



PAX~ET~BONUM

NEWSLETTER OF THE SAINT BONAVENTURE FRATERNITY SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER

Saint Francis University, Loretto, PA 15940
Vol. 30, No. 2 – February 2021



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CALENDAR

Feb 4	St. Joseph of Leonissa
Feb 6	Sts. Peter Baptist, Paul Miki and companions
Feb 7	St. Collette
Feb 9	Blessed Mother Maria Theresia Bonzel
Feb 14	St. Valentine's Day
Feb 14	OFS Gathering 1:30 P.M. – Virtual. Fraternity Council will meet prior to the gathering.
Feb 15	President's Day
Feb 17	Ash Wednesday
Feb 19	St. Conrad of Piacenza

attend or become active again, please let Mary Jo know.

ONGOING AND INITIAL FORMATION Gaye Boyer, OFS Formation Director

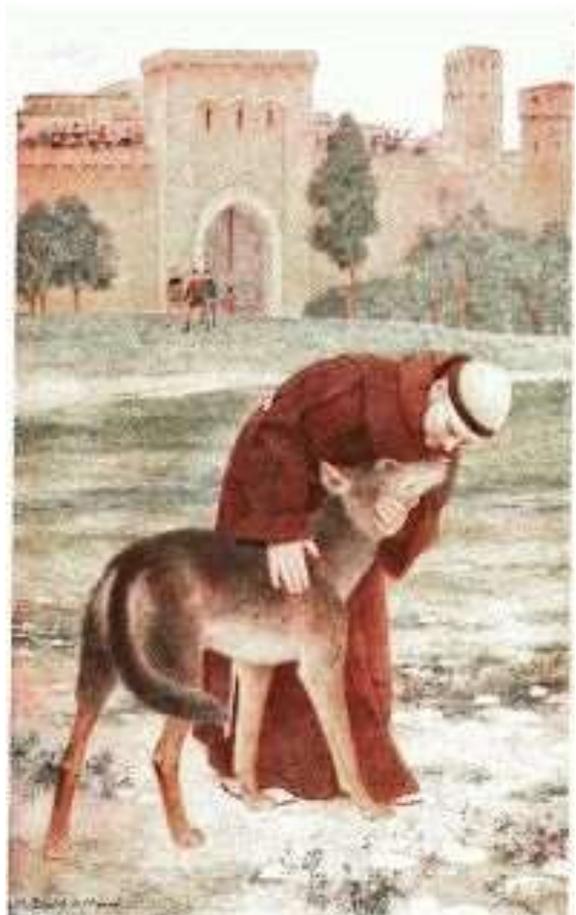
Please read Chapter 5 of "The Lamb's Supper" to be discussed at the February gathering. Questions will be sent out via email prior to the gathering.

FRATERNITY GATHERINGS

Fraternity gatherings are held the second Sunday of each month. Our February gathering will be held virtually on **Sunday, February 14, at 1:30 P.M.** (Watch for your email invitation).

Please call in if you can't join by video. **If you are not able to attend please contact Mary Jo beforehand.**

During our gathering we will be doing the candle ceremony at home. Please refer to the sheet attached with this newsletter. We will also have ongoing formation by reflecting on questions from the Lamb's Supper reading. **We invite all members and inquirers of St. Bonaventure Fraternity to our gatherings.** If you are an inactive member but would like to





CELEBRATIONS!!

Happy belated birthday wishes to Rebecca Richmond on January 29 and happy birthday to Guy Monica on February 12 and Heather Meck on February 16.

UPCOMING EVENTS

OFS Summer Seminar St. Francis University
July 8-11, 2021 (tentatively)

The Q confirmed date: **August 3-7, 2022**

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Prayers are requested for James Coleman (uncle of Julie Crusciel, OFS). He is in the midst of intravenous chemo and daily pill chemo through mid-March. He was given a 50-50 success with his treatment.

Please continue to pray for restored health for any of our fraternity members who have been ill, as well as any of our Franciscan brothers and sisters who are in need of God's healing graces. Also pray for those who have passed from this life into the next. And please pray for the men and women who are serving our country in combat areas and for their families. As always, please forward your special intentions to our Fraternity Minister for inclusion in our prayers.

COMMON FUND REMINDER

Just a reminder that even though our fraternity has not been meeting face-to-face, we are still obligated to contribute as our means allow to the common fund.

Please send your monthly contribution to Patricia Serotkin, OFS, Fraternity Treasurer at 1072 N. Center St. Ebensburg, PA 15931.

ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's Annual Report to Membership – December 31, 2020

Checkbook balance –	
January 1, 2019	\$ 980.46
Plus Receipts:	+1,863.00
Checkbook Balance Sub-total	\$2,843.46
Minus Expenses	- 1,550.81

Checkbook balance – December 31, 2019
\$ 1,292.65

Certificates of Deposit:

- 1) (12-17 mo.) 04/16/19
\$1,031.28
- 2) (9 mo. Flexible) 08/08/20
\$ 515.77

Total Certificates of Deposit **\$1,547.05**

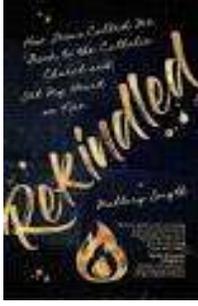
COMMON FUND BALANCE –
December 31, 2020 **\$ 2,839.70**

A couple of things to note concerning our financial performance in 2020:

- 1) Our receipts for the year were up by 608.00 compared to receipts in 2019. Although these receipts included about \$250 additional contributions for retreat fees, I thank you for your generous contributions, especially during the pandemic.
- 2) Our expenses were up by about \$416.00, but we were still able to finish the year with about \$300 more in our checking account than in the previous year. We are in a good financial position as of now, but this doesn't mean we should give less next year!
- 3) Our Fair Share to Lady Poverty Region remained the same: 13 active members x \$45= \$585.00.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia B. Serotkin, OFS, Treasurer

SUGGESTED READING



The book Rekindled: How Jesus Called me Back to the Catholic Church and Set My Heart on Fire by Mallory Smyth is an easy, quick read that shines light on why many youth are leaving the Catholic Church today. You take the journey with Mallory as she recounts her typical Catholic upbringing, her slow drift into the culture (especially a typical college culture), and then her return to the Catholic Church through Protestant channels. Along the way, she wrestles with the same questions many cradle Catholics have and often don't know how to answer. She uses her personal experiences and her deep dive into what the Church *actually* teaches on "hot button" issues of the day such as human sexuality. She also addresses many of the concerns we often hear from those with one foot out the door of the church: bad homilies, the sex scandals, and poor catechises. Throughout the book, Mallory shows how falling in love with Jesus allowed her to work through the imperfections of our institutional church.

-- Julie Crusciel, OFS

ST. BONAVENTURE FRATERNITY FACEBOOK PAGE

Our Fraternity has a Facebook page! Anyone can find this group.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/652880388194184/?ref=share>

Watch for Fr. Kevin's minute meditations!

ADMONITION..... Mary Jo, OFS

I would like to share one of Father Kevin's daily meditations he posted on our fraternity Facebook page recently. This particular meditation spoke to my heart. Thank You Father Kevin for posting the meditations. I encourage everyone to visit our site for these daily inspirations. Go to St. Bonaventure Fraternity Facebook page.

Living in a Transitional Age

Living in a transitional age is scary: It's falling apart, it's unknowable, it doesn't cohere, it doesn't make sense, it's all mystery again, and we can't put order in it. Yet there is little in the biblical revelation that ever promised us an ordered universe. The whole Bible is about meeting God in the actual, in the incarnate moment, in the scandal of particularity, and not in educated theories—so much so that it is rather amazing that we ever tried to codify and control the whole thing. The Bible seems to always be saying that this life is indeed a journey, a journey always initiated and concluded by God, and a journey of transformation much more than mere education about anything. We would sooner have textbooks, I think. Then the journey would remain a spectator sport. The transformation model risks people knowing and sharing "the One Spirit that was given us all to drink" (1 Corinthians 12:13). So sad that we have preferred conformity and group loyalty over real change! But chaos often precedes great creativity. Darkness creates the desire for light. Faith actually precedes great leaps into new knowledge. That's the good news. Our uncertainty is the doorway into mystery, the doorway into surrender, the path to God that Jesus called "faith."

—from *The Wisdom Pattern: Order, Disorder, Reorder*

by Richard Rohr, OFM