



"I have done what is mine to do; may Christ teach you yours!" —Francis of Assisi

I just returned from the Regional SFO gathering in Buffalo, MN. We had temps in the 100 degree range, but the conversation and good company was more than enough reason to stay inside. The speaker this year was excellent and very engaging. In his first talk, he proposed penance as a permanent state of being. In his second talk, he said that we need community to be saved (among other things), pointing to God as a community of persons. In his third and last talk, the focus was on our commitment to creation and how the sacraments all use material matter to effect their work. There was no PowerPoint or handouts, and they were not needed. I was on the edge of my seat listening through each presentation. I will share more about the gathering at this month's meeting. One thing to note right away, our fraternity is hosting the 2022 spring gathering. —Franz

Gospel Reading: Twelfth Sunday of Ordinary Time, Mk 4:35-41

On that day, as evening drew on, Jesus said to his disciples: "Let us cross to the other side." Leaving the crowd, they took Jesus with them in the boat just as he was. And other boats were with him. A violent squall came up and waves were breaking over the boat, so that it was already filling up. Jesus was in the stern, asleep on a cushion. They woke him and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?"

He woke up, rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Quiet! Be still!" The wind ceased and there was great calm. Then he asked them, "Why are you terrified? Do you not yet have faith?" They were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this whom even wind and sea obey?"



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This month's Fraternity Gathering

June 20, 2021, 12:30 p.m. – Potluck and Gathering

Holy Family Catholic Church, social hall 2430 West 3rd St., Duluth Park in the west parking lot

Agenda:

- 1. Opening prayer – Bob
2. LotH – Keith
3. Gospel sharing – Franz
4. Ongoing Formation – Jane: Fratelli Tutti, Chapter 3
5. Picnic planning
6. Business
a. Approve minutes, assign ministries
b. Treasurer reports, bills, receipts
c. Formation report
d. JPIC report
7. Vocation and closing prayers

Next month's meeting: July 18, 2021. PICNIC.

Council Meeting Agenda

Council meeting will immediately follow the fraternity meeting.

- 1. Opening Prayer
2. Approve minutes (5/16/21)/agenda
3. Profession request
4. Transfer request
5. 2022 Spring Gathering
6. Other
7. Closing prayer

Wisdom from Solanus Casey

- Everyone who believes in Christ and tries to follow Him is a missionary.
Music of the cross—how beautiful when mastered.
Poor humanity's sorrow: ingratitude.

Faith Matters: Reflections from your Spiritual Assistant

As you all know, members of the Council and I conducted interviews this month with Kathy in preparation for her Profession later this summer. These interviews are always for me an opportunity to reflect on my own profession and what qualities to look for in a Candidate. We are blessed in this fraternity to have a wide range of experience in living the Gospel life, from those professed in the early 1980s to one professed within the past few years.

One quality that jumped out for me is passion. Francis had tremendous passion for life, for the Gospels, for prayer, for Clare, and for finding Christ in the poor and outcast. His passion poured out like fire, which illumined and inspired those who decided to follow him. You will no doubt recall the legend where the passion between Francis and Clare lit up the hut where they had gathered for dinner.

A funny thing, though, about the word passion. Its Latin root means "to suffer." Thus we have "compassion" which literally means "to suffer with." We have the Passion of Jesus commemorated every year in the Triduum. And yet we most commonly use passion to mean great love, even desire. We will speak of the evident passion between two lovers. Or we will note the passion someone has for a worthy cause, such as Gandhi or Martin Luther King, that drove them forward against great odds.

Both senses of the word are, in my opinion, quite valid to describe both Francis and what we are called to through our profession. I liken it to fire, which both can warm us and brighten our way, and yet cause untold suffering and destruction when it gets out of control. We even use this imagery in our fraternity prayers when we ask that, "fired with the flame of the Holy Spirit, we may be able to follow in the footsteps of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ." In our passion as Franciscans we both desire to experience the great love of God and we suffer to bring Gospel justice and peace more fully to life in ourselves, our fraternity, our communities, and the world.

What aspect of our Gospel way of life most fires your passion?

—Bob



Franciscan Saints/Blesseds of the Month

12 BL JOLENTA

13 ST ANTHONY OF PADUA

Anthony was born Fernando, son of a wealthy and noble family. He received a good education and at 15 joined the Augustinians, where he continued his education. After being inspired by a visiting group of Franciscan friars Fernando received permission to join their order, taking the name, Anthony. He wanted to preach in Morocco but ill health and other factors prevented this.

Anthony proved to be a gifted preacher as well as a scholar and was soon chosen by St Francis to oversee the education of other friars. Later he represented the Franciscan Order at the court of Pope Gregory IX. Anthony died in 1231 at 35 while traveling home to Padua. He was canonized a year later by Gregory IX.

22 ST THOMAS MORE

30 BL RAYMOND LULL

PHILLIP'S FLOCK

By Doc Goodwin



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