



The Padre Pio Fraternity

Sponsored by the Brothers and Sisters of St. Francis Region

February 2015

NEWSLETTER

Volume 3, Issue 4

"The storms that are raging around you will turn out to be for God's glory,
your own merit, and the good of many souls." ~ St. Pio

Corinthians 13:4-7 (NIV) 4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Happy St. Valentine's Day



Lent



"The parable of the prodigal son tells us that our Lenten penance should convert our hearts toward the relationships and obligations we have with others. Penance should be the booster rocket that brings us back into the gravitational pull and orbit of others."

~ Fr. Albert Haase, OFM

- [Ash Wednesday](#) (Wednesday, February 18, 2015)
- First Sunday of Lent (Sunday, February 22, 2015)
- Second Sunday of Lent (Sunday, March 1, 2015)
- Feast of Saint Patrick (Tuesday, March 17, 2015)
- Feast of Saint Joseph (Thursday, March 19, 2015)
- Third Sunday of Lent (Sunday, March 8, 2015)

- [The Annunciation of the Lord](#) (Wednesday, March 25, 2015)
- Fourth Sunday of Lent ([Laetare Sunday](#)) (Sunday, March 15, 2015)
- Fifth Sunday of Lent (Passion Sunday) (Sunday, March 22, 2015)
- [Palm Sunday](#) (Sunday, March 29, 2015)
- [Holy Thursday](#) (Thursday, April 2, 2015)
- [Good Friday](#) (Friday, April 3, 2015)
- [Holy Saturday](#) (Saturday, April 4, 2015)
- [Easter](#) (Sunday, April 5, 2015)

1 Peter 1:3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

+++++

Our beloved brother, Vincent McKone, OFS professed in January of 1983, was taken to eternal rest by Sister Bodily Death on January 5th 2015, in Pinehurst, NC. Vince was born December 20, 1927 in Lowell, Massachusetts to the late Peter Joseph McKone and Rose Marie Campbell McKone. He graduated in 1955 from the University of Massachusetts at Lowell and spent his career as a textile chemist in the carpeting industry. He served in the US Army during World War II. He interacted with the community as a member of the Knights of Columbus, DAV, American Legion, American Association for Textile Chemist and Colorist, and Elks. He was a lector and Eucharistic minister for 25 years at St. Anthony of Padua Church in Pinehurst. Vince was a loyal member of the Padre Pio Fraternity often traveling long distances to be with us. His joy and devotion to the Secular Francis Order and our fraternity was an inspiration for all of us, and we will greatly miss him.



Vincent McKone, OFS
December 20, 1927 ~ January 5th 2015

Franciscan Saints for February

1 St. Veridiana. (benedictine visited by St. Francis in 1211).
 1 Bl. Andrew of Segni, mystic and hermit.
 4 St. Joseph of Leonissa, priest of I Order.
 6 Sts. Peter Baptist, Paul Miki, and Comp., martyrs of I and III Order. (Opt. for SFO) On February 5, 1597, 26 Christians – four Spaniards, one Mexican, one Indian, all [Franciscan missionaries](#), three Japanese [Jesuits](#) and 17 Japanese [laymen](#) including three young boys, who were all members of the [Third Order of St. Francis](#), were executed by [crucifixion](#) in [Nagasaki](#) on the orders of [Hideyoshi Toyotomi](#). These individuals were raised on crosses and then pierced through with spears.
 7 St. Colette of Corbie, virgin of II Order.
 8 St. Giles Mary of St. Joseph I Order
 15 Transfer of the Body of St. Anthony of Padua
 19 St. Conrad of Piacenza, III Order joined a community of hermits, who were Franciscan [tertiaries](#), while his wife became a [nun](#) of the [Order of Poor Clares](#)
 27 Bl. Sebastian of Aparicio, I Order

February Devotion

February is the month dedicated to the Holy Family. Though the start of the Lenten season changes within the calendar year, a fair-sized portion of February gives us a space of time between the Christmas celebrations and the increased focus on Jesus's public life and ministry, which occurs in Lent. It is a transition from the feast of Christmas to the fasting of Lent. Therefore traditionally February has become a time to recall the Holy Family; within the Holy Family is where Jesus spent the time between his birth and embarking on his public journey.

Holy Father's Intentions for February

Universal: That prisoners, especially the young, may be able to rebuild lives of dignity.

Evangelization: That married people who are separated may find welcome and support in the Christian community.

“All the darkness in the world cannot extinguish the light of a single candle.” ~

[St. Francis of Assisi](#)

Daily Conversion: “Being a Christian is more than just an instantaneous conversion - it is a daily process whereby you grow to be more and more like Christ.” ~ [*Billy Graham*](#)

Epiphany Party at John and Marie Roccoforte's Home - January 10 , 2015



Fr. John Madden, OFM Conv., Louis Coker, Ginny Conway, Josh Champagne, Stan, Driscoll, Mike and Ailen Evaniuck, Ellen Ferrone, Dianne Greet, Ida Irwin, Joanne Jacovec, Suzie Nelson, Gracie Parrot, Susan Stamey, Sharon Winzeler, and Marge Zombek attended our Annual Epiphany Pot Luck Party at Marie and John Roccoforte's home in Apex, NC. Good food and good conversation in an delightfully holiday decorated home - who could ask for anything more.

Thank you Marie and John ♥



~~~~~

## NEXT SOCIAL GATHERING

Keep open this date for our Annual Lenten Potluck repast and prayer service at the Meadows in Raleigh on Saturday, March 21, 12-3 pm.

Our meal will include, soup, salad, bread and beverages. More information to come.



## **Our Devoted Helpers :**

- **For Hospitality, contact Marie Roccoforte**
- **For Sunshine, call Marge Zombek to have a card sent to someone.**
- **See Sharon Winzeler for info on JPIC & the Website**
- **Prayer Requests, go to Ida Irwin who also maintains our history and scrapbooks.**
- **Our superb library is maintained by Maureen Copan ~~~~~ Use it !**
- **To add items to the Newsletter contact Frank Peluso.**

## **We're on the Web!**

**Go to:**

**[http://  
ofscentralnc.org/](http://ofscentralnc.org/)**

~~~~~I  
**Next Gathering
Feb. 22, 2015
In the Trinity Center
Top floor 4th
Sunday @ 1:45 pm
(Subject to
change.)
@ St Michael Catholic
Church,
804 High House Road,
Cary, NC**

Welcome to Our New Orientees

Congratulations to Betty Pate, Chris Peffley, Ellen Ferrone, Laurie Wilburn, Lee Cunningham, Lynn Oeser, Michael Hancock, Mike Cerretti, and Sheila Read, who have opted to discern the secular Franciscan way of life. Orientation began on Sunday, January 25th. Formation starts at 11:45 in the Trinity Center Library.

St. Francis welcomed a married couple, Luchesio and Buonadonna, into the Franciscan movement and wrote a rule from which they could draw inspiration and order for the Franciscan life. They were called Brothers and Sisters of Penance and lay Catholics for about 800 years have made a life commitment and become members of what is called the Secular Franciscan Order ('secular' meaning that we are embedded in world'). There are tens of thousands of Catholic Secular Franciscans in several hundred fraternities in the US, and about a half-million around the world. Episcopalians formed the Third Order Society of St. Francis in 1950, and other Christians have joined the Franciscan movement since then. Let us pray that the Holy Spirit will guide our orientees to proper discernment for their vocation.

Reflective method for discerning our vocation:

Set aside time for daily prayer. Prayer is fundamental to the spiritual life — especially extended periods of quiet. Explore various styles of prayer. Spend time in prayer and in reading the Bible. Make it a daily practice.

Examine the script of life you're working from. The tradition that St. Francis initiated is often called a "wisdom tradition." While certainly a tradition of service, Franciscan life — indeed, all Christian life — is founded on a commitment to self-reflection and ongoing conversion. Who am I Lord? And who are you? Francis repeated these words in his nightly prayer.

In more contemporary terms, we might ask ourselves: How have I learned to live? How have I learned to make decisions, form relationships and make commitments? Who modeled these things for me? Are these models still working?

Find a Spiritual Director and meet regularly. If "spiritual director" sounds daunting, find a trusted friend or mentor to serve as your discernment companion. Work up questions together, such as Where do I want to be in ten years? What captures my imagination? What activities, settings, and possibilities make my heart sing?

Interview those who are doing the kind of work or living the kind of life you're attracted to. As you do this, don't be surprised by the good people placed in your path.

Return God's loving embrace. Pedro Arrupe, SJ, the great 20th-century Jesuit, famously counseled his fellow Jesuits: "Nothing is more practical than finding God, than falling in Love in a quite absolute, final way. What you are in love with, what seizes your imagination, will affect everything." The converse is sadly true: our relationships, service and practice of the faith will derail very quickly if we lose the spark of love. St. Francis' spirituality was founded on his deep experience of Jesus' message in John's Gospel: "As the Father loves, me, so I also love you. Remain in my love." (15:9).

By Fr. Dan Lackie, OFM, of the St. Barbara Province Franciscans.

Let us pray:

Through the intercession of St. Pio of Pietrelcina,
I confidently beseech You to grant us
the grace of proper discernment.. Amen.

POPE FRANCIS GIVES 10 TIPS TO BE A HAPPIER PERSON

Born Jorge Mario Bergoglio in Argentina, Pope Francis has lived a colorful life and is a popular religious leader known for his humility and commitment to dialogue. Taking a simpler and less formal approach to the papacy, people around the world are able to relate to The Pontiff and his positive outlook. In an interview with the Argentine publication *Viva*, The Pope issued a list of 10 tips to be a happier person, based on his own life experiences.

1. "LIVE AND LET LIVE."

Believing that everyone should be guided by this principle, The Pope refers to not judging others and letting them continue with their lives in a way that best suits them.

2. "GIVE YOURSELF TO OTHERS."

"If you withdraw into yourself, you run the risk of becoming egocentric. And stagnant water becomes putrid," The Pope elaborates, highlighting the importance of devoting time to those in need.

3. "PROCEED CALMLY IN LIFE."

Pope Francis refers to a quote from the novel *Don Segundo Sombra* by an early 20th-century Argentine writer, Ricardo Güiraldes, in which the title character looks back on how he lived his life. The novelist writes that in one's youth, a person is "a rocky stream that runs over everything," but as one gets older, one

becomes "a running river, quietly peaceful."

4. "WORK FOR PEACE."

"We are living in a time of many wars," he says, and "the call for peace must be shouted. Peace sometimes gives the impression of being quiet, but it is never quiet, peace is always proactive and dynamic."

5. "ENJOY LEISURE."

Highlighting that "consumerism has brought us anxiety", he advises parents to set aside time to play with their children and make the most of their time together without distractions such as television.

6. "FIND INNOVATIVE WAYS TO CREATE DIGNIFIED JOBS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE."

Speaking on the vulnerability of young people, Pope Francis recommends being creative with them and providing ample opportunities to ensure they stay on the right path.

7. "RESPECT AND TAKE CARE OF NATURE."

The Pope admits that environmental degradation "is one of the biggest challenges we have," and encourages



For us
Christians, love of
neighbor springs
from love of God
~ Pope Francis

humanity to treat nature with the respect it deserves.

8. "LETTING GO OF NEGATIVE THINGS QUICKLY IS HEALTHY."

Pope Francis focuses on the need to stay positive when talking about other people.

9. "DON'T PROSELYTIZE; RESPECT OTHERS' BELIEFS."

Using our beliefs to inspire others and help them grow is something that The Pope strongly encourages in order to live and a happier and healthier life.

10. "SUNDAYS SHOULD BE HOLIDAYS."

The Pope stresses the importance of rest as a tool for reinvigoration and spending quality time with the family.

Courtesy of the [Catholic News Service](#).

Spiritual Assistant:
Rev. Douglas P. Reed

Council Members:

Lay Minister:
W. Stanley Driscoll OFS
Vice Minister:
Michael Evaniuck, OFS
Formation:
Joanne Jacovec. OFS

Treasurer:
Sharon Winzeler, OFS
Secretary:
Maureen Copan. OFS

Councilors:
Suzanne Nelson, OFS
Ida Irwin, OFS
Frank Peluso. OFS

BSSF Region:

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