



SPIRITUS SANCTUS

Meeting Information:
St. Francis Catholic Church
Fourth Thursday of every month
5pm Eve Prayer; 5:30pm Mass
Time: 6:00 to 8:00 pm

When the Spirit of truth comes He will guide you into all truth He will speak, He will declare and He will glorify.

Newsletter deadline: Within 15 days before the meeting! Please submit articles/photos to: Annie Knakmuhs, ofs, maz1741@gmail.com

LORD, MAKE ME AN INSTRUMENT OF YOUR PEACE...

Submitted by Jan Lothert, OFS

In this time of social unrest and division, our world is crying out for peace; peace in our nations, our communities, our homes and families, and most critically, in our own hearts. How do we as OFS seek to become instruments of this peace and then in turn transfer it to our world?

The Peace Prayer attributed to St. Francis is now known to have been written 700 years after St. Francis, yet it continues to be universally known as the Peace Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi. I was a little disheartened during my OFS formation when I first heard that St. Francis was not actually the author of this beautiful prayer. However I was intrigued to know how this prayer had become so closely identified with St. Francis and how widely this prayer is known and prayed by diverse populations and religions throughout the world. Recent research into the origins of this prayer, reveal it first appeared in a French Catholic publication in 1912 and was published anonymously under the title "A Beautiful Prayer to Say During Mass." In World War I and again during WWII, it was printed on prayer cards and distributed worldwide, with the title "A Prayer for Peace." Because it was printed by a Franciscan order, the image of their patron St. Francis of Assisi, was placed on the front of the prayer cards and hence the prayer became associated with St. Francis. Whether the words were actually penned by St. Francis or the work of a "God incidence" pulling this all together; the words contain the spirit of what Francis lived. They are congruent with the ideals he preached, communicate the heart of the Gospels, and voice the essence of his actual writings on peace.

As we walk our journey of Franciscan life, striving to bring peace where there is discord, praying and reflecting upon the words of The Peace Prayer and other writings of St. Francis will enlighten and guide our path to peace. St. Francis taught this quest for peace always starts with inner peace, and no other peace is possible without this as the starting point.

Additional excerpts for reflection on peace compiled from the writings of St. Francis:

- ◇ *Where there is God's love and wisdom, there is no room for fear, or for ignorance.*
- ◇ *Where there is patience and humility, there is no anger, nor even irritation.*
- ◇ *Where there is joy in being poor in spirit, there is no secret covetousness toward others,*
- ◇ *Nor greed that leads to hateful actions.*
- ◇ *Where there is peace, sown in times of meditation, there is no worry...*

THE ADMONITIONS: 27

To be a true peacemaker, you must work to preserve inner peace, which will then govern your mind and your actions. Do this for the love of Christ, so that He may be seen in you no matter what you suffer at the hands of the world. THE ADMONITIONS: 15

Very simply, you must learn to not be upset over an injury because it is an offense to you. Rather, out of love for God, train your thoughts on the harm that your enemy is doing to his own soul with each sin or offense he commits.

The servant of God, who trains himself to live in this way - to become free from anger or upset at anything - lives and demonstrates a just life. THE ADMONITIONS: 9, 11

You will clearly recognize the guiding voice of God's Spirit in this way: His constant aim is to lead us in paths that produce humility, patience, a simple life, and true peace in our heart. THE RULE OF 1221:17

When you are truly "poor in spirit", you will despise everything that causes you to be selfish and self-centered. Soon you will become so free in God that you take no notice of offenses, no matter how great or slight, so that someone might actually strike you on one cheek and you would not fail to respond in love.

THE ADMONITIONS: 14

Let us strive to live this message of peace as we bring "gospel to life."

Sources: [A Closer Look at the Peace Prayer of Saint Francis](#) by Jack Wintz, OFM

[A Day in Your Presence: A 40 day Journey in the Company of Francis of Assisi](#) by David Hazard



"Never be in a hurry; do everything quietly and in a calm spirit. Do not lose your inner peace for anything whatsoever, even if your whole world seems upset."

— St. Francis de Sales

PLEASE CONTINUE TO GIVE THE DAILY GIFT OF PRAYER to those on our fraternity Prayer Calendar. If you have misplaced yours, talk to Annie for another copy. Also keep those on the Franciscan prayer line in your prayers. May God bless you all for the generosity of your time.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR CARE OF CREATION

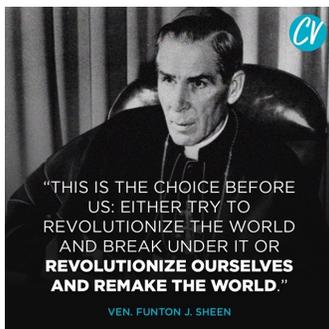
Pope Francis has called for an annual World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation on September 1 [2015], marking the beginning of the “Season of Creation,” which lasts through the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi on Oct. 4.

“... I wish to inform you that I have decided to institute in the Catholic Church the “World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation” which, beginning this year, is to be celebrated on 1 September, as has been the custom in the Orthodox Church for some time.”

“... The annual World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation will offer individual believers and communities a fitting opportunity to reaffirm their personal vocation to be stewards of creation, to thank God for the wonderful handiwork which he has entrusted to our care, and to implore his help for the protection of creation as well as his pardon for the sins committed against the world in which we live.”

“... I invoke upon this initiative the intercession of Mary, Mother of God, and of Saint Francis of Assisi, whose *Canticle of the Creatures* inspires so many men and women of goodwill to live in praise of the Creator and with respect for creation....”

~Excerpt from *LETTER OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE "WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CARE OF CREATION"* [1st SEPTEMBER]



THINKING OF GOD AS A FRIEND

*“A friend loves at all times and a brother is born for a time of adversity.”
Proverbs 17:17 NIV*

Many of us were raised with the idea of God as a stern authority figure, the gray-haired old man who gave us the Ten Commandments and all of the other rules of the Old Testament. But that is only one side of God’s nature, although admittedly an important part of God’s nature for a time in human history (and in our own personal development) when we needed explicit instruction on how to behave. But there are many sides to God’s nature and the one which many of us need to be more aware of in the aspect of God that is like a supportive and loyal friend. One of the benefits of constant prayer or communion with God is that it keeps us constantly in the presence of a God who is always there to help. Besides keeping in constant touch with God through prayer, it can help to think of God as a person and this is why having a relationship with Jesus, who we can easily think of in human and personal terms, is so helpful to many people. Doing things with God that you would do with a friend, an also help, even if at first it seems a bit “hokey.” Consider having a cup of coffee with God or taking a walk with Him. Pray to him as you would talk to a trusted friend. Doing these things will make His presence more real and you will probably find yourself having a warm and personal relationship with God than the cold and abstract relationship that many of us grew up with. ~Christopher Simon



Q: WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO HAVE A MASS “OFFERED” FOR SOMEONE?

An individual may ask a priest to offer a Mass for several reasons: for example, in thanksgiving, for the intentions of another person (such as on a birthday or anniversary), or, as is most common, for the repose of a person’s soul. One must never forget the infinite graces that flow from the Sacrifice of the Mass which benefit one’s soul.

Mass intentions are being accepted at the parish offices for the 2021 calendar year. If you have a special person(s) you would like to have a Mass offered for, give them a call at St. Francis/All Saints: 822-4040; or St. Andrew’s/St. Mathias: 829-1340. The cost of the stipend for a Mass offering is \$10 per Mass.

SEPT / OCT / NOV

If we’ve missed your important date, my apologies; please let Annie know.

BIRTHDAY:

- Sep 11 - Margaret Schrader
- Sep 12 - Rose Clack
- Sep 25 - John Kowalke
- Nov 16 - Sr. Karen Niedzielski

RITE OF ADMISSION:

- Oct 16 - Cheryl Austin, Pat Rickaby, Fr. Tony Wroblewski (2013)

PROFESSION:

- Oct 26 - Jan Lothert (2017)
- Nov 15 - Carol Hartneck, Wanda Huber (2018)

WEDDINGS / ORDINATIONS / VOWS:

- Sep 03 - Jan ♥ Rick Lothert
- Sep 05 - Richard ♥ Marlene Hansen
- Sep 14 - Annie ♥ Mike Knakmuhs
- Nov 24 - Yvette ♥ Kurt† Dullinger



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