

Padre Pio Fraternity – Newsletter

Secular Franciscan Order

Brother and Sisters of St. Francis Region.

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THE TRANSITUS

From the earliest days of the Franciscan Order, the followers of St. Francis have gathered on the anniversary of his death to celebrate his Transitus, that is, St. Francis' passage from earthly life to the Father. On October 3, 2017, we gather in the Chapel of Saint Mary of the Angels to celebrate the light which Francis was to his world. It is also a celebration of the spirit of Francis in our midst today, in each of us. This is a time, when we, inspired by Francis, consider how we can be light for others and to fulfill our call to be the presence of Christ in the world.

Looking forward to seeing you at St. Francis of Assisi Church, in Saint Mary of the Angels Chapel at 7:00 p.m. on Oct. 3. A reception will follow in the Assisi Community Center, Padua Room (building adjacent to the Chapel). Friends and family are welcome!



CEREMONY OF SPONSORSHIP SEPTEMBER 24, 2017

As Christ sent out his disciples two by two, the sponsors have been chosen to share their Franciscan life with an Inquirer through prayer, study, apostolate, dialogue and leisure. Together they will experience the fullness of the Franciscan family, grow spiritually in God's presence and embrace living and proclaiming the Gospel in the spirit of our Seraphic Father, Saint Francis, who also sent his friars out two by two - Jeanne Casciere with Joanne Jacovec, OFS, Jonathan Jones with Joe Travers, OFS, Joan Monti with Marie Roccoforte, OFS, Michael Oeser with Lee Cunningham, Alexandra Rommel with Dianne Greet, OFS, Anna Rzewnicki with Suzie Nelson, OFS, Deacon Phil Rzewnicki with Ellen Ferrone, OFS, David Shick with Louis Coker, OFS, Ben Whitehouse with Theresa Flynn, OFS, & Gladys Whitehouse with Lynn Oeser, OFS.



Photo by M. Hancock, OFS

THE MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY AND THE HOLY ANGELS

October is the month of the Rosary, because of the anniversary of victory at the Battle at Lepanto and the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary occurring in October. The Battle of Lepanto and the institution of the feast day took place in the seventeenth century; in the late 1800s, Pope Leo XIII officially dedicated the entire month to devotion to the Holy Rosary. In war, whether it has lasted for a few years or recurs over centuries, one battle can be the turning point. October 7, 1571, the Battle of Lepanto, was a major turning point in the ongoing conflicts between Europe and the Ottoman Empire. The Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary now falls on October 7, but was originally celebrated under the name Our Lady of Victory. The feast was declared soon after this battle, due to the Virgin's intercession, as implored by Pope Pius V.



THE HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS FOR OCTOBER

Workers and the Unemployed: That all workers may receive respect and protection of their rights, and that the unemployed may receive the opportunity to contribute to the common good.

HAPPY OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Mary Connor, OSC
10/02

Deacon Phil Rzewnicki
10/18



May God grant you always...
A sheltering angel,
So nothing can harm you.
God and his angels close at hand.
Friends and family their love impart,
And (Franciscan) blessings in your heart!

PADRE PIO MOMENTS

A woman named Alma De Concini had completely put herself into the Padre's hands to be led to God; here is her testimony:

"Padre Pio was confessing the women and I was in the church at three or four meters from him. That day I definitely would not have had the chance to speak to him, so I spoke to him interiorly, saying: *"Father, send me a blessing. I really need one."*

I had just finished expressing my wish when I saw the Saint move from the confessional window grate which hid his face; he looked directly at me and then made the sign of the cross. Then he turned back and bowed his head once more to continue confessing."

(Testimony of Alma De Concini, Terzolas, Italy, July 23, 1995)

Council Members**Spiritual Assistant:**

Gregory Spuhler, OFM Conv

Minister:

Frank Peluso, OFS

Vice Minister:

Suzanne Nelson, OFS

Formation Director:

Sharon Winzeler, OFS

Appointed Treasurer

Louis Coker, OFS

Secretary:

Maureen Copan, OFS

Appointed Councilors:

Victoria Romero, OFS

Marge Zombek, OFS

BSSF Region Minister:

Dorothy Ann Rowland, OFS

Area 3 Councilors :

Bob Pearson, OFS

Carolyn Peruzzi, OFS

APOSTOLATES**For JPIC & Oak City Outreach,**

Email Ellen Ferrone, OFS

(Oak City is 8/26/17)

For CPO or Library:

Email Maureen Copan, OFS

For Hospitality:

Email Marie Roccoforte, OFS

For Prayer Requests:

Email Laurie Wilburn, OFS

For the Scrapbook: Email

Lee Cunningham, OFS

For Sunshine:

Call Marge Zombek, OFS

For the Newsletter: Email

Frank Peluso, OFS

For the Website: Email

Michael Hancock, OFS.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI AND THE HUMAN SKULL HE CARRIED**By John Francis Carey**

Children are taught about the St. Francis of Assisi that loves the birds, the deer and the bunny rabbits. But when we grow a little older, we often more clearly see the St. Francis of Assisi with a human skull nearby.

“When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me.” (1 Corinthians 13:11)



Saint Francis used to sometimes put his skull on the breakfast table before his brothers came to their morning meal. It is said he often stressed the temporary nature of our life on earth.

“For this world is not our permanent home; we are looking forward to a home yet to come.” (Hebrews 13:14)

In *The Canticle of Brother Sun and Sister Moon*, St. Francis wrote:

‘Be praised, my Lord, for Sister Death,’ and he sees in Sister Death the priestess of God because it’s the one that takes us to Him, the one that brings us into the fullness with Him. So for him, death is to be embraced because it is the one who takes us to the Lord... Who on our earth today embraces death? Nobody. But “death is part of life” people say. So what are we afraid of? (Picture of the Statue of St. Francis with a skull in the new Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral in Raleigh, NC.)

For the full article, go to: <https://johnib.wordpress.com/2013/10/04/st-francis-of-assisi-and-the-human-skull-he-carried-death-is-part-of-our-journey/>

CATHOLIC DIOCESES OF RALEIGH INSTALLS FIRST LATINO BISHOP AUG 29, 2017

Catholics in the Diocese of Raleigh filled the 2,000-seat Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral on Tuesday to install their new bishop, Luis Rafael Zarama. On behalf of the Pope, Christopher Pierre, the Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, presented the mandate that appointed Zarama the new Bishop. Zarama took the document, held it above his head and walked around the church with it so all could see.

At times since his appointment, it seemed as though Zarama couldn’t believe he was being given such a responsibility, and he continued to appear humble on Tuesday.

Zarama stood away from the pulpit; he said he wanted to be closer to people. He gave a brief homily based loosely on the life and death of John the Baptist. He then repeated the message in Spanish. Some of our members were blessed to be at evening vespers and the installation.

NEXT GATHERING IS OCTOBER 22, 2017**We are on the web at:****<http://ofscentralnc.org>**

“I Have Done What Is Mine to Do; May Christ Teach You Yours.” ~ St. Francis

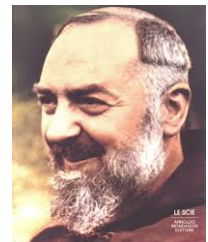
OCTOBER - FRANCISCAN SAINTS

1. Bl. Nicolas of Forca, Priest, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1449
2. Bl. Antoine Chevrier, Priest, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1879
3. St. Marie-Joseph Tossello, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1880
- 4. Solemnity of our Seraphic Father St. Francis, d. 1226, Plenary Indulgence for tertiaries and cordbearers**
6. St. Mary Frances of the Five Wounds, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular
7. Feast of the Holy Rosary
8. St. Bridget of Sweden, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1373
9. Bl. Marie-Angele Truszkowska, Virgin, religious of the Third-Order Regular d. 1899
10. St. Francois Borgia, Priest, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1572; and St. Daniel and Companions, Religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, Martyrs, d. 1227
12. St. Seraphin of Montegrano, lay brother, Capuchin religious, d. 1604
13. Bl. Pacifique de Valence, lay brother, Capuchin religious, martyr 1936
14. St John of Dukla, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, martyr 1936
15. Bl. Sebastien de Jesus, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1734
16. Bl. Anicet de Dbrzno, Priest, Capuchin religious, martyr, 1941
17. Bl. Balthassar of Chiavari, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1490
18. Bl. James of Strepar, Bishop, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1409
19. St. Peter of Alcantara, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1512
20. Bl. Contardo Ferrini, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1902
21. Bl. Martyrs of Polonais, d. 1941-42
22. Bl. John Baptist Bullaker, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, martyr 1642
24. Bl. Josephine Leroux, Virgin, the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, martyr 1794
25. Bl. Maria Veronica Maria Ferragut, Bl. Maria Felicidad Maria Ferragut, and Bl. Jesus Maria Ferragut, Virgins, Capuchin religious, Martyrs 1936
27. Bl. Bonaventure of Potenza, Priest, Conventual religious, d. 1711
29. Bl. Thomas of Florence, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1447
30. Bl. Angelo of Acre, Priest, Capuchin religious, d. 1739
31. Bl. Christophe de Cahors, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1272

QUOTES

“Since Jesus Christ rose immortal to a life of glory, we must say with St. Paul that we too must rise immortal in the life of grace, firmly resolved to never again subject our souls to spiritual death.” - *St. Pio*

“The world would have peace if only men of politics would follow the Gospels” - *St. Bridget of Sweden*



CONGRATULATIONS
Sixty-Second Anniversary
of her Profession
Ida Irwin, OFS
October 9, 1955



CPO REQUEST FOR HELP

Maureen received an email from Terry Foley, director of CPO, regarding the **Kids Everywhere Consignment Sale**. The largest supplier of donated children's clothing to CPO comes from this consignment sale. Volunteers are needed to prepare the clothing, shoes, books and infant accessories for easy transport to CPO. Maureen will send an email to all fraternity members with the dates, times and contact information.

5 THINGS WE CAN LEARN FROM ST. PIO

Here are five quotes of his that we can apply to our lives and learn from every day.

1. "You don't have to be worthy, you only have to be willing."

It can be easy to feel unworthy to hold a certain position or be put in charge of a task. Padre Pio reminds us that we need only be *willing* to

accept the challenge. We do not have to be perfect by any means. The Lord only requires that we say *yes*.

2. "God will never permit anything to happen to us that is not for our greater good."

This is a difficult reality to swallow, especially when we do not receive an outcome we had hoped for. But it's a great reminder of Romans 8:28: "We know that all things work for good for those who love God..." God knows what He is doing, after all, and He holds each and every one of us in the palm of His hand. We simply need to trust in His ways, as hard as that may be.

3. "God will always give us more than we deserve."

What great encouragement! Once we hand God the reins, He often has a funny way of returning the favor by blessing us more than we could ever have imagined.

4. "Serve the Lord with laughter."

This is self-explanatory. *Laugh. Be joyful. Smile.* We never know whose day we might make by a simple laugh, smile, or kind word.

5. "Pray, hope, don't worry. Worry is useless. God is merciful and will hear your prayers."

"Pray, hope, and don't worry" is probably Padre Pio's most famous saying; however, we do not often hear the second part, which is: "Worry is useless. God is merciful and will hear your prayer."

By Catherine McManamon

**REMEMBER DAILY TO SAY THE
 ELECTION PRAYER ASKING THE
 HOLY SPIRIT FOR GUIDANCE**

LABOR DAY - OAK CITY OUTREACH CENTER, DOWNTOWN RALEIGH

Joan Monti helped serve the morning and did a hand off to myself and Friar Greg Spuhler, OFM Conventual who were coming in for the afternoon meal. We were joined by Victoria Romero OFS. What a great place to be with the Community. The morning meal served 288 guests. Joan was really busy! The afternoon meal served 194 guests. Friar Greg, Victoria and I "worked the crowd" well; we helped carry meals, hand out salt and pepper, always a good ice breaker for meal time conversation and then helped clean up the Center. What a joyful afternoon! *By Ellen Ferrone, OFS JPIC Animator*



Photo by J. Romero



LET'S HELPS OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS

As with last year's catastrophe in the Baton Rouge area, the NEC is establishing a "Flooding Victims" Fund to provide "direct aid" to **fraternity members** severely affected within these two regions. Donations can be made to NAFRA with a notation "for victims of flood" and sent to the National Treasurer, Jerry Rousseau, OFS – 82 Kim Street – Blairsville, GA 30512



Photo by M. Hancock, OFS

September Birthday Celebration
Mike, Jeanne, Maureen Ellen, and Ben.



Photo by J. Jacovec, OFS

September Ongoing Formation
Dianne and Suzie presenting "Prayer"

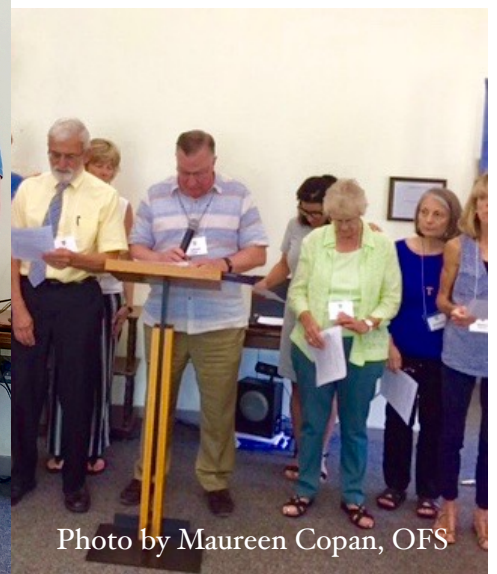


Photo by Maureen Copan, OFS

Sponsorship Ceremony
Louis reading Ephesians, 4