



# *Pater Noster Fraternity*

Queen of Peace Region

Newsletter – June 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.”

## **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.”

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

**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 Thomas More



All images from [WikiCommons](#) can be used freely provided the source is noted.

**Source:** Hans Holbein, the Younger - Sir Thomas More 1527

**Collection:** [Frick Collection](#)

His belief that no lay ruler has jurisdiction over the Church of Christ cost Thomas More his life.

Beheaded on Tower Hill, London, on July 6, 1535, More steadfastly refused to approve King Henry VIII's divorce and remarriage and establishment of the Church of England.

Described as "a man for all seasons," More

**Franciscan Third Order Secular**

**Feast Day:** 22 June

**Birth:** 7 February 1478, London, England

**Death:** 6 July 1535 (aged 57) London, England

**Venerated:** Roman Catholic Church; Church of England; some other churches of the Anglican Communion

**Beatified:** 29 December 1886, Florence, Kingdom of Italy, by Pope Leo XIII

**Canonized:** 19 May 1935, Vatican City, by Pope Pius XI

**Major shrine:** Church of St Peter ad Vincula, London, England

**Patronage:** Adopted children; civil servants; court clerks; difficult marriages; large families; lawyers, politicians, and statesmen; stepparents; widowers; [Ateneo de Manila Law School](#); [Diocese of Arlington](#); [Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee](#); [Kerala Catholic Youth Movement](#); [University of Malta](#); [University of Santo Tomas Faculty of Arts and Letters](#)

was a literary scholar, eminent lawyer, gentleman, father of four children, and chancellor of England. An intensely spiritual man, he would not support the king's divorce from Catherine of Aragon in order to marry Anne Boleyn. Nor would he acknowledge Henry as supreme head of the Church in England, breaking with Rome, and denying the pope as head.

## Saint Thomas More (continued)

Four hundred years later in 1935, Thomas More was canonized a saint of God. Few saints are more relevant to our time. In the year 2000, in fact, Pope John Paul II named him patron of political leaders. The supreme diplomat and counselor, he did not compromise his own moral values in order to please the king, knowing that true allegiance to authority is not blind acceptance of everything that authority wants. King Henry himself realized this and tried desperately to win his chancellor to his side because he knew More was a man whose approval counted, a man whose personal integrity no one questioned. But when Thomas More resigned as chancellor, unable to approve the two matters that meant most to Henry, the king had to get rid of him.

Thomas More was born in 1478, son of the lawyer and judge John More and his wife Agnes. He received a classical education from the age of six, and at age 13 became the protege of Archbishop John Morton, who also served an important civic role as the Lord Chancellor. Although Thomas never joined the clergy, he would eventually come to assume the position of Lord Chancellor himself.

More received a well-rounded college education at Oxford, becoming a “renaissance man” who knew several ancient and modern languages and was well-versed in mathematics, music and literature. His father, however, determined that Thomas should become a lawyer, so he withdrew his son from Oxford after two years to focus him on that career.

Despite his legal and political orientation, Thomas was confused in regard to his vocation as a young man. He seriously considered joining either the Carthusian monastic order or the Franciscans, and followed a number of ascetic and spiritual practices throughout his life – such as fasting, corporal mortification, and a regular rule of prayer – as means of growing in holiness.

In 1504, however, More was elected to Parliament. He gave up his monastic ambitions, though not his disciplined spiritual life, and married Jane Colt of Essex. They were happily married for several years and had four children together, though Jane tragically died in childbirth in 1511. Shortly after her death, More married a widow named Alice Middleton, who proved to be a devoted wife and mother.

[Thomas More Society Omaha](#)

[Catholic Saints Online](#)

[Franciscan Media](#)

[Roman Catholic Saints](#)

[St Thomas More - Youtube](#)

[St. Thomas More - Omaha parish & school](#)

[Wikipedia](#)

**Saint Thomas More, *pray for us!*** “The man for all seasons” is practically” a saint for all seasons”: Adopted children; civil & public servants; marriages; families; stepparents; widowers.

**Personal fact:** Last month was St. Joan of Arc. Marylou attended St. Joan of Arc parish from 1995 to 2005. I attended St. Thomas More parish from 2000 - 2004. The parishes are about 2 miles apart and we live in the same complex about halfway in between. We were married in St. Joan of Arc in 2005.

## The Admonitions of St Francis of Assisi

**Admonition 26:** The respect and honor due clerics: That servants of God should honor clerics.

Blessed is the servant who has faith in clerics who live properly according to the form of the Roman Church. And woe to those who despise them; for even if they might be sinners, yet no one must judge them, because only the Lord himself reserves to himself judging them.

For how much greater is their ministry, when they handle the most sacred Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which they themselves receive and only they minister to others, so much more are they guilty of sin

who sin against them, than against all other people of this world.

**Q1:** We find this a frequent expression and concern by Francis. Why does he single out this deep reverence and respect for persons who have received this particular one of the seven Sacraments?

**Q2:** Have some clergy themselves seemed to have lost this reverence for this Sacrament they bear? ...– in Francis’ day? ...--today?

**Q3:** Do we pray for those persons in the clergy who serve us and the Body of Christ?

**Q:** Can I recall whether Francis has expressed this concern elsewhere? Where?

## Prayer Requests and Praise Reports

-Steve Carlson:

- For emotional healing for Elena and Lucia Carlson.

-Nancy Yount:

- for my sister, Karen, who is suffering from a rare form of dementia and her family
- Praise for my brother Ken who is much improve. Thanks for the prayers!
- for my brother Al and his struggles with Parkinson's
- for the flooding victims throughout the Midwest

-Dave Garrett:

- For my daughter's struggle with her disabilities and children.
- For my son, Joshua’s addiction recovery and return to the Church.

-Kent Reisberg:

- Birth of grandbaby!

-Luis Alvarez:

- For our Franciscan Families, those members who are ill and alone.
- For an increase of vocations to all Franciscan communities.
- For an end to abortion, euthanasia and all offenses against human life.
- For the innocent bishops, priests, deacons, and all who work for the kingdom of Christ, who are going to suffer for the sins of others.
- That our children who have drifted from Holy Mother Church may return to the practice of the Faith
- For our law enforcement personnel, that they may remain safe on and off duty.

-Joseph Norman:

- For my mother (Betty) and brother (Tom)

-Cecilia Padilla:

- Difficult, unforeseen circumstances.

## Calendar Of Events

### Annual/Special Meetings

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!**

#### Professions!!!!

October 2019

Monastery of St Clare

Date: to be determined

#### Chapter of Mats

**Saturday, August 17, 2019**

Monastery of St Clare

22625 Edgewater Rd.

Elkhorn, NE 68022

#### Transitus of St Francis of Assisi

Thursday, October 3, 2019

St. John Vianney Catholic Church

Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Omaha, NE 68137

### 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 -> Chapter of Mats- all are urged to be in attendance.

**Initial Formation** at 11:30 am

**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  
EXPLORING FRANCISCAN SPIRITUALITY AND THEOLOGY IN THE  
MODERN WORLD

- June 2019 Part 1 Ch. 3
- The closing is the Ritual for most months.
- For Mar, Jun, Sep, and Dec - Liturgy of the Hours.
- For Feb, May, Nov, Liturgy of the Twelve Our Fathers - please ensure that you bring your *Secular Franciscan Companion*

#### **Initial Formation -**

The Franciscan Journey:

- June 2019 Chapters 30