



THE PADRE PIO FRATERNITY
SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER
THE BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS REGION



YOUR COUNCIL WISHES YOU A HOLY NEW YEAR

LOOKING FORWARD TO NEW LEADERS WITH READY AND WILLING SPIRITS
A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Many elections are crucial undertakings. The outcome points to the strength or survival of the fraternity. Some people are uncertain about being nominated for office. If one is nominated for an office, that person is called by the Holy Spirit to use his/her gifts. There is a particular Franciscan way of discerning servant leadership.

Francis always used the term “minister” or “servant.” Minister by definition is one who attends to the needs of, cares for, takes care of, looks after, nurses, treats, attends to, sees to, administers to, or helps, (all this for the fraternity or an individual member). And, servant means “a person who performs duties for others.” Therefore, Servant Leadership is a philosophy and set of practices that enriches the lives of individuals, builds better structures and eventually creates a more just and caring world. The servant leader is always servant first. The service begins with the unconscious feeling that one wants to serve, and to serve first. St. Francis and St. Clare led by example!

They are our models! The many ways they led their early followers to live the Gospel life shows us how the saints were able to put the message of the Gospel into action. Their relationship with God attracted others to want to have the same type of relationship. It was their joyful, courageous, and uplifting lifestyle that shined brightly before everyone. In studying their lives, we are able to know how to lead others. That is why they are our models and our OFS Rule guides our way.

Article 21 of our Rule states, “On various levels, each fraternity is animated and guided by a council and minister who are elected by the professed according to the constitutions. Their service, which lasts for a definite period, is marked by a **ready and willing spirit** and is a duty of responsibility to each member and to the community. Within themselves the fraternities are structured in different ways according to the norm of the constitutions, according to the various needs of their members and their regions, and under the guidance of their respective council.”

We look forward to that “ready and willing spirit” in our newly elected council! So be it. So be it. Amen. (January 28, 2018 - Chapter of Elections)

“RENEWED AND CONFIRMED: LIVE THE TREASURE!”

Celebrating 40 years of our OFS Rule

National Secular Franciscan Fraternity Theme for 2018

JANUARY 2018 – OVERVIEW FOR THE MONTH

The month of January is dedicated to the **Holy Name of Jesus**, which is celebrated on January 3. The first eight days of January fall during the liturgical season known as **Christmas** which is represented by the liturgical color white. The remaining days of January are the beginning of Ordinary Time. The liturgical color changes to green — a symbol of the hope of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven, especially the hope of a glorious resurrection.

HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY 2018

Evangelization: Religious Minorities in Asia - That Christians, and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practice their faith in full freedom

FRANCISCAN SAINTS FOR JANUARY

- 3 Holy Name of Jesus.
- 4. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
- 5 Bl. Diego José of Cádiz (priest)
- 5. St. John Newman
- 6. The Epiphany of the Lord
- 7 Bl. Angela of Foligno, religious, III Ord.
- 8 Bl. Eurosia Fabris, III Order
- 12 St. Bernard of Corleone, religious, I Ord.
- 14 Bl. Odoric of Pordenone, priest, I Order.
- 16 Sts. Berard, priest, and companions, protomartyrs
- 18 St. Charles of Sezze, I Order
- 19 Bl. Thomas of Cori was surely - as is said of St. Francis - not so much a man who prayed as a man who became prayer.
- 20 St. Eustochia Calafato II Order
- 21. St. Agnes
- 24. St. Francis de Sales
- 27 St. Angela Merici, virgin, III Ord., founder.
- 28. St. Thomas Aquinas
- 30 St. Hyacinth of Mariscotti, virgin, III Order.
- 31 St. John Bosco, priest, III Order, founder.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY
Dianne Greet, OFS
January 11



A birthday is just the first day of another 365-day journey around the sun.
Enjoy the trip. ~Author unknown

PADRE PIO'S COUNCILS

Do not put off till tomorrow what you can do today. It's easy enough to be wise after an event, besides, who can assure us that we will be alive tomorrow? Let us listen to the voice of our conscience and to the voice of the royal prophet: "Today if you hear the voice of the Lord, do not turn a deaf ear." Let us arise and make use of the fleeting moment which alone is ours. Let us not put off from one moment to another because the latter is not yet ours. (Letters IV)

PADRE PIO MOMENTS

Once in the monastery of Padre Pio, a friar forgot to consecrate the Hosts for Holy Communion. There were only a few Hosts available. But after confessions when Padre Pio started to distribute Hosts to the people, many Hosts remained at the end of the service, more than had been consecrated before. (Padre Pio Found.)

PADRE PIO QUOTE

I want to be only a poor friar who prays. If God sees blemishes even in the angels, can you imagine what He sees in me!

St. Pio



PRAY FOR OUR NEW SERVANT LEADERS TO BE!



Apostolates

For **CPO or Library**
Email Maureen Copan, OFS

For **Hospitality** Email
Marie Roccoforte, OFS

For **JPIC & Oak City**
Outreach, Email Ellen
Ferrone, OFS
(Oak City 1/20/18)

For **Prayer Requests**
Email Joe Travers, 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.

We are on the web at:
<http://ofscentralnc.org>

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Gatherings for 2018

January 28, 2018
February 25, 2018
March 25, 2018
April 22, 2018
May 20, 2018
June 24, 2018
July 22, 2018
August 26, 2018
September 23, 2018
October 28, 2018
November 18, 2018
December 1, 2018

Times
Initial Formation
11:00 – 12:15
Fraternity Gathering
1:00 – 3:00



I love you this much!

Outgoing Council

Spiritual Assistant:
Friar 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:
DorothyAnn Rowland, OFS

Area 3 Councilors :
Bob Pearson, OFS
Carolyn Peruzzi, OFS



2017 WAS A VERY GOOD YEAR!





December 6, 2017

From Left to right;
Ellen Ferrone, OFS
Theresa Flynn, OFS
Lynn Oeser, OFS
Lee Cunningham, OFS
Michael Hancock, OFS
Chris Peffley, OFS



OUR MOST JOYOUS OCCASION OF 2017

Over 140 persons attended the Profession of the six above and Father Steve Kluge, OFM of St. Francis Church, Raleigh celebrated the Mass. Father Thanh N. Nguyen, Pastor of St. Matthew Catholic Church in Durham concelebrated with him. We owe thanks to Jim Wahl who provided the music and Jennifer Fiduccia who was the cantor. Also to, Marion Monti who was the sacristan and Victoria Romero, OFS who was the reader. The presence of our Regional Counselor, Bob Pearson, OFS was very much appreciated. We were also happy to see our former Minister, Stan Driscoll, OFS in attendance. The exquisite spread of food for the reception was provided for and served by the inquirers. Joan Monti made beautiful center pieces. This certainly was our most joyous occasion of 2017. Thanks be to God.



Happy New
Year!



The Pope Says New Year Calls for Courage, Hope; no more Hatred, or Selfishness,

*By Carol Glatz Catholic News Service
1,1,2017 12:01 PM ET*

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Whether the new year will be good or not depends on us choosing to do good each day, Pope Francis said. "That is how one builds peace, saying 'no' to hatred and violence -- with action -- and 'yes' to fraternity and reconciliation," he said Jan. 1, which the church marks as the feast of Mary, Mother of God and as World Peace Day.

Speaking to the some 50,000 pilgrims gathered in St. Peter's Square for the first noon Angelus of 2017, the pope referred to his peace day message in which he asked people to adopt the "style" of **nonviolence** for building a politics for peace. (For more go to Catholic News Service on line.)

NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS FOR EVERY NEW YEAR

1. Read and meditate on a Rule each day.
2. Make time for spiritual reading and contemplation
3. Make good stewardship a lifestyle; volunteer at CPO or Oak City Outreach Center.
4. Share your Catholic faith with others; wear your Tau
5. Take special care of the environment; recycle, write your elected officials concerning issues
6. Go to daily Mass when possible.
7. Pray the rosary as Padre Pio said, "It is the weapon for our time."
8. Learn about and pray with your patron saint from the Rite of Extraction.
9. Keep in touch with the person you sponsor at least once a month.
10. Manage your time and talent so that the fraternity takes priority in your schedule.

YEARNING FOR THE NEW BY NEALE DONALD WALSCH

Yearning for a new way will not produce it.

Only ending the old way can do that.

You cannot hold onto the old,

All the while declaring that you want something new.

The old will defy the new;

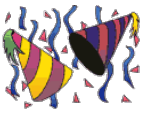
The old will deny the new;

The old will decry the new.

There is only one way to bring in the new.

You must make room for it.

QUOTES FOR THE NEW YEAR



If God seems far away, who moved? - AA

Above all the grace and the gifts that Christ gives to his beloved is that of overcoming self. - Francis of Assisi

The secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but building the new. - Socrates

"And acceptance is the answer to all my problems today. When I am disturbed, it is because I find some person, place, thing, or situation "some fact of my life" unacceptable to me, and I can find no serenity until I accept that person, place, thing, or situation as being exactly the way it is supposed to be at this moment." —AA

Do not dwell in the past, do not dream of the future, concentrate the mind on the present moment. - Buddha

"I can do all things through Him who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13 NASB)

IMPORTANT DATES – MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- **January 13, 2018 - Council Meeting,** Anthony Hall, Room 402.
- **January 28, 2018 - Chapter of Elections -** Friar Greg Spuhler, OFM Conv., Bob Pearson, OFS, and Carmen Madero, OFS.
- **February 25, 2018 - Rite of Extraction and** guest speaker, Father Jim Sabac, OFM.
- **February 2018 - Workshop and Retreat for** newly elected council officers before February 26 (Date and place to be announced.)
- **May 5, 2018 - Picnic at Bond Park in Cary,** in the Bueler Shelter from 11:30-1:30. Please bring a dish to share.
- **May 19, 2018 - BSSF Regional Formation Workshop,** 9 am - 2 pm in the Founders Room. Facilitator: Dianne Ambrose, OFS

Wow! Theresa Flynn's family and friends filled 50 Christmas stockings for the Salvation Army, and had a huge bounty of leftover items that were shared with refugee children.