



Padre Pio Fraternity

Brother and Sisters of St. Francis Region

Secular Franciscan Order



Newsletter, Volume 4, Issue 6

We wish to express our condolences to Father Steve Kluge for the loss of his dear friend which caused him to postpone his talk to us concerning reflections on the San Damiano Icon.



Table of Contents

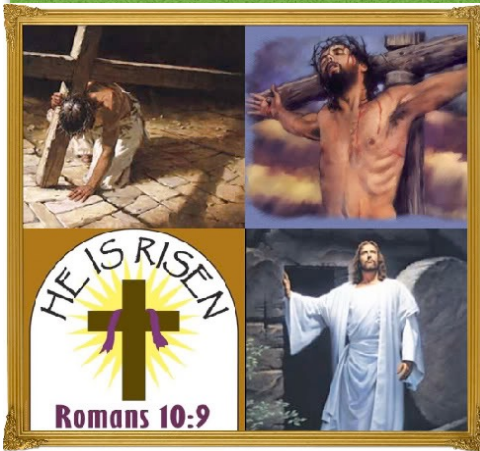
Page 1 - Easter and the Rite of Extraction
Page 2 March events
Page 3 True Self vs False Self
Page 4 Fraternity Information

May your Patron Saint for 2016, your Scripture passage, and your Franciscan Virtue guide you to increased holiness.



Your Council wishes you a prayerful end to Lent and a Joyous Easter Season.

I love you this much!



The Rite of Extraction (See Photo below by J Jacovec, OFS)

We celebrated one of the oldest traditions of the Franciscan community on February 28 which is celebrated by the First, Second and Third Orders, Religious and Secular. We believe that God speaks to us in many ways, not the least of which is through the example of his saints, through the inspired words of Scripture, and through the virtues that were exemplified by St. Francis, St. Clare, St. Pio and other saints. Each person in the Fraternity was given a Patron Saint for the year, a Scripture passage, and a Franciscan virtue to be a special source of inspiration in the challenges which will face us during the year. An example would be Blessed Raymond Lull, TOS. Martyr – Scripture from Phillipians 4:11 – “I have learned to be content with all I have.” – Virtue; “Solidarity with all of creation.”

Easter - March 27, 2015

Resurrexit! This is the joyful praise raised by the Church on the Feast of Easter inviting us to rise to new life, because the risen Jesus is alive within us, present in the Church, alive in history. Easter, however, cannot be limited to the joy of the moment: the light of the Resurrection is always present through the gift of faith which calls us to abandonment in the arms of Christ working within us. With the liberation from death, our hearts have been opened to the living Christ who asks us what we can do to bring joy and love in the world through our capacity to love and readiness to assist those suffering in body and spirit. How can we love and how much? How can we interpret and implement the virtue of charity? – *The Capuchin Friars of St. Pio Shrine and Monastery*



Stan, assisted by Inquirers Laurie, Lynn and Lee



March Birthdays

Ailen Evaniuck 03/15
Christine Murray 03/12
Suzanne Nelson 03/12
Joe Travers OFS 03/15

Pope's Intentions for March

1. Universal:

Families in Difficulty

That families in need may receive the necessary support and that children may grow up in healthy and peaceful environments.

2. Evangelization:

Persecuted Christians

That those Christians who, on account of their faith, are discriminated against or are being persecuted, may remain strong and faithful to the Gospel, thanks to the incessant prayer of the Church.

St. Patrick Parade

The Raleigh St. Patrick's Day Parade and the Wearin' 'O the Green Festival Parade celebrate the great St. Patrick and Irish and Celtic Traditions and Culture. The festival has lots of food and drink, activities for kids on Leprechaun Lane. The Irish Village will have Celtic inspired jewelry and arts and crafts. Live music will be on the Shamrock 'n Roll Stage and Pipers and Dancers will be at the Celtic Street Stage all afternoon! Hopefully some people will celebrate spiritually!



Blessed Angela Salawa

Franciscan Saints for March

2 Bl. Agnes of Bohemia, virgin, II Order. The servant of God entered the Order of St. Clare in the monastery of St. Savior at Prague, which she herself had erected. She was elected abbess of the monastery, and became in this office a model of Christian virtue and religious observance for all.

3 Bl. Liberatus Weiss, Samuele Marzorati, and Michele Pio Fasoli (Martyrs, I Order) - These three friars lived together in Ethiopia. They were stoned to death because they refused to deny their Faith. They were Franciscan missionaries of Vienna.

4. BL. Didacus Joseph of Gadiz, I Ord.

5 St. John Joseph of the Cross, I Order

9 St. Frances of Rome, religious of III Ord. -

12 Bl. Angela Salawa, III Order - At her 1991 beatification in Kraków, St. Pope John Paul II said: "It is in this city that she worked, that she suffered and that her holiness came to maturity. While connected to the spirituality of St. Francis, she showed an extraordinary responsiveness to the action of the Holy Spirit" During World War I, she helped prisoners of war without regard for their nationality or religion.

18 St. Salvator of Horta, I Order

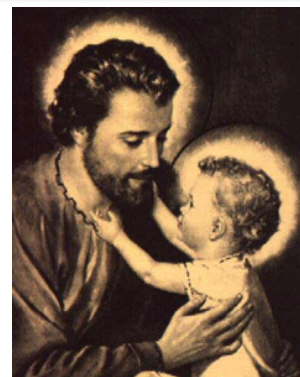
22 St. Benvenute of Osimo, I Order

23 St. Catherine of Genoa, III Order - She is best known for her "Treatise on Purgatory" . She gave tirelessly to the needs of the poor and sick.

24 Bl. Ludovico of Casoria, I Order

24 Bl. Didacus Joseph Cadiz, I Order

30 St. Peter Regaldo, I Order, thirty-,



March Dedication

March is the month of devotion to St. Joseph, whose feast falls on March 19th. The date of the solemnity of St. Joseph dates to the end of the 15th century; within the next few centuries, the entire month as a time for devotion to St. Joseph became part of tradition.

Lent Around the Breakfast Table

One of my best Lenten practices was begun when my children were in elementary school and I was a working parent. It seemed as though we were struggling to find time to eat dinner as a family and this was greatly disturbing me. I decided that if we were unable to hold the dinner hour sacred due to work schedules and after school activities, I would instead hold the breakfast hour sacred. I made sure to get up each morning during Lent just a little earlier so that I could not only provide breakfast for my family but actually sit together, pray our meal prayer and begin each day on a happy note. It began in Lent and didn't end until my children went off to college many years later. I learned that Lenten habits could carry far off into the future with my family. The impact was dramatic in that each day was started with a prayer and positive attitudes. Breakfast became and remains one of our favorite rituals of the day.

Roberta, IL - Loyola Press

THOMAS MERTON ON OUR TRUE SELF VS OUR FALSE SELF

Every one of us is shadowed by an illusory person: a false self.

This is the person that I want myself to be but who cannot exist, because God—because Truth, Light—knows nothing about him. And to be unknown to God is altogether too much privacy.

My false and private self is the one who wants to exist outside the reach of God's will and God's love— outside of reality and outside of life. And such a self cannot help but be an illusion.

We are not very good at recognizing illusions, least of all the ones we cherish most about ourselves—the ones we are born and raised with and which feed the roots of sin. For most of the people in the world, there is no greater subjective reality than this false self of theirs, which cannot exist. A life devoted to maintaining and expanding this false self, this shadow, is what is called a life of sin.

All sin starts from the assumption that my false self, the self that exists only in my own egocentric desires, is the fundamental reality of life around which everything else in the universe is ordered. Thus I use up my life in the desire for pleasures and the thirst for experiences, for power, honor, knowledge, feeling loved, in order to clothe this false self and construct its nothingness into something objectively real. And I wind experiences around myself and cover myself with pleasures and glory like bandages in order to make myself perceptible to myself and to the world, as if I were an invisible body that could only become visible when something visible covered its surface.

To be a saint means to be my true self. Therefore the problem of sanctity and salvation is in fact the problem of finding out who I truly am and of discovering my true self, my essence or core.

Trees and animals have no problem. God makes them what they are without consulting them, and they are perfectly satisfied.

With us it is different. God leaves us free to be whatever we like.

We can be ourselves or not, as we please. We are at liberty to be real, or to be unreal. We may be true or false, the choice is ours. We may wear now one mask and now another, and never, if we so desire, appear with our own true face.

But we cannot make these choices with impunity.

Causes have effects, and if we lie to ourselves and to others, then we cannot expect to find truth and reality whenever we happen to want them.

If we have chosen the way of falsity we must not be surprised that truth eludes us when we finally come to need it and that confusion reigns.

ST. PADRE PIO'S BODY TAKEN TO ROME

February 2016 (CNA/EWTN News).- The partially incorrupt body of Padre Pio has arrived in Rome for the first time ever alongside that of another friar, St. Leopold Mandic, as a special initiative for the Jubilee of Mercy. Urns containing the relics of Saint Padre Pio of Pietrelcina and Saint Leopold Mandic arrived in Rome's Basilica of St. Lawrence Outside the Wall on February 3. Their remains were processed to Saint Peter's Basilica at a later date. Both saints lived during the same time period, and were both canonized by St. John Paul II. Perhaps one of the biggest highlights of having their relics in St. Peter's is that they were present for the February 10 commissioning of the Jubilee Missionaries of Mercy, for Ash Wednesday Mass with the Pope inside the Basilica. "The desire of the Holy Father was to give all the priests in the world, but especially to the Missionaries of Mercy, a sign," he said, adding that "Where can we find a better sign of sanctity, of holiness, of dedication, total dedication to confession (than) in Padre Pio and in Padre Leopoldo?"

- condensed from an article by Elise Harris

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Spiritual Assistant: David McBriar,
OFM

Lay Minister: W. Stanley Driscoll,
OFS

Vice Minister: Michael Evaniuck,
OFS

Formation: Joanne Jacovec, OFS

Treasurer: Sharon Winzeler, OFS

Secretary: Maureen Copan, OFS

Councilors: Ida Irwin, OFS .

Suzanne Nelson, OFS, Frank
Peluso, OFS

BSSF Region

Appointed Minister: Dorothy Ann
Rowland, OFS

Area 3 Councilors : Carmen

Madero, OFS , Frank Massey,
OFS

APOSTLATES

For CPO contact Maureen
Copan, OFS

For Oak City Outreach
Contact Ellen Ferrone

For Hospitality
suggestions see Marie
Roccoforte, OFS.

For Sunshine call Marge
Zombek, OFS to have a
card sent to someone.

For info on JPIC &
Website see Sharon
Winzeler, OFS

Prayer Requests:
go to Ida Irwin OFS

Ida Irwin, OFS does our
scrapbook.

Newsletter see Frank
Peluso, OFS

NEXT GATHERING

March 20, 2016
The Catholic Community
of
St. Francis of Assisi
Leesville Rd,
Raleigh, NC 27613

FORMATION

In the
Lifelong Education
Siena Center
Rooms 751 and 752
Meets from 11:00 am
to 12:15 pm

FRATERNITY GATHERING

at 1:00 to 3:00 pm
Anthony Hall,
in the
Founders Room

We are on the web at:
<http://ofscentralnc.org/>
(Past newsletters
are on the website!)

Important Upcoming Events

May 22, 2016: Rite of Admission at Fraternity Gathering at St. Francis of Assisi, Raleigh, NC, on the 4th Sunday of May, 2016

June 25, 2016, 11:00 AM Rite of Profession at Our Lady of the Angels Chapel, Mass celebrated by Fr. David McBriar, OFM, followed by a reception at 12:30 PM in the Assisi Community Center, Padua Room

June 30 - July 4, 2016: Secular Franciscan Quinquennial Gathering, St Louis, Missouri. As St. Francis gathered the friars for a Chapter of Mats, the Secular Franciscan Order gathers every five years in a National Congress.

"CONTEMPLATION IS A FRANCISCAN CHARISM." ~ ILIA DELIO. OSF



"Hey! — are you
eating again *already*?"

"Oh, yeah — I
fast really fast!"

A smile for you: A little boy was listening to a long and excessively boring sermon in church. Suddenly the red sanctuary lamp caught his eye. Tugging his father's sleeve, he said, "Daddy, when the light turns green can we go?"