



# The XXIII News

St. John XXIII, OFS fraternity

Secular Franciscan Order ~ USA

September 2020

## 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 Gathering

**September 13 – Fraternity Meeting**, St. Bonaventure’s, In the grass behind the activities bldg. 1:00-3:30 pm (Ambrose Hall if it rains!)  
*Remember to bring your masks & lawn chair!*  
**Franciscan Gospel Sharing** – Kathie S.  
**Formation** – Holy Half-Hours, Article 12  
Read, meditate and answer the questions.  
**Franciscan 101** – iBreviary  
*Bring your cell phones, tablets or laptops!*  
**Snacks** – Kathie S.; **Fruit** – Sue  
**Closing Prayer** – JPIC Creation 3-2-1

## September Order Feasts

1. **World Day of Prayer for Creation**
2. Bl. John Francis Burté and 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. **Triumph of the Holy Cross**
15. **Feast of Our Lady of the Sorrows**
16. Bl. Roland de Medici
17. **Feast of the Stigmata of St. Francis**
18. Padre Pio
19. Bl. Louis Alleman
21. Bl. Elizabeth Amerina
23. St. Joseph Cupertino
25. St. Nicholas de Flue
27. St. Elzear de Sabran and Bl. Delphina
29. Feast of the Archangels
30. Bl. Charles de Blois



*The 20<sup>th</sup> Quinquennial of the Secular Franciscan Order has been postponed until June 2023!*

## October Gathering

**October 3 – Transitus (The Passing of Francis to Eternal Life)**, St. Bonaventure Church 7:00 pm, arrive at 6:30 pm.  
**October 4 – Blessing of the Animals**, St. Bonaventure Church back parking lot, 12 noon.  
**October 11 – Fraternity Meeting**, St. Bonaventure’s, In the grass behind the activities bldg. 1:00-3:30 pm (Ambrose Hall if it rains!)  
*Remember to bring your masks & lawn chair!*  
**Franciscan Gospel Sharing** – Mitzi  
**Formation** – Holy Half-Hours, Article 13  
Read, meditate and answer the questions.  
**Snacks** – Tim; **Fruit** – Kathy T.  
**Closing Prayer** – Liturgy of the Hours

## October 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 Franciscan Orders
6. St. Marie-Francoise des Cinq Plaies
7. **Feast of the Holy Rosary**
8. St. Brigitte de Suede
10. St. Francois Borgia
11. **Pope St. John XXIII, our patron saint!**
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 Requests

### We pray for:

- All those in the midst of Covid19 – those who are ill, their caretakers, those who lost their jobs and those who have died; Especially Dr. Haley Taormina;
- Fr. Steve's writing process on St. Mary Magdalene & his car-less Mother;
- Bonita's sense of joy and positivity;
- Lori & Justin's adoption process;
- The start of school and faith formation classes;
- Janet and her family's wellbeing;
- Mary's sister Patty;
- Kay and her continued wellbeing;
- Trudy's healing of all her symptoms;
- Colette and her continued wellbeing;
- Help for Kathie with 3 tough co-workers;
- The Speranzella's September 10<sup>th</sup> court sentencing;
- Jacob's continued healing from surgery;
- Joe's healing from cataract surgery;
- Kathy & Tim's continued health of their family and for job security;
- Mary Ann's brother-in-law's cancer treatments;
- For all the prayers in the depths of our hearts.

## Fraternity Infirmarian Report

This month, on behalf of our Fraternity, I have sent "Thinking of You" cards to the relatives of our deceased sisters, Gloria Barry, Marguerite Nolan, Marge Spurgin and Josephine Parenti, and our deceased brothers, Tom Meagher and Bill Honel. Let us remember them, and all our sisters and brothers in prayer. "In every age, in every suffering, God alone is our hope, our refuge and our strength." "God's promises are like the stars; the darker the night, the brighter they shine."

Respectfully submitted by Janet Holmes, OFS



## September Formation

**On-Going Formation** – Holy Half-Hours, Article 12  
**Initial Formation** – Candidacy session #2

## Pope's Prayer for September

### Respect for the Planet's Resources

We pray that the planet's resources will not be plundered, but shared in a just and respectful manner.

## Fraternity Treasury Report

**Balance as of July 31, 2020** **\$3,963.03**

### Expenses:

Amazon Relief through QOP Region \$ 100.00

### Income:

August Common Fund \$ 225.97

**Balance as of August 31, 2020** **\$4,089.00**

### **Restricted Funds**

Meagher Memorial Fund \$1,505.00

2021 Fair Share Anticipated:

St. John XXIII, OFS (16,1 candidate) \$ 985.00

St. Juniper Serra NFG (6) \$ 360.00

**Total Restricted:** **\$2,850.00**

***Queen of Peace Region voted and the 2021 Fair Share has increased to \$60.00 per professed member and \$25.00 per Candidate!***

**NET Balance of available funds** **\$1,239.00**

Respectfully submitted by Norma Noonan, OFS

***Please mail your Common Fund donations to: Norma Noonan, OFS, 4439 Lakeshore Terrace Eagan MN 55122***

## Fraternity Minutes

**August 9, 2020**

### **Attendance**

**Present:** Kathleen Sirek, Mitzi Speranzella, Lori Hinker, Kathy Taormina, Tim Taormina, Colette Schunk, Mary Kopelke, and Mary Ann Bucklin.

**Opening Prayer:** Kathleen Sirek, Minister

**Franciscan Gospel Sharing:** Tim Taormina

**Treasury and Minutes** from July were approved by consensus because we did not have a quorum!

### **Old Business:**

### **New Business:**

- Regional meeting will be August 14 and 15. Kathie Sirek will attend.
- A donation of \$100 was approved by consensus for the Amazon Relief organization. This money will be added to other donations through the Queen of Peace Region and go towards a \$1000

television capable of broadcasting mass and information through the Amazon.

- Please note: Bonita Hartmann phone number has changed. 952-564-7655.

The meeting was closed with the Blessing of Saint Clare prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Mitzi Speranzella, OFS

## SJ23<sup>rd</sup> Council

**Minister** – Kathleen Sirek, OFS 651-666-3985

**Vice Minister** – Jim Terry, OFS 612-964-1660

**Secretary** – Mitzi Speranzella, OFS 612.979-7168

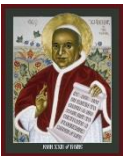
**Treasurer** – Norma Noonan, OFS 651-686-0532

**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  
for more information: 952-457-2209  
or [kathysfo@hotmail.com](mailto:kathysfo@hotmail.com)

### FRATERNITY DIALOGUE RULES

1. Love your brothers and sisters
2. See the divine seed in each member and respect each as a child of God
3. Use 'active listening' techniques
4. Remember that your words matter – choose them wisely
5. Refrain from interrupting others
6. Do not speak a second time until everyone has a chance to share
7. Do not speak or refer to specific political candidates or how one should vote or how one will vote
8. Keep comments relating to the subject at hand
9. All sharing should bring life to the fraternity and not division
10. Love your brothers and sisters!

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## Gospel – Matthew 18: 21-35

Peter approached Jesus and asked him, “Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus answered, “I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times. That is why the kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who decided to settle accounts with his servants.

When he began the accounting, a debtor was brought before him who owed him a huge amount.

Since he had no way of paying it back, his master ordered him to be sold, along with his wife, his children, and all his property, in payment of the debt.

At that, the servant fell down, did him homage, and said, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay you back in full.’

Moved with compassion the master of that servant let him go and forgave him the loan.

When that servant had left, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a much smaller amount. He seized him and started to choke him, demanding, ‘Pay back what you owe.’

Falling to his knees, his fellow servant begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay you back.’

But he refused. Instead, he had the fellow servant put in prison until he paid back the debt.

Now when his fellow servants saw what had happened, they were deeply disturbed, and went to their master and reported the whole affair.

His master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you your entire debt because you begged me to. Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant, as I had pity on you?’

Then in anger his master handed him over to the torturers until he should pay back the whole debt. So will my heavenly Father do to you, unless each of you forgives your brother from your heart.”

## SEPTEMBER Holy Half-Hours OFS RULE

### Ongoing Formation

#### Assignment:

OFS RULE – Article 12

<p>Make a commitment to spend four <b>holy half-hours</b> to prepare for class.</p> <p>Preferably, spend one holy half-hour a week.</p>	<p><b>For each holy half hour:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Put yourself in the presence of God.</li><li>• Pray to the Holy Spirit for Guidance.</li><li>• Read the assigned passages.</li></ul> <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 12.
2. **Read** any commentaries, such as *Hidden Power III: From Gospel to Life*.  
**Read** OFS General Constitutions, Article 100.3.
3. **Questions:**

Week 1:

- How do I witness “to the good yet to come”?

Week 2:

- “Because of the vocation they have embraced...” Have I truly embraced my Secular Franciscan vocation? How do I know this for sure?

Week 3:

- I am “obliged to acquire purity of heart because of the vocation [I] have embraced”, so how do I go about acquiring this purity of heart?

Week 4:

- I can freely embrace the concept of loving God, but how do I “freely” love my brothers and sisters?