



The XXIII News

St. John XXIII, OFS fraternity

Secular Franciscan Order ~USA

October 2019

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We are Secular Franciscans living in the world and sharing our Franciscan Charism by “going from gospel to life, and life to the gospel”, by following Jesus Christ in the footsteps of St. Francis and St. Clare; and by following our apostolic Rule we strive to build up the Kingdom of God in our lifetimes by our prayers, works and fraternal community.

October Gatherings

October 13 – Fraternity Meeting, St.
Bonaventure’s Ambrose Hall, Room #4, 1:00-3:30
Franciscan Gospel Sharing – Trudy Phillips
Formation – Holy Half-Hours, Article 3
Read, meditate and answer the questions.
Snacks – need volunteer
Fruit – Trudy Phillips

October III Order Feasts

3. St. Marie-Joseph Tossello
3. **TRANSITUS OF SAINT FRANCIS of ASSISI**
4. **FEAST of SAINT FRANCIS of ASSISI**
5. Commemoration of the establishment of the 3 Orders
6. St. Marie-Francoise des Cinq Plaies
7. Feast of the Holy Rosary
8. St. Brigitte de Suede
10. St. Francois Borgia
13. Sue Allen’s birthday
15. Profession Anniversaries, 2006
Lori Hinker, Trudy Phillips & Tim Taormina
20. Bl. Contardo Ferrini
21. Bl. Martyrs of Polonais
23. St. Anthony Mary Claret
28. Bl. Anne-Eugenie Picco

November Gatherings

November 10 – Fraternity Meeting, St.
Bonaventure’s Ambrose Hall, Room #4, 1:00-3:30
Franciscan Gospel Sharing – need volunteer
Formation – Holy Half-Hours, Article 4
Read, meditate and answer the questions.
Snacks – Mitzi Speranzella
Fruit – Kathy

November III Order Feasts

1. **Feast of All Saints**
2. **Feast of All Souls**
- 3.-9. National Vocation Awareness Week
4. St. Charles Borromeo
10. Bl. Louis Guanella
12. Bl. Jean de la Paix
13. St. Francis Xavier Cabrini
13. Joe Speranzella’s birthday
17. Bl. Jeanne de Signa
19. **St. Elizabeth of Hungry, Patroness of Franciscan Third Order Secular**
21. **Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
23. Bl. Marie de Jesus Bon Pasteur
24. **Feast of Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**
28. Thanksgiving
29. Saints of the Seraphic Order

Upcoming Events

October 3 – TRANSITUS OF ST. FRANCIS
St. Bonaventure Church, 7:00 pm. Speakers arrive at 6:30 pm. All others bring cookies.
February 9 – Mass for Tom Meagher, OFS
St. Bonaventure Church, 10:00 am Mass.
January 19 – St. Junipero Serra NFG Visitation
We will carpool to Hayward, WI.

Fraternity Prayer List

We pray for:
The repose of the soul of Tom Meagher, OFS
Tom’s family, for their comfort and God’s care;
Sue’s move and settling in;
Gloria’s well-being and care by her husband;
Bonita’s healing from surgery on September 19 and her other medical issues;
Lori’s father-in-law Ribbie’s final days of comfort;

Janet's up-coming surgery of her left hip on November 11, and continued prayers for her son Scotty and thanksgiving for a successful surgical procedure on September 3rd;
 Joan's friends Caroline, Cathy and Mark who are in need of a healing;
 Peggy C. (Norma's friend) and all with cancer;
 Norma's continued healing from foot surgery;
 Kay's continued health and happiness;
 Trudy's Children and Grandchildren's school;
 Kathie working long hours and her employment;
 Joe's complicated health issues due to his meds;
 Mitzi's family spiritual needs;
 Kathy & Tim's family and all their needs;
 Fr. Steve, his studies and his students;
 And all the prayers in the depths of our hearts!

Pope's Prayers for October

A Missionary "Spring" in the Church

That the breath of the Holy Spirit engender a new missionary "spring" in the Church.

Fraternity Treasury Report

\$2,176.53 Balance as of August 31, 2019

September Income:

\$ 231.00	St. Junipero Serra NFG Fair Share for 2019
\$ 310.00	September Common Fund
\$ 191.00	Fall Gathering reimbursement for 9 members attending
\$1,480.00	Meagher Memorial Formation Fund

September Expenses:

\$ 56.43	Newsletter supplies
\$ 315.00	Fall Gathering Registrations
\$ 45.00	Perpetual Healing Cards: Bonita Hartmann (surgery) Mary Jo Meagher (bladder cancer) Perpetual Memorial Card: Tom Meagher, OFS
\$ 200.00	Brothers of Peace Thanksgiving turkeys – Christmas Apostolate

\$3,772.10 Balance as of September 30, 2019

Restricted Funds:

\$1,480.00	Meagher Memorial Formation Fund
\$ 880.00	2020 Fair Share for 16 OFS– 1/2020
\$ 385.00	2020 Fair Share SJS 7 OFS- 1/2020
\$2,745.00	

\$1,027.10 Available Funds

Fraternity Infirmarian Report

This month, on behalf of our Fraternity, I have called our sisters, Kay Pelletier and Bonita Hartmann, to extend our love and our prayers for their health and well-being. Kay was not available, but I left our message, and I will call her again. I also sent an inspirational "Get Well" card to Bonita Hartmann, following her recent foot surgery, and will send her a flowering plant while she is healing at Edenbrook Rehab. I also sent "Thinking of You" cards to our Fraternity, and I requested a Mass for our dear brother, Tom Meagher, at St. Bonaventure's. This Mass will be at 10:00 AM on Sunday, Feb. 9th, which is also the day of our Fraternity meeting. Tom's wife, Mary Joan Meagher, will receive the Mass card from St. Bonaventure's. Let us remember all our sisters and brothers in prayer, and may God walk beside you on every path you take. "Family is a feeling that neither time nor distance can diminish."

Respectfully submitted by Janet Holmes, OFS

Gospel – Luke 17:11-19

As Jesus continued his journey to Jerusalem, he traveled through Samaria and Galilee. As he was entering a village, ten lepers met him. They stood at a distance from him and raised their voices, saying,
 "Jesus, Master! Have pity on us!"
 And when he saw them, he said,
 "Go show yourselves to the priests."
 As they were going they were cleansed. And one of them, realizing he had been healed, returned, glorifying God in a loud voice; and he fell at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. He was a Samaritan.
 Jesus said in reply,
 "Ten were cleansed, were they not? Where are the other nine?
 Has none but this foreigner returned to give thanks to God?"
 Then he said to him, "Stand up and go; your faith has saved you."

Words of Wisdom

"Pure, holy simplicity confounds all the wisdom of this world and the wisdom of the flesh."

~ Francis of Assisi



OCTOBER:

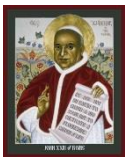
On-Going Formation – Holy Half-Hours, Article 3
Initial Formation – Franciscan Journey, Chs. 4 & 5
CEREMONY OF INTRODUCTION & WELCOMING
for Mary Ann Bucklin.

SJ23rd Council

Minister – Kathleen Sirek, OFS 651-666-3985
V. Minister – Jim Terry, OFS 612-964-1660
Secretary – Mitzi Speranzella, OFS 612.979-7168
Treasurer – Norma Noonan, OFS 651-686-0532
Formation – Kathy Taormina, OFS 952-457-2209
Spiritual Assistant–Fr. Steve McMichael, OFM Conv.
Infirmary – Janet Holmes, OFS 952-943-1518

*****Remember – to be excused, please call the
fraternity Minister, Kathie Sirek!**

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fraternity
of the Secular Franciscan Order



for more information: 952-457-2209
or kathysfo@hotmail.com



TRANSITUS of SAINT FRANCIS of ASSISI

*The transition of St. Francis of Assisi from life to
eternal life*

Later in the evening of October 3rd 1226, the
brothers gathered around Francis near the small
chapel of Our Lady of Angels below Assisi. He
had requested to be carried there. As he

approached his death, he encouraged his
brothers: “I am being called by God. I forgive all
my brothers present and absent. When you give
them this message, bless them for me.”

Then, as his first biographer continues, Francis
“asked that the book of the Gospels be brought in
and the Gospel of John be read to him, starting
with the passage: *Six days before the Passover,
Jesus knowing that the hour had come for him to
pass out of this world to the Father...*” The
narrative concludes: “And then his most holy
soul was released from the flesh, and as it was
absorbed into the abyss of light, his body fell
asleep in the Lord.”

Is this not the description of a death any one of
us would die for? Note the total trust in God who
was calling him, and total embrace of his
brothers in forgiveness and blessing? Evident
here is his final perseverance in living the
Gospel, even as he shares in the Passover of Jesus
to the Father, realizing the fullness of Gospel
prayer he so frequently prayed: “thy kingdom
come, thy will be done.”

For centuries, since that very evening,
Franciscans have gathered every year at the hour
of his passing, the hour when he entered into the
Passover of Jesus. We call this commemoration
the **Transitus**. We recall his own words near the
end of his *Canticle of Brother Sun*: “Blessed are
those whom death will find in Your most holy
will.”

We thereby remember we are also called *by
God* to live *for God* as children *of God*, not for
false securities nor the death-dealing powers of
this world. It is also a way to help us enter more
fully into the celebration of the feast of St.
Francis the following day, October 4th.

If it is possible for you, would you join, and by
your presence support the friars?

**Thank you. And as Francis himself would
conclude: *Pace Bene!*
(Peace and every good.)**

*Fr. Wayne Hellmann, OFM Conv.
Our Lady of Consolation Provincial Minister*

November's Holy Half-Hours OFS RULE

Ongoing Formation

Assignment:

OFS RULE – Article 4

<p>Make a commitment to spend four holy half-hours to prepare for class.</p> <p>Preferably, spend one holy half-hour a week.</p>	<p>For each holy half hour:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Put yourself in the presence of God.• Pray to the Holy Spirit for Guidance.• Read the assigned passages. <p>After reading, spend time with God in prayer. Use some of your thoughts as points of dialogue with God.</p>
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1. **Read** OFS RULE, Article 4.
2. **Read** any commentaries, such as *Hidden Power III: From Gospel to Life*.
Read OFS General Constitutions, Articles 8, 9.2, 44.3.

3. Questions:

Week 1:

- How do I describe the “rule and life of the Secular Franciscans”?

Week 2:

- Is Christ the “inspiration and center” of my life as it was to St. Francis? How?

Week 3:

- When and how do I “devote [myself] especially to careful reading of the gospel”?

Week 4:

- How do I embody and live out “going from gospel to life and life to the gospel”?