

MARY, QUEEN OF ANGELS FRATERNITY

SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER—USA + ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA

+ MAY 2021 NEWSLETTER +

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Live a Life Worthy of Your Call



*Although the doors were locked
in the place where they were for fear,
Jesus entered and said,
“Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, so I send you.”*

“Have no fear of moving into the unknown.
Simply step out fearlessly knowing that I am with you,
therefore, no harm can befall you; all is very, very well.
Do this in complete faith and confidence.”

(Pope St John Paul II)

INFIRM and HOMEBOUND

“The brothers and sisters, progressing in age, should learn to accept illness and increasing difficulties and to give a deeper sense to their life.” (GC 27) In your charity please remember in prayer and in personal visits our homebound members: **at Home:** Janet Azeles, Camilla Palazzi, Cheryl Hengst; **at Garvey Manor:** Fr Adrian, Fr Terrence; **at St Stephen’s Living Center:** Mary Rita Stoltz; **at Graystone Manor:** Shirley Dougherty; **at St Bernardine Monastery:** Friars Eugene, Robert, Anthony, Giles, Seraphin, and Tello. Please inform our Infirmarian, **Mike**, of any member who is infirm and/or homebound so that a visit can be arranged and/or a card be sent, bringing them our prayers and fraternal wishes.



PEOPLE OF THE TAU

It was Pope Innocent III who said, *“Mercy will be given to those who wear and carry the Tau, the mark of a life of a penitent renewed in Christ,”* and St Francis listened, and fixed his eyes on Jesus. Francis saw the Tau cross as an efficacious symbol for all those who accepted being marked by it. In other words, those who identify themselves spiritually by penance and charitable outreach with the poor and crucified Christ shared in the glory of the Risen Lord. The Tau cross speaks of



- the certainty of salvation because of the victory of Christ over death and evil;
- the universality of salvation because the cross of Christ has redeemed the world;
- the sweetness of salvation because it is the sign of God’s goodness and love and the means to transform what is bitter and miserable into the ability to “taste and see how good the Lord really is” (*Ps 34*);
- the liberation of salvation because one so marked becomes liberated from the lure of possessions and becomes bound to Lady Poverty, clothed in the light of Christ;
- the mission of salvation because the Lord Jesus became the servant to all, so we too reach out to others in love, washing each other’s feet, and by reconciling all things in Christ.

The TAU cross is a **sign that one is chosen, sent forth and empowered by the Spirit** to be committed to Transformation, Apostolic action, and Life-giving Unity. Secular Franciscans, standing on the shoulders of our holy founders, St Francis and St Clare, with our holy patrons St Elizabeth and St Louis, aim to renew the Church and society by building a more fraternal and evangelical world by means of their transforming spirit of penance; by means of their courageous witness and outreach; and by means of their community=building through liturgy, prayer, and fraternal life.

T—Transformation, embracing the values of a holy life, stripping away all obstacles, journeying toward oneness in Christ (OFS Rule 7);

A—Apostolic Action, witness of their faithful commitment and their involvement in ecclesial, charitable, and secular works of the apostolate (OFS General Constitutions 18, 19, 20);

U—Life-giving Union, Christ unites us to Himself and to one another in the Eucharist; living all the mysteries of the life of Christ, deepening the true foundations of universal kinship, creating a spirit of welcome and an atmosphere of fraternity everywhere (Gen Cons 14.2, 18, 30).

SAINTS and BLESSEDS of the FRANCISCAN FAMILY in MAY 2021

- 01 *St Joseph the Worker*
- 03 Bl Edouard-Joseph Rosas, Bishop, OFS, 1903
- 04 Bl Ladislav of Gielnow, OFM, 1505
Bl Thomas, Henry, Arthur, John, Charles, OFM Martyrs, England & Wales, 1642-79
Bl Ceferino Gimenez, OFS Martyr of Spain, 1936
- 05 St Jutta of Thuringia, OFS, 1260



- 06 Bl Marie Catherine Troiani, TOR, 1897
- 08 St Amatus Ronconi, OFS, 1292
Bl Jeremiah of Wallachis, OFM, 1625
- 09 St Catherine of Bologna, OSC, 1463
- 10 *Mother's Day*
- 11 St Gemma of Goriano, OFS, 1439
St Ignatius of Laconi, OFM, 1781
- 12 St Leopold Mandic of Herzegovina, OFM, 1942
- 13 St Peter of Regalado, OFM, 1456
- 16 St Margaret of Cortona, OFS, 1267
- 17 St Paschal Baylon, OFM, 1592
- 18 St Felix of Cantalice, OFM, 1587
- 19 St Crispin of Viterbo, OFM, 1750
St Theophilus of Corte, OTM, 1740
St Marie-Bernard Butler, TOR, 1924
St Yves of Brittany, OFS, 1303
- 20 *St Bernardine of Siena, OFM, 1444*
- 21 **Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord**

- 21 Bl Franz Jagerstatter, OFS Martyr of the Nazis, 1943
- 23 Bl Gerard of Villamagna, OFS, 1242
- 24 Bl John of Prado, OFM Martyr of Morocco, 1563
- 24 **Dedication of Patriarchal Basilica of St Francis, 1253**
- 25 *Memorial Day (observed)*
Bl Gerard of Lunel, OFS, 1298
- 28 St Jean-Baptiste Rossi, OFS, 1764
St Mary Ann of Jesus of Paredes, OFS, 1645
- 30 St Camilla Baptista Varano, OSC, 1524
St Ferdinand III, King of Castile, OFS, 1252
St Joan of Arc, OFS Martyr, Maid of Orleans, Martyr of France, 1431
- 31 **Solemnity of Pentecost**

FRATELLI TUTTI

“A truly human and fraternal society will be capable of ensuring in an efficient and stable way that each of its members is accompanied at every stage of life. Not only by providing for their basic needs, but by enabling them to give the best of themselves, even though their performance may be less than optimum, their pace slow or their efficiency limited.” (110)



EXUBERANT SPIRIT OF GOD
bursting with the brightness of flame
into the coldness of our lives
to warm us with a passion for justice and beauty,
we praise You.

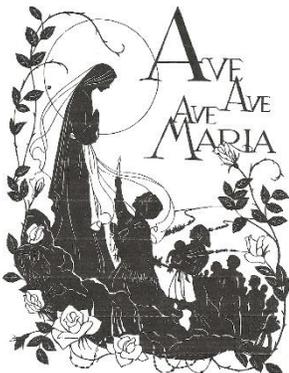
EXUBERANT SPIRIT OF GOD
sweeping us out of the dusty corners of our apathy
to breathe vitality into our struggles for change,
we praise You.

EXUBERANT SPIRIT OF GOD
speaking words that leap over barriers of mistrust
to convey messages of truth and new understanding,
we praise You.

EXUBERANT SPIRIT OF GOD
flame
wind
speech
burn, breathe, speak in us;
fill the world with justice and with joy.

Jan Barry

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY



Concerning those who do penance, “we are spouses, when by the Holy Spirit the faithful soul is united with Jesus. We are mothers, when we carry Him in our heart and body through divine love and sincere conscience. We give birth to Him through a holy life which we must give light to others by example” (Prologue to Rule).

The circle of Mary’s arms has changed the world—the round, sorrowful world—to a cradle for God. O Mother of God, be hands that are rocking the world to a kind of rhythm of love, that the incoherence of war and the chaos of unrest be soothed to a lullaby, and the round, sorrowful world—in your hands—a cradle of God. (*Hands of Mary*, Caryll Houselander)

THE YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer. Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted His only Son; in you, Mary placed her trust; with you, Jesus became man.

Blessed St Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage. Defend us from every evil. Amen.



St Joseph,
model of patience † pillar of families † hope of the sick † patron of the dying,
pray for us.

SECULAR FRANCISCANS IN TIMES OF GREAT CHANGES

Jesus' followers, many having fled on the day of His crucifixion, steadily had become aware of the resurrection, and with "filled up" lives finally gathered together fifty days afterward. The Scriptures for Pentecost uses powerful imagery to describe their experiences on that day. The Acts of the Apostles refer to the Spirit of God descending upon them and infusing them with power. The very word *spirit* is understood in ways that characterize this all-important day:



- the animating principle of life;
- principle that pervades thought, stirs one into action;
- a vigorous, courageous, optimistic attitude;
- vigorous sense of membership in a group;
- to encourage, urge on, stir up.

The Spirit of God, fiery, sweeping, enters our lives individually and collectively, raising us to new heights, enabling us to embody Jesus' ministry of healing and forgiveness. We go forth and live the love with which Jesus loves us. We become His presence, together and on mission. The power of the Spirit forms us.

We remember that on Pentecost Sunday the Church was born in wind and fire—not to sweep us heavenward, but to guide us on violence-ridden pavements of this world, so that we may lift up the downcast, heal the broken, reconcile what is lost, and bring peace amidst so much unrest.

Hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. (*Romans 5,1*)



LOOKING FOR THAT SPECIAL GIFT

Should you be looking for a religious gift, books, cards, or a gift for any occasion, visit The Friar's Nook across from St Bernardine Monastery, Route 36 South, 4 miles from Hollidaysburg. **Now open Monday through Saturday, 10 AM to 4 PM.**

FRATERNITY ELECTIVE CHAPTER 2021—Father Christopher, T.O.R.

The Lady Poverty Regional Council met on 22 April—Earth Day—via Zoom conference call for their regular business meeting. The Visitation/Election Schedule was reviewed. **Our fraternity, Mary, Queen of Angels, is due for election of new leadership.**

This global pandemic has caused such disruption, personally, socially, and fraternally. Closure restrictions further drove us to isolate from one another. Our homes became classrooms, office spaces, play areas. The family car became the power of sanctuary. We ache for hugs and kisses. We professed to belong to each other.

The severity of imposed restrictions is lessening. Vaccinations, masking, and safe distancing are precautions set in place for small group gatherings. Masses begin to be celebrated—in Church—with safe distancing. The gathering space when the fraternity gathers can offer the same protection. **For the Elective Chapter to be a valid event, members of the fraternity need to be present in person.**

Please consider this Elective Chapter Schedule:

- *May 2021* Fraternity Council meets;
Reading of GC Article 76 of General Constitutions (GC);
- *June 2021* Fraternity gathers for regular meeting;
Reading of GC Article 77,1; Nominating Committee is formed;
- *July 2021* Fraternity gathers for elections of new leadership;
slate of nominees are presented;
Reading of GC Articles 78 and 79.