

Padre Pio Reactivating Fraternity

Sponsored by the Brothers and Sisters of St. Francis Region
Secular Franciscan Order

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BSSF Region

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Vice-Minister
Marguerite Zombek,
OFS Treasurer
Michael Evaniuck,
OFS Formation
Director
Frank Peluso
OFS Secretary



I love you this much

~ Come join us ~

The gatherings
Are usually held
In Trinity Center top
floor 4th Sunday
@ 1:30 pm
(Subject to change.)
@ St Michael
Catholic Church, 804
High House Road,
Cary, NC

New Pope's Choice of 'Francis' Has Deep Meaning for Us!

We have special interest in the new Pope; even though he is a Jesuit, he took the name Francis in honor of St. Francis of Assisi because he is a lover of the poor, according to Vatican spokesman the Rev. Tom Rosica. Also, the new pope should be known as Pope Francis, not Pope Francis I, Rosica noted. Our minister, Joanne stated, "I believe that many people from all faiths around the world will come to know our beloved Francis of Assisi now that we have a Pope Francis."

"Pope Francis stands as the figure of unity for all Catholics wherever they reside," Cardinal Dolan said in a statement released by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. "Intense prayer from all around the world surrounded the election of Pope Francis. The bishops of the United States thank God for the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the inspired choice of the College of Cardinals."

As archbishop of Buenos Aires, he reportedly rode the bus to work, did his own cooking and visited the poor in Argentine slums. Instead of living in an archbishop's palace, he chose to live in a small room in a downtown Buenos Aires home. He also washed the feet of AIDS victims. He has given us such good example in the past; we can be certain there will be more to come.



Pope Francis

The choice of the name "Francis" evoking the Gospel life, peace and friendship to the poor and outcasts presents an unambiguous message. We are praying that Pope Francis will be able to repair the church, damaged by scandal, and help usher in an era of credibility that can draw in more young and bring back those who have fallen away. And we know St. Francis was serious about living the Gospel life, So far the new Pope has set forth an example of humility and faithfulness to the teachings of Jesus Christ and we hope to follow in this example. *Picture to the left is during his sermon to the cardinals during his first mass as Pope, celebrated in the Sistine Chapel.*



April 2013 - Overview for the Month

The month of April is dedicated to **The Holy Spirit**. The entire month falls during the **Easter** season. The liturgical color is white — the color of light, a symbol of joy, purity and innocence (absolute or restored).

The Holy Father's Intentions for the Month of April 2013

General: That the public, prayerful celebration of faith may give life to the faithful.

Missionary: That mission churches may be signs and instruments of hope and resurrection in rebuilding the church.

(See also www.apostleshipofprayer.net)

Franciscan Saints for April

2 Bl. Elisabetta Vendramini, III Order worked at a girls' orphanage in her hometown in 1820 and joined the Secular Franciscan Order the following year. In 1830 she founded the Franciscan Tertiary Sisters of Saint Elizabeth of Hungary

3 St. Benedict the Moor, religious of I Order.

6 St. Crescentia Höss, III Order Bodily afflictions and pain were always with her. In the spirit of Francis she cried out, "Oh, you bodily members, praise God that he has given you the capacity to suffer."

8. Annunciation of the Lord, *Solemnity-usually Mar. 25th except when it falls during lent.*

16 St. Bernadette Soubirous of Lourdes, cord-bearer of St. Francis.

17 St. Benedict Joseph Labre, cord-bearer of St. Francis.

21 St. Conrad of Parzham, religious, I Order.

23 Bl. Giles of Assisi, religious of I Order.

24 St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, priest & martyr of I Order.

25 Bl. Pedro de San Jose Betancur, III O. He visited hospitals, jails, the unemployed, and the young. He opened Our Lady of Bethlehem, a hospital for the convalescent poor in Costa Rica. Soon after there was a shelter for the homeless, schools for the poor, an oratory, and an inn for priests

25. St. Mark the Evangelist, *Feast*

27 St. Zitta of Lucca. III Order Her daily work became a part of her religious life. She was wont to say: "A servant girl is not pious, if she is not industrious; work shy piety is sham piety."

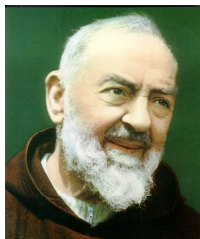
28 Bl. Luchesius, layman of III Order. lived in Tuscany in the 1200's with many similarities to St. Francis in his upbringing. He was *reputed* to be the very first Third Order Franciscan when St. Francis came to visit him and his wife.

30 Bl. Benedict of Urbino (priest)



**How to Become a
Spiritual Child of St.
Padre Pio**

"I have made a pact with the Lord: when my soul has been purified in the flames of purgatory and deemed worthy to be admitted to the presence of God, I will take my place at the gate to paradise, but I shall not enter until I have seen the last of my spiritual children enter."
St. Pio



O Saint Padre Pio,
holy bearer of the
Wounds of Christ,
accept us this day as
your spiritual
sons and daughters
and keep us
always on the narrow
path
by your intercession.
And do thou, O our
Spiritual Father,
stay there at the Gates
of Heaven until
all of your spiritual
children have entered
through, even and
including us.
Through Christ our
Lord.



**Guess the Saints
who said these quotes**

1. "In the evening of life, we will be judged on love alone."
2. "Place your mind before the mirror of eternity! Place your soul in the brilliance of glory! And transform your entire being into the image of the Godhead Itself through contemplation."
3. "Prayer is the best weapon we have; it is the key to God's heart. You must speak to Jesus not only with your lips, but with your heart. In fact on certain occasions you should only speak to Him with your heart."
4. "I asked the Mother of God what was to become of me. Then she came to me holding two crowns, one white, and the other red. She asked if I was willing to accept either of these crowns. The white one meant that I should persevere in purity, and the red that I should become a martyr. I said that I would accept them both."
5. "If things created are so full of loveliness, how resplendent with beauty must be the One who made them!"
6. "When we pray, the voice of the heart must be heard more than that proceeding from the mouth."

[Answers on last page- upside down]

DID YOU KNOW?

There is a **Padre Pio Shrine** at 3843 Bulverde Parkway, San Antonio, Texas.

Padre Pio is the official patron saint of civil defense volunteers.

For 50 years, **Padre Pio** suffered the five wounds of the crucifixion.

Padre Pio believed that "Love is the first ingredient in the relief of suffering"

Soldiers stationed in 1944 Italy said, "**Padre Pio's Mass** eclipses anything we have yet experienced in this theater of War."

Padre Pio's charism enabled him to know when someone was being deceitful in confession or simply had forgotten a serious sin, perhaps through lack of an adequate examination of conscience.

One day, a man told Padre Pio: "Father, I tell lies when I am with some friends of mine. I do it in order to make everybody happy". And **Padre Pio** said: "Oh, do you want to go to hell by joking?!"



Let us pray daily

Heavenly Father, may the prayers of our Seraphic Father, St. Francis help us to rise above our human weakness. We ask him to intercede for the material and spiritual welfare of all Franciscans: the Friars, Poor Clares, the secular ministers and spiritual assistants, and particularly the members of our Padre Pio Reactivating Fraternity.

We also pray for Franciscans in need of physical healing and strength and ask St. Francis to intercede for them ! May our living and deceased Franciscan brothers and sisters be guided into everlasting life.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever. Amen. "

(Consider dedicating one decade of your daily Rosary specifically for the intentions of everyone in our Fraternity)



Happy April Birthdays

Gene Nagy
4/12

John Pollich
4/12

Marge Zombek
4/13

“We should seek
not so much
to pray
but
to become
prayer.”
~ St. Francis of
Assisi

**Come And
See
How
Franciscans
Live Joyfully
In the World
&
Celebrate
God’s creations
@
St Michael
Catholic
Church,
804 High House
Road,
In Trinity
Center top floor
@1:30 pm
Sunday June
23, 2013
Tell your friends**

The Apostolate of Happiness

From The Theology of the Heart- Life of the Saints

Padre Pio was a man very harsh against all type of sin, but at the same time tender, jovial, and a lover of life. He was a brilliant conversationalist, with the astuteness of maintaining his listeners in suspense. He enjoyed jokes very much, and in his repertoire, there were always some that referred to soldiers, politicians, and religious. From the mouth of Padre Pio, jokes and anecdotes were not only clean humor and simple distraction, but also a type of apostolate: the apostolate of happiness and of good humor.

One hot evening when he went for a stroll as he frequently would with his spiritual brothers and sons, he recounted the following anecdote, **“One time a young juggler who was not able to sing the psalms nor pray the prayers with his brothers became a monk. As soon as the chapel was left empty, he would approach the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary and he would do pirouettes to ingratiate himself with her and the Child Jesus. One time the sacristan friar saw him and he advised the Abbot. After having observed him for a while, he was marveled upon seeing that the statue of the Virgin Mary took life. The Virgin Mary would smile and the Child Jesus would clap his little hands. Each one of us, Padre Pio would say, makes a clown of himself in the job that God has assigned us. The most ignorant friar would offer the Queen of Heaven the only thing he knew how to do, and She gladly accepted it.”**

Padre Pio also had a great love for children. When he was asked for the intercession of a baby who came with complications, or for any child who was sick, he would intercede until he obtained the grace. A chancellor whose wife’s delivery was approaching and carried many complications went to consult Padre Pio and to ask him for prayers. “Go in peace, Padre Pio told him, and no operations.” At the moment of the birth the situation became complicated and the doctors told him that if they did not operate right away they feared the chance of death of both the mother and the baby. The chancellor desperately went to the room next door where there was a photograph of Padre Pio on the wall and in front of it he began to insult and curse him. He had not finished letting everything out when he heard the cry of a baby. He ran out of his wife’s room and he found a beautiful baby boy born “without operations” to the surprise of the doctors. After some days, the chancellor went to Saint Giovanni to confess and to give thanks to Padre Pio who responded, “It is alright, but all of the mean words and insults you said in front of my photograph you do not have to repeat them again.”

Answers
1. St. John of the Cross
2. St. Clare
3. St. Padre Pio
4. St. Maximilian Kolbe
5. St. Anthony of Padua
6. St. Bonaventure