Congratulations to Dave Garrett, OFS, Nancy Yount, OFS and Steven Carlson, OFS - your journey has just begun!

August 2020

Chapter of Mats

Place, Date, Time, Guest Speaker - all TBD.

Transitus of St Francis of Assisi

St John Vianney Catholic Church,
Omaha, NE

Saturday, October 3, 2020

Monthly Meetings

Monthly Gathering - 3rd Sunday

Exceptions: (Please confirm before attending.)

- *Jun - Gathering is on the **4th Sunday**, due to Father's Day is on the 3rd Sunday
- **Aug - No Gathering scheduled to facilitate attending the Chapter of Mats - all members are urged to be in attendance. See you there and thank you in advance.**

Initial Formation at 11:30 am [begins again in January 2020]

Potluck at 1:00 pm

On-Going Formation at 1:30 PM

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

On-Going Formation -

FRANCIS of ASSISI and the FUTURE of FAITH
ST. FRANCIS AS SPIRITUAL ROLE MODEL FOR
TODAY'S YOUNG ADULTS

- November 2019 Part 1 Chapter 7
- Feb., May, Aug[Chapter of Mats]: the closing from the Ritual.
- For Mar., June, Sep., and Dec: the Liturgy of the Hours.
- For Jan, April, July, Oct: the Liturgy of the Twelve Our Fathers - please bring your *Secular Franciscan Companion*
- For Nov: The closing prayer is the Prayer of Remembrance for the deceased members of our fraternity.

Initial Formation -

The Franciscan Journey:

- TBD