



The XXIII News

St. John XXIII, OFS fraternity

Secular Franciscan Order~USA

September 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.

September Gatherings

September 8 – Fraternity Meeting, St. Bonaventure’s Ambrose Hall, Room #4, 1:00-3:30
Franciscan Gospel Sharing – Mitzi Speranzella
Formation – Holy Half-Hours, Article 2
Read, meditate and answer the questions.
Snacks – Norma Noonan (may need to switch)
Fruit – need volunteer

September III Order Feasts

1. World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation
1. Bl. John Francis Burte, Bl. Severin Girault, companions
4. St. Rose of Viterbo
8. Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
10. Bl. Martyrs of Japan
12. Feast of the Most Holy Name of Mary
14. Exaltation of the Holy Cross
15. Feast of Our Lady of the Sorrows
16. Bl. Roland de Medicis
17. Feast of the Stigmatization of St. Francis of Assisi
19. Bl. Louis Alleman
21. Bl. Elizabeth Amerina
25. St. Nicholas de Flue
26. St. Elzear de Sabran & Bl. Delphina, 1st OFS
29. Feast of the Archangels
30. Bl. Charles de Blois

Upcoming Events

September 14 – MN FALL GATHERING
St. Bonaventure Church, hosted by the Fraternity of Mary, Queen of Peace. 8:30 am – 4:00 pm.
October 3 – TRANSITUS OF ST. FRANCIS
St. Bonaventure Church, 7:00 pm.

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

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 medical issues and upcoming surgery on September 19 on her left foot;
Lori’s father-in-law Ribbie to respond to chemo;

Janet's continued healing, and continued prayers for her son Scotty and for success of his surgical procedure on September 3rd;
Joan's friends Caroline, Cathy and Mark who are in need of a healing;
Kay's continued health and happiness;
Gratitude, gratitude!!!
Joe's complicated health issues due to his meds;
Mitzi's family spiritual needs;
Kathy & Tim's family and all their needs;
Fr. Steve and the STU Theology Dept.;
Norma's healing from foot surgery;
And all the prayers in the depths of our hearts!

Pope's Prayers for September

Universal – Politicians, Scientists & Economists

That politicians, scientists and economists work together to protect the world's seas and oceans.

Fraternity Meeting Minutes

August 11, 2019

Attendance

Present: Kathleen Sirek, Mitzi Speranzella, Joan Marcantelli, James Terry, Trudy Phillips, Lori Hinker, Kathy Taormina, Tim Taormina, Collette Schunk, Mary Ann Bucklin and Sue Allen.

Excused: Tom Meagher, Bonnie Hartman, Gloria Barry, Kay Pelletier, and Norma Noonan.

Guests: Sharon Young and Fr. Brian Hajovsky, OFM Conv.

Opening Prayer: Kathleen Sirek, Minister
Franciscan Gospel Sharing: Tim Taormina, Luke 12:32-48

On-Going Formation: Holy Half-Hours, Article 1
Franciscan 101: The San Damiano Cross

Old Business:

Save the date! Queen of Peace Region Fall Gathering, Saturday Sept. 14, 2019 8:30AM to 4PM. At St Bonaventure Church, Bloomington. Hosted by Fraternity of Mary, Queen of Peace.

The motion to approve the Christmas Apostolate to assist St Joseph Coat was approved by Tim, Second by Jim, all were in favor.

New Business:

Add Sue Allen to Roster.

October 25 – 27, 2019 Fr Steve will be the Speaker. Franciscan Retreat House, Prior Lake.

Balanced Budget: Not available due to Norma not being present.

Approval of the Treasure's Report. Not available due to Norma not being present.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

Minutes recorded by Mitzi Speranzella, Secretary.

Fraternity Treasury Report

\$1,702.53	Balance as of July 31, 2019
\$ 474.00	+ Common Fund donations
\$2,176.53	Balance as of August 31, 2019

\$ 880.00	2020 Fair Share for 16 OFS
\$ 385.00	2020 Fair Share SJS 7 OFS
\$1,265.00	Total due January 1, 2020

Fraternity Infirmerian Report

This month, on behalf of our Fraternity, and along with our continued prayers for their health and well-being, I have sent "Thinking of You" cards to Gloria Barry, Bonita Hartmann, Trudy Phillips, the Poor Clare Sisters and Sr. Mary Eltgroth. I will also be sending a Mass card from St. Bonaventure's to Mary Joan Meagher, in remembrance of her husband and our dear brother in Fraternity, Tom Meagher. Let us remember them, and all our sisters and brothers, in prayer. I would also like to thank our Fraternity for the beautiful card I received recently, along with your prayers and heartwarming messages. What a wonderful surprise! May we all find strength, hope, comfort and peace in Jesus, and may He walk beside us on every path we take.

Respectfully submitted by Janet Holmes, OFS

WORDS of WISDOM:

We are formed by environment and grace, by politics and prayer, by church and conscience. All God's creatures conspire to teach us as well. We stumble. We stutter. We rise. We are lifted.
Anthony of Padua

September 8 Gospel

Luke 14:25-33

Great crowds were traveling with Jesus, and he turned and addressed them,
“If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion?
Otherwise, after laying the foundation and finding himself unable to finish the work the onlookers should laugh at him and say, ‘This one began to build but did not have the resources to finish.’
Or what king marching into battle would not first sit down and decide whether with ten thousand troops he can successfully oppose another king advancing upon him with twenty thousand troops? But if not, while he is still far away, he will send a delegation to ask for peace terms.
In the same way, anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple.”



SEPTEMBER:

On-Going Formation – Holy Half-Hours, Article 2

Initial Formation – Franciscan Journey, Chapter 3

October 13, 2019

On-Going Formation

Holy Half-Hours

1. **Read** OFS RULE, Article 3.
2. **Read** any commentaries, such as *Hidden Power III: From Gospel to Life.*

3. **Read** OFS General Constitutions, Articles 4-5, 9.2

OFS Rule, Article 3:

The present rule, succeeding “Memoriale Propositi” (1221) and the rules approved by the Supreme Pontiffs Nicholas IV and Leo XIII, adapts the Secular Franciscan Order to the needs and expectations of the Holy Church in the conditions of changing times. Its interpretation belongs to the Holy See and its application will be made by the General Constitutions and particular statutes.

OFS General Constitutions, Articles 4-5, 9.2:

Article 4.1. The OFS is governed by the universal law of the Church, and by its own: the Rule, the Constitutions, the Ritual, and the particular statutes.

2. The Rule establishes the nature, purpose, and spirit of the OFS.

3. *Rule 3* The Constitutions have as their purpose: to apply the Rule; to indicate concretely the conditions for belonging to the OFS, its government, the organization of life in fraternity, and its seat.

Article 5.1. *Rule 3* The authentic interpretation of the Rule and of the Constitutions belongs to the Holy See.

2. The practical interpretation of the Constitutions, with the purpose of harmonizing its application in different areas and at the various levels of the Order, belongs to the General Chapter of the OFS.

3. The clarification of specific points which require a timely decision is the competence of the Presidency of the International Council of the OFS (CIOFS). Such a clarification is valid until the next General Chapter.

Article 9.2. *Rule 4,3* The Secular Franciscan, committed to following the example and the teachings of Christ, must personally and assiduously study the Gospel and Sacred Scripture. The fraternity and its leaders should foster love for the word of the Gospel and help the brothers and sisters to know and understand it as it is proclaimed by the Church with the assistance of the Spirit.

QUESTIONS:

Week 1: Why is it important for the RULE to adapt “to the needs and expectations of the Holy Church in the conditions of changing times”?

Week 2: Did I know that the Rule’s “interpretation belongs to the Holy See”? What does that mean to me? To my fraternity?

Week 3: Have I ever read the OFS Constitutions or the OFS USA Statutes? Do I know where to find them?

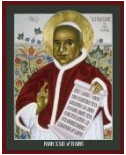
Week 4: Why is it important for an Order to have a Constitution? Isn't spirituality enough?

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



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In Memorial of Tom Meagher, OFS



Meagher, Thomas "Tom" L. age 90, Burnsville MN, passed away peacefully from kidney failure on August 15th, 2019 while among his family and holding the hand of his beloved wife of over 66 years, Mary Joan (O'Connell) Meagher.

He was preceded in death by his parents Thomas F. and Blanche Meagher of Minneapolis, devoted grandfather Henry M. Zehnter of Bruce, WI and Liam Rory Meagher (great-grandson).

Tom is survived by his wife and children, Michele (Richard) Anderson, Michael (Terri) Meagher, Shaun (David) Klempke, Brian (Susan) Meagher and Thomas F. "Tommy" (Angie) Meagher. Tom is also survived by 16 grandchildren: Colleen (Bryan) Behnke, Theresa (Kye) Madrinich, Luke Anderson, Nathan Meagher, Rory (Angie) Meagher, Kalie Meagher, Ian (Holly) Meagher, Bridgit (Michael) Nistler, Laura Klempke, Christopher Klempke, Patrick (Kelly) Vinge, Emily Vinge, Patrick Meagher, Grant Meagher, John Meagher, Evan Meagher, Sean Meagher and Celia Meagher, plus 12 great grandchildren, many nieces/nephews and countless friends.

Trudy and Kathy attended a memorial service and visitation to celebrate his life on Wednesday, August 21st. Kathy presented Mary Joan with a little red OFS RULE book and a TAU Cross. A Franciscan Perpetual Mass card for Tom was given to the family.

The Mass of Christian Burial was held Thursday, August 22nd beginning at Nativity of Mary Catholic Church. Our fraternity was represented by Gloria Barry, Bonita Hartmann, Mary Ann Bucklin, Lori Hinker, Joan Marcantelli, Marianne Mersch, Trudy Phillips, Kathie Sirek and Kathy Taormina. We were blessed by celebrating Mass together and celebrating the life of our brother, Tom.

His youngest son, Tommy, gave a moving reflection of his dad's life. He described the Tom we have all been privileged to meet and get to know.

Following mass, Tom will receive full military internment at Fort Snelling for his service as a commissioned Naval officer during the Korean War.

In lieu of flowers, the children requested support for us, the Secular Franciscan Order at the Church of St. Bonaventure in Bloomington MN. Mary Joan asked us what the money would be used for and we told her it would be used for Formation of Seculars.

Tom would like you all to live your life One Day at a Time and help others find peace through sobriety.

As Tom always said, "See you later."

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