# The Padre Pio Reactivating Fraternity

Sponsored by the Brothers and Sisters of St. Francis Region

Newsletter Aug 2014 Volume 2, Issue 9

# Appointed Servant leaders: Spiritual Asst.:

Rev. Douglas P. Reed
Lay Minister:
Joanne Jacovec, OFS
Vice Minister:
Marguerite Zombek,
OFS
Formation:
Michael Evaniuck, OFS
Treasurer:
Stanley Driscoll, OFS
Secretary:

#### **BSSF Region:**

Frank Peluso, OFS

Minister,
Jerry Rousseau, OFS,
Area 3 Councilors:
Frank Massey, OFS,
And
Marie Stephan, OFS

Just as the council is here to help you, you also have obligations. We are asked to share whatever gifts we have to the benefit of the fraternity and the order.



I love you this much,

The gatherings are usually held In Trinity Center top floor 4th Sunday @ 1:45 pm (Subject to change.)
@ St Michael Catholic Church, 804 High House Road, Cary, NC

I promise to live all the days of my life, the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Secular Franciscan Order by observing its Rule of life. – *from the profession ritual*.



Maureen Copan, OFS; Thomas Ryan, OFS, Sharon Winzler, OFS; Suzie Nelson, OFS; Ailen Evaniuk, OFS. Congratulations to the newly professed on July 12<sup>th</sup> at the Chapel of Our Lady of the Angels.

"You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit--fruit that will last--and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you." John 15:16



"In prosperity, give thanks to God with humility and fear lest by pride you abuse God's benefits and so offend him."  $\sim$  St. Louis IX

#### JPIC News



"Immigration is a core issue for the Judeo-Christian tradition. God's concern for the migrant is recalled in Exodus. For Catholics, treatment of the stranger is paramount. As members of a Church with immigrants, and roots in immigrant churches in a nation of immigrants, we participate in Christ's mission where through love, community and friendship the stranger becomes the neighbor. In his first encyclical, Deus Caritas Est (God Is Love); Pope Benedict XVI reminds Catholics of the unbreakable connection between love of God and love of neighbor. Because God has first loved us unconditionally, we are compelled to love

we meet the person of Christ." From the JPIC Oblates

one another. And in

loving our neighbor,

Poverty calls us to sow hope.... Poverty is the flesh of the poor Jesus, in that child who is hungry, in the one who is sick, in those unjust social structures." Pope Francis

# **Franciscan Saints for August**

## 2 Our Lady of the Angels of the Portiuncula (See p 3)

3 Bl. Frederic Janssoone, priest, I Ord.

4 St. John Vianney, priest, III Ord.

7 Bls. Agathangelus and Cassian, priests and martyrs, I Ord.

8 Holy Father Dominic, priest, founder, Order of Preachers

9 Bl. John of La Verna, priest, I Ord.

# 11 St. Clare of Assisi, virgin, II Ord.

13 Bl. Mark of Aviano, priest, I Ord.

14 St. Maximilian Kolbe, priest, I Ord.

17 c III Ord.

18 Bls. John-Louis Loir, Protase Bourdon and Sebastian François, priests, martyrs of Rochefort, I Ord.

19 St. Louis of Toulouse, bishop, I Ord.

21 St. Pius X, pope, III Ord.

23 Bl. Bernard of Offida, religious, I Ord.

25 St. Louis IX, king, Patron of the Third Order This year we celebrate the "8th Centennial of the birth of St. Louis," whom the church has named patron and model of life for the "Third Order" regular and secular. On-going formation will include his life story.

27 The Seven Joys of Our Lady – The Franciscan Crown Rosary

28. Bl. Marie-Therese of the Infant Jesus, Virgin, Capuchin, martyr 1941

29. Bl. Alphonse de l'Immaculee, virgin, religious of the Third-Order Regular

30. St. Leopold de Castelnovo, Priest, Capuchin religious,

31. St. Ignatius de Loyola, Priest, had been a tertiary before founding a religious Institute.

# Overview for the Month of August 2014

The month of August is dedicated to **The Immaculate Heart of Mary**. The last portion of the liturgical year represents the time of our pilgrimage to heaven during which we hope for reward.

# The Holy Father's Intentions for the Month of August 2014

**General:** That refugees, forced by violence to abandon their homes, may find a generous welcome and the protection of their rights.

**Missionary:** That Christians in Oceania may joyfully announce the faith to all the people of that region.

(See also www.apostleshipofprayer.net)

## The Portiuncula Indulgence

The first written document we have regarding this indulgence is dated October 31, 1277, some sixty years after the indulgence is said to have been granted.

The Portiuncula is an ancient church dedicated to Mary under the title **Our Lady of the Angels** and is located in Assisi, Italy. It was a spot very dear to the heart of Saint Francis. The Porziuncola is the place where Franciscanism developed, and where Saint Francis lived and died.

The chapel, of antique construction and venerated for the apparition of Angels within it, belonged to the Benedictine monks of Subasio. It was on a piece of land called "Portiuncula" and later, the name of the land passed to the little church itself. It was abandoned for a long time and was restored by Saint Francis. It was here that he understood his vocation clearly and here that he founded the Order of the Friars Minor (1209) "establishing here his home", St. Bonaventure tells us, "because of his reverence for the angels, and of his great love of the Mother of Christ" to whom the little church was dedicated. The land and the Chapel were gifted to him by the Benedictines for making it the centre of his new religious family.

On 28 March, 1211 Clare, daughter of Favarone di Offreduccio received her religious habit here from the hands of Saint Francis and so initiated the Order of the Poor Clares. In 1216, in a vision, St Francis obtained from Jesus himself the Indulgence of the Pardon of Assisi that was approved by Pope Honorius III. This plenary indulgence may ordinarily be gained on August 2 and 15; pilgrims may gain it once a year on any day of the year.

At the Porziuncola, that was and is the centre of the Franciscan Order, St Francis assembled all the Friars in the Chapter every year to discuss the Rule and to renew their dedication to the Gospel Life. **The Chapter of Mats** (Stuoie) in 1221 was attended by more than 5000 friars.

The Porziuncola is situated now inside the Basilica of Saint Mary of the Angels in the town of the same name around 5 km from Assisi. \_\_Here he began and grew in his religious life; here he founded the Franciscan Order; here he manifested his love and great devotion to the Mother of God. When Francis knew he was dying, he requested to be brought to the Portiuncula to end his earthly life.

As we honor Our Lady of the Angels, may we find inspiration for our own growth and development in the Gospel way of life that Saint Francis embraced and lived so completely. The **Porziuncola Indulgence** could at first be gained only in the Porziuncola chapel between the afternoon of 1 August and sunset on 2 August. Pope Paul VI completely reformed the grants of indulgences, after the Second Vatican Council. His Apostolic Constitution "Indulgentiarum Doctrina" (1967), yet again confirmed the Portiuncula Indulgence.

According to the *Enchiridion Indulgentiarum*, **Catholic faithful may gain a plenary indulgence on 2 August** (the Portiuncula) or on such other day as designated by the local ordinary for the advantage of the faithful, under the usual conditions (sacramental Confession, Holy Communion, and prayer for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff), by devoutly visiting the parish church, and there reciting at least the Lord's Prayer and the Creed.

-- From the Franciscan Book of Prayer

### The King Who Was an OFS

When someone told him that there were people who were criticizing him for being so pious and attending so many prayer meetings, **St. Louis IX** answered: "I am not embarrassed by that nor will I ever be embarrassed. And I am certain that if, instead of going to those meetings to pray, I were to go to other meetings to drink, dance and having fun, then, yes, those people would say nothing. I prefer to praise my God although the people may criticize me because it is for Him that I live and for Him that I work, in Him I hope for all things." - from coifs@ciofs.org

"Servants of God, set the example! Preach by actions more than by words. Actions penetrate the heart, words slip by and are gone." ~ St Joseph of Cupertino

#### **Happy August Birthday**

Thomas Ryan 08/18 Bernie Dawson 08/27



#### **ELECTIONS COMING!**

August 24, 2014
Fraternity gathering:
Frank will make the

Frank will make the "2nd Call" for nominations.

## September 28, 2014 Fraternity gathering:

Marie Stephan OFS will conduct the council elections and Father Douglas Reed, Spiritual Assistant, will be the ecclesial witness. Additional nominations "from the floor" are made before voting begins for each council position. Only professed members may vote for: Minister, Vice Minister, Secretary, Treasurer, Formation Director and Councilors (2 or 3 may be elected).

#### Don't Forget

Sunshine: Contact Suzie
Nelson, OFS if someone is sick
or has a death in the family.
Prayer Requests: Contact
Sharon Winzeler OFS.

**Library:** To obtain books, CD's, DVD's and other materials contact Maureen Copan, OFS.

**Tri-Area Ministry:** Everyone is encouraged to donate money for the ministry, any amount you are able to offer, at our fraternity gathering.

For other important dates, Please check the Gathering Minutes



July 12<sup>th</sup> Mass of Profession Father David McBriar OFM, from St.

Francis of Assisi in Raleigh, NC
presiding with **Father Joseph Madden**OFM Conventual from St. Andrews in
Apex, NC. concelebrating.
Sacristan, Helen Miller:
Reader, Victoria Romero
Eucharistic Ministers:
Maureen Copan, OFS,
Sharon Winzler, OFS & Helen Miller.

#### **Reflections of the Newly Professed**

"As I made my permanent commitment to the Secular Franciscan Order surrounded by my family, close spiritual friends and my spiritual director celebrating the Mass and assisting in celebrating the Rite of Profession, I was filled with great joy and peace. The opportunity to live my call continues with the Holy Spirit leading the way". ~ Maureen Copan, OFS

"It has been a long spiritual journey filled with perseverance, Yearning and culminating in joy. The Lord gave me a rocky road because in His great wisdom, He knew I needed my rambling path to be made straight. Then, He could mold me despite my pride. I thank the Lord each day for my permanent profession to the OFS Rule, my spiritual family and those who will come afterwards." ~ Thomas Ryan, OFS

"I began to love St. Francis of Assisi at the age of 5 when I found out about his love of animals and he seemed so loving. Now, I know that St. Francis of Assisi valued love above all: love of self, neighbor, and imitation of Jesus, justice, peace and ecology. Through formation, I have studied Sts. Francis and Claire for 3 years. They lived in poverty; we will live in Poverty of Spirit=doing God's will for us and also not being into consumerism. I professed because this is right on!" ~ Suzie Nelson. OFS

"The Franciscan spirit of joy and love was among us on July 12. One could hear it in music and worship and see it expressed on the faces of friends and family. The profession Mass touched me with the goodness and generosity of everyone involved in the celebration." Sharon Winzler, OFS

I have always been a Franciscan by heart long before I thought of becoming a Secular Franciscan. While living in Los Angeles, I was a parishioner of a Franciscan Church, and having lived with it for seven years, that is when I knew that I was called to this way of life. Our move to Raleigh brought about the realization of that call to permanent profession. ~ Ailen Evaniuk

#### **Fraternity Comes to the Rescue**

The number of needy families in our area has significantly increased because of continuing unemployment and a reduction in state and federal programs that provide assistance to the poor and disadvantaged. Teachers are among the lowest paid in the USA, yet have to spend their own money for essential classroom necessities, including Kleenex tissues, paper towels, hand soap, disinfectant wipes, art supplies, pencils, pens/markers, copy paper, construction paper and more! We donate!