



The XXIII News

St. John XXIII, OFS fraternity

Secular Franciscan Order ~USA

December 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.

December 2019 Gatherings

December 8 – Fraternity Meeting, Activities building, St. Bonaventure’s, Room #4, 1:00-3:30
Franciscan Gospel Sharing – Kathy Taormina
On-Going Formation – Christmas at Greccio
Party – Bring a small gift to share for Christmas
Food – members, last initial A-N
Desserts – members, last initial O-Z

December III Order Feasts

- 3. St. Francis Xavier
- 5. Bl. Peter of Siena
- 6. Bl. Elisabeth la Bonne
- 9. Feast of the Immaculate Conception**
- 9. Bl. Delphine de Glandeves
- 11. Bl. Hugolinus Magalotti
- 11. Fr. Steve McMichael’s Birthday
- 12. Our Lady of Guadalupe**
- 14. Bl. Barthole Buonpedini
- 18. Bl. Mary Francis Schervier
- 21. St. Raphael Kalinowski
- 22. St. Francis Xavier Cabrini
- 25. Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ**
- 26. St. Albert Chmielowski
- 29. Bonita Hartmann’s Birthday
- 31. St. Gaspard Buffalo

Upcoming Events

January 19 – St. Junipero Serra NFG Visitation
We will carpool to Hayward, WI.

February 9 – Mass for Tom Meagher, OFS
St. Bonaventure Church, 10:00 am Mass.

March 8 – Visitation by Queen of Peace Region
By Fr. John Elmer. All members must be present.

April 5 – Fraternity Meeting Date Change!
April 12 (2nd Sunday) is Easter, meet on the 1st

May 2 – Fraternity Retreat led by Fr. Steve
This will be our May meeting.

January 2020 Gatherings

January 12 – Fraternity Meeting, Activities building, St. Bonaventure’s, Room #4, 1:00-3:30
Franciscan Gospel Sharing – Kathie Sirek
On-Going Formation – Holy Half-Hours, Article #5
Snacks – Jim Terry
Fruit – Jim Terry

January III Order Feasts

- 1. Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**
- 3. Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus
- 3. Bl. Christiane Menaburi
- 3. Joan Marcatelli’s Profession, 2004
- 4. St. Angela of Foligno
- 4. Lori Hinker’s birthday
- 5. Bl. Pierre Bonilli
- 6. Feast of the Epiphany**
- 10. Bl. Gregory X, Pope
- 15. Bl. Jacques del Piebe
- 18. Bl. Jeanne of Saint Mary
- 19. Bl. Marcel Spinola y Maestre
- 20. Joe & Mitzi Sperazella’s Profession, 2002
- 21. Bl. Joseph Nascimbeni
- 22. St. Vincent Pallotti
- 24. Bl. Paule Gamgara Costa
- 25. Bl. Emmanuel Dominguo y Sol
- 26. Bl. Georges Matulwicz
- 27. St. Angela Merici
- 28. Colette Schunk’s birthday, 96 years young!
- 28. Janet Holmes’s birthday
- 31. St. John Bosco

Fraternity Prayer List

We pray for:

Gloria’s well-being and care by her husband;
Bonita’s healing from a foot infection, other medical
Issues and her walk with Jesus;

The repose of the soul of Lori's father-in-law Ribbie;
 Janet's up-coming medical treatments and the
 continued healing of her son Scotty;
 Joan's grandson Cameron to define his post-high
 school path;
 Norma – for the soul of Shelagh Jones;
 Kay's continued health and happiness;
 Trudy's Children and Grandchildren's school and
 Health for all;
 Joe's complicated health issues due to his meds;
 Mitzi's family spiritual needs;
 Cece, Jacob & Justin Speranzella's total healing;
 Trust in the doctor's next steps for Jacob and Cece;
 Kathy & Tim's family and all their needs;
 An increase of faith for Jim's family and friends;
 Fr. Steve, his studies and his students;
 St. Vincent DePaul Step Up Program;
 And all the prayers in the depths of our hearts!

Pope's Prayers for December

The Future of the Very Young

That every country take the measures necessary to
 prioritize the future of the very young, especially
 those who are suffering.

Fraternity Minutes

November 10, 2019

Attendance

Present: Kathleen Sirek, Mitzi Speranzella, Joan
 Marcantelli, James Terry, Kathy Taormina, Tim
 Taormina, Norma Noonan

Excused: Bonnie Hartman, Lori Hinker, Trudy
 Phillips, Colette Schunk

In Formation: Mary Ann Bucklin

Guest: Jennifer Jirava

Opening Prayer: Kathleen Sirek, Minister

Franciscan Gospel Sharing: Luke 20:27-38

Ongoing Formation/Holy half hour: Article IV of
 our Rule. *Memorize Article IV.*

**Franciscan 101 – Annual Renewal of Profession
 Business**

- October Minutes were approved with a
 motion by Norma, 2nd by Joan.
- Treasurer Report was approved with a
 motion by Tim, 2nd by Kathy S.

Old Business

- Mitzi gave an update of kid's recuperation
- We are saddened by the death of Ribbie
 Hinker. Praying for Lori, Justin and family
- Bonita in Rehab at Masonic Home – 952-
 564-7655

New Business:

- The Council meeting to be held December
 8, 2019
- March 2020, is our visitation by our Region.
- May, 2020 Fraternity Retreat and Holy Spirit
 Lunch
- 2020 – Ordo Guide for Liturgy of the Word
 \$5

Closing Prayer: Kathy Taormina, Formation
 Director

Respectably submitted by Mitzi Speranzella, OFS

Fraternity Treasury Report

\$3,503.10 Balance as of October 31, 2019

Expenses:

\$ 250.00 Yearly Stipend for Spiritual Assistant
 \$ 125.00 Yearly Stipend for St. Bonaventure

Income:

\$ 150.00 November Common Fund

\$3,278.10 Balance as of November 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 Total Restricted Funds

\$ 533.10 Available Funds

Respectfully submitted by Norma Noonan, OFS

Fraternity Infirmerian Report

This month, on behalf of our Fraternity, I have sent
 "Thinking of You" cards to the Poor Clares, and
 also to Cece and Jacob Speranzella, Bonita
 Hartmann and Mary Joan Meagher, along with our
 continued prayers for their health and well-being,
 as they move forward on their road to recovery. Let
 us remember them, and all our sisters and brothers
 in prayer. May we all find strength, hope, comfort
 and peace in Jesus. " Let us spread the good
 news that PRAYER IS OUR STRENGTH" St.
 Teresa of Calcutta

Respectfully submitted by Janet Holmes, OFS





December:

On-Going Formation – Greccio Experience

Initial Formation – Franciscan Journey, Ch. 7 & 8
for Mary Ann Bucklin.

Gospel ~ Matthew 3:1-12

John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!"

It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said:

A voice of one crying out in the desert,
Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths.

John wore clothing made of camel's hair
and had a leather belt around his waist.

His food was locusts and wild honey.

At that time Jerusalem, all Judea,
and the whole region around the Jordan
were going out to him
and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River
as they acknowledged their sins.

When he saw many of the Pharisees and
Sadducees
coming to his baptism, he said to them, "You brood
of vipers!

Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?
Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance.
And do not presume to say to yourselves,
'We have Abraham as our father.'

For I tell you,
God can raise up children to Abraham from these
stones.

Even now the ax lies at the root of the trees.
Therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit
will be cut down and thrown into the fire.
I am baptizing you with water, for repentance,
but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I.

I am not worthy to carry his sandals.
He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.
His winnowing fan is in his hand.
He will clear his threshing floor
and gather his wheat into his barn,
but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."



**Duns Scotus
Philosopher**

John Duns, commonly called Duns Scotus, was a Scottish Catholic priest and **Franciscan friar**, university professor, philosopher, and theologian. He is one of the three most important philosopher-theologians of Western Europe in the High Middle Ages, together with Thomas Aquinas and William of Ockham. Scotus has had considerable influence on both Catholic and secular thought. The doctrines for which he is best known are the "univocity of being", that existence is the most abstract concept we have, applicable to everything that exists; the formal distinction, a way of distinguishing between different aspects of the same thing; and the idea of haecceity, the property supposed to be in each individual thing that makes it an individual. Scotus also developed a complex argument for the existence of God, and **argued for the Immaculate Conception of Mary.**

SJ23rd Council

Minister – Kathleen Sirek, OFS 651-666-3985

Vice 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

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JANUARY - Holy Half-Hours

OFS RULE

Ongoing Formation

Assignment:

OFS RULE – Article 5

<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 5
2. **Read** any commentaries, such as *Hidden Power III: From Gospel to Life*.
Read OFS General Constitutions, Article 9
3. **Questions:**

Week 1:

- How do I actively “seek to encounter the living and active person of Christ”?

Week 2:

- Do I seek to encounter Christ in my brothers and sisters? How?

Week 3:

- How do I seek Christ in Sacred Scripture? In the Church? In liturgical activity?

Week 4:

- What is “the inspiration and pattern of [my] Eucharistic life”?