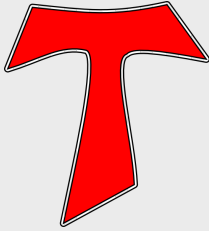


TAU SHALOM



Upcoming Dates

Wednesday 22 July,
6:00 pm Regular Meeting

Saturday 25 July
4:00 Mass (special events)

Saturday 8 August,
9:00 am. Business Meeting

Monday, 10 August
Transitus of St Clare
(special events)

Prayer Intentions

For all patients and families who are suffering as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak.

We pray that we may all hear and respond to the call to be promoters of Justice and Peace.



Spiritual Assistant's Message

CLARE ON MY MIND

We are in the process of supplying books for sharing – and a bookcase we moved from offices at Murphy – has been set up in the sacristy of the chapel. One series I would like to share is Sister Frances Teresa Downing's (Poor Clare) *Saint Clare of Assisi* in 4 volumes. Sister Frances Teresa has done extensive research on our Holy Mother and among all the chapters, I find the one on Clare's brief stay after her "tonsure" at the Portiuncula, her move to San Paolo and then on to Sant'Angelo to be intriguing.

In 1211/1212, when Clare left her family on Palm Sunday night, passed through one of the city gates unimpeded and down through the thicket to the Portiuncula and was received into the fraternity – how could it not happen with the protection of Bishop Guido? Then, around 2 or 3 in the morning, the brothers escorted her to the Benedictine Sisters who must have been warned by Bishop Guido, to give her sanctuary as her family did try to force her home from the chapel of San Paolo in Bastia. She

Meeting Information



Transitus of St Clare will be celebrated in the San Damiano chapel at 5:00 pm on August 10. Please contact Emilio if you wish to participate in person - physical distancing will be in effect.

did stay awhile just like Francis who was given sanctuary at San Verecondo - by the way, both chapels are still there. Both committed themselves to *vilitas* or nothingness before God and both worked in the scullery until Clare was escorted permanently to San Damiano from her temporary stay at Sant'Angelo.

I find this newfound knowledge motivating – and it makes me want to know more of Clare and God's mystery moving through Bishop Guido.

For starters, I propose we, the Secular Franciscans and Friars/ Sisters Minor, celebrate a Clare Transitus in San Damiano the evening before her feast on August 11. Monday, August 10, 5 or 6 p.m., Polly has offered to play within the context of our Taize frame, the story of Clare's life and passing. Many FSPA who still live outside Saint Rose would join us and even though, through face masks and sanitizer, the Franciscan family will celebrate Clareand ask her intercession for healing of the world wrought by this pandemic.

Brother Conrad OFM

Minister's Message

Pax et Bonum my dear Tau Shalom brothers and sisters,

I pray that this newsletter finds you healthy and safe. I am indeed missing everyone as I could not participate in our last two Zoom meetings. I find myself longing for face-to-face fraternity time together. Let us pray for some sort of normalcy to return to our great nation.

Reflecting on the Gospel for this coming Sunday, the Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, I am struck by the bluntness of not only the parable that Jesus proposed to the crowds, but also in his later explanation of the same parables to his disciples. Jesus used extremely powerful illustrations of "...the end of the age."

I can think of no other scripture passage that depicts the truth of how life will be when Jesus returns. We must always be ready to enter the presence of God. No other action on our part prepares us for this coming than that of the sacrament of Reconciliation. Let us try to always be in a full state of grace with God our Father so we can fully anticipate being part of "... the righteous (that) will shine like the sun in the kingdom of (our) Father." for all of

eternity!

To those of you in Initial Formation, I pray for you everyday that you will stand strong with us as a fraternity and endure this hardship with courage and determination. These are indeed odd times that require you to proceed with your Initial Formation via Zoom and emails. Rest assured that we professed members of Tau Shalom are here for you every step of the way.

May God bless you all.

Your humble servant and minister,

Kevin, OFS

JPIC Corner

Everyone's Gift has Value

Following our conversations about race relations in the country I've felt drawn to look deeper into the life and teachings of one of our own, Servant of God Sister Thea Bowman.

I say she is one of our own for the obvious reasons; Franciscan, Viterbo Alum, an FSPA. But more than that she is our sister in Christ who addressed the same problems still plaguing our country today. Just as we walk the very ground she walked so we can follow in her larger footsteps to help build a more just world and Church for all God's people.

In her remarks to the USCCB she discussed what it meant to be black and Catholic. Her remarks struck me, as they do everyone who hears them, as being simple, powerful, and loving. Her emphasis seems to be that we are Catholic as we are, where we are. We all have our own gifts and talents and together we build the people of God.

Her canonization cause was initiated at the same 2018 USCCB meeting that approved the publication of "Open Wide Our Hearts." This well-done document encourages us to acknowledge past wrongs and work to repair the damage that has been done; to turn to love and walk humbly with the Lord. If you haven't already, I encourage you to read it, along with the two excellent articles about Sister Thea linked below. I think they would make an excellent foundation for our ongoing conversation and may help direct future actions as they speak to Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation.

<http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/racism/upload/open-wide-our-hearts.pdf>

<https://thetablet.org/mississippi-bishops-aim-follow-thea-bowmans-lead-racism/>



<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/thea-bowman---religious-sister-civil-rights-advocate-candidate-for-sainthood-61840>

John Ott, OFS

Formation Station

This month for our formation meeting we will be focusing on Chapter 18 of our *The Franciscan Journey* (TFJ) book. The chapter expands on rule #10 and gives us insights on how this will affect our Franciscan Vocation as OFS in the world.

Rule #10 – United themselves to the redemptive obedience of Jesus, who placed his will into the Father's hands, let them faithfully fulfill the duties proper to their various circumstance of life. Let them also follow the poor and crucified Christ, witness to him even in difficulties and persecutions.

There are many points from chapter 18 that stood out to me, but at the heart of it is the term obedience. As Fr. Bach reminds us all, the Latin root of the word obedience is *ob-audire*, which means “to listen to.” For many obedience often seems like a derogatory or submissive term. But for the Christian, especially for the Franciscan, we see Christ who is the model of obedience, even when it meant giving his life for all of creation through his death on the cross. Our ability to listen, and listen well is the key to a life that is free and not restrained, even it seems like a counter intuitive.

Fr. Bach gives us several areas/examples where we can practice our listening to help develop more perfectly our constant pursuit of our imitation of Jesus. The possibility of discovering what God desires of us can be considerably increased when we listen more closely in the areas of *Prayer, Friends, Community, Personal Experience, Sign of the Times, & Spiritual Direction*. This is in addition to the call of seeking God in the sacraments and in the scriptures. As Fr. Bach states, “Our identity as Franciscans grows in its ability to influence daily life. The importance of this growth comes clear when we try to *faithfully fulfill the duties proper to their various circumstance of life (SFO Rule #10)*. Each of us has a different ambiance in which we live. The variety of life situations are many. Each of them will require a fresh look to see how to fulfill duties that are part of life.” (pg. 198-199 TFJ)

Lastly, we look towards the end of the chapter where we are encouraged to live joyfully even in the midst of difficulties and persecutions. We are not called to intentionally seek out these difficulties, for they will present themselves to us naturally, but embracing and moving through them with joy will allow the crucified and impoverished Christ to unite himself to us and shine brightly through our witness to the world, especially in the specific state of life we are called to.

Questions for Reflection:

1. As you reflect on Chapter 18, please reread Rule #10 and the Article 12.2 from the Constitutions (found on page 195 of the TFJ). Was there anything in particular that stood out to you or struck you differently as you reflected on this Chapter? If so, make a note of it to share with the larger group.
2. As a reflective exercise, consider your current state of life. Make a list (mental or physical) of all the different states of life you currently occupy (you can use pg. 199 as an example list). Consider all of the

ways you can incorporate better listening in your state(s) of life so that you can better hear the will of God. Please consider sharing a few examples at our next meeting.

3. For continued reflection, please consider looking at questions 1-8 on page 203 in the TFJ.

Emilio Alvarez, OFS

The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order - Article 10

United themselves to the redemptive obedience of Jesus, who placed His will into the Father's hands, let them faithfully fulfill the duties proper to their various circumstances of life. Let them also follow the poor and crucified Christ, witness to him even in difficulties and persecutions.

Simple living begins with the choice to unite with Christ so intensely that one is willing to share even His passion: the burdens of hardship and pain within oneself or from outside sources.

from The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order with Catechism and Instructions (1981)

Special Events at San Damiano Chapel

- On Saturday, July 25 at the 4:00 pm vigil Mass in San Damiano chapel, Sister Michele Pettit of the FSPA will take her first vows. You may attend this Mass in person, but please be aware of the San Damiano physical distancing guidelines; if you wish to attend, please contact Emilio for a "reservation" as attendance will be limited. The Mass will be live streamed through YouTube at 4:00 pm. The Mass will be edited for upload to YouTube for later viewing including ONLY the Mass.
- The Transitus of St Clare will be celebrated on August 10 at 5:00 pm. You are invited to participate in this special prayer service in person, but please contact Emilio in advance for a spot on the attendance list to comply with the physical distancing guidelines.

from our Treasurer

Please remember, you may still contribute financially to our fraternity! Checks may be made payable to "Secular Franciscan Order, Tau Shalom" and sent to:

Frederick Ellis
1320 Pinecrest Lane, #13
Onalaska, WI 54650-3479



Birthdays and Profession Anniversaries

Fr Conrad Targonski - Franciscan Vows, July 29, 1972

Raymond List - Birthday August 14

Fr Conrad Targonski - Birthday August 18

Emily Alvarez - Birthday August 23

A Prayer: Chaplet of the Sacred Heart

On the Cross:

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.

Body of Christ, save me.

Blood of Christ, inebriate me.

Water flowing from the side of Christ, purify me.

Passion of Christ, strengthen me.

O good Jesus, hear me.

Hide me within Thy wounds.

Never permit me to be separated from Thee.

From the malignant enemy, defend me.

And cause me to come to Thee, where, with the angels and saints

I may praise Thee for everlasting ages.

On the Large beads:

Jesus meek and humble of Heart, make my heart like unto Thine.

On the Small Beads:

Sweet Heart of Jesus, be Thou my Love.

At the end of each 10:

Sweet Heart of Mary, be thou my salvation

Conclude with:

Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us

Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, pray for us

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be everywhere loved.

Submitted by Jeanne Krause, Candidate