



THE PADRE PIO FRATERNITY NEWSLETTER.



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

**Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy,
it does not boast, it is not proud. - 1 Corinthians 13:4**

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BSSF Region Minister:
DorothyAnn Rowland, OFS

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

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

Next Gathering
02/24/2019
St. Francis Church
In The Founders Room

Fr. Steve Kluge, OFM



Fr. Steve Kluge, OFM Associate Pastor at The Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi in Raleigh has generously accepted our invitation to be our Spiritual Assistant. He has been approved by our council and the region, and is also approved by Fr. Gene Pistacchio, OFM - Spiritual Assistant of the Holy Name Province. We are extremely fortunate and grateful for his presence.

Ongoing Formation January 27, 2019

Fr. Steve kicked off our ongoing formation for 2019 which will be concerned with Ilia Delio, OSF's book *Franciscan Prayer*. He is a personal friend of Sister Ilia. Steve stressed that union is not the goal of relationship with God, rather the goal is imitation. It is to make Jesus Christ alive in the believer. He then gave a summary of the seven characteristics of prayer in St. Francis' life. For him Christ is the key; he prays to the Father whom he names all good, and supremely good. Christ is



also the key to St. Clare's prayer life before the San Damiano Cross. In one of her letters to Agnes of Prague, she recorded that we must gaze, consider (we do the work) contemplate (God does the work). This has as its goal the desire to imitate Christ. Bonaventure's view of prayer can be found in his book *The Five Feasts of Christ* whereas Spiritual Motherhood is the key. He reflected on the liturgical feasts that highlight Jesus' childhood—Annunciation, Nativity, Holy Name, Epiphany and Presentation. It occurred to him that like Mary, a human person can also conceive, birth, name, search for Jesus with the Magi and present the Child Jesus back to God. For all three saints, the goal is the same - **the imitation of Christ**. This is our year of Franciscan Prayer. Many thanks to Steve!



Apostolates

For **JPIC & Oak City Outreach**, Email Ellen Ferrone, OFS

(OCOC is 02/23/2019)

For CPO or Library:
Email Maureen Copan, OFS

For Hospitality:
Email Gladys Whitehouse, OFS

For Prayer Requests:
Email Joanne Jacovec, 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
Sharon Winzeler, OFS



I love you this much!

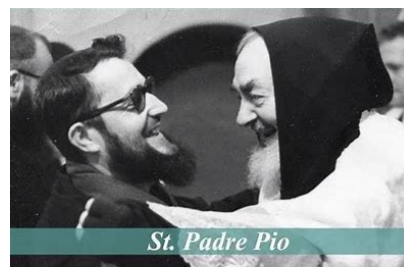


Some Miracles of St. Padre Pio

There was a gentleman whose left knee was swollen and in great pain for many days. The doctor told him the situation was very dire and prescribed to him a lengthy series of injections. Prior to beginning the treatment, the man went to confession to Padre Pio. He asked Padre Pio to pray for him. The man recounted, "When I was leaving San Giovanni Rotondo that afternoon, the pain disappeared. I observed my knee and noted it was not swollen anymore! Both my legs were now normal. So I immediately ran to Padre Pio in order to thank him. He said: 'You do not have to thank me, but you have to thank God!'"

In 1950, a man's mother-in-law was taken to a hospital for an operation. The mother-in-law had breast cancer. After the initial operation, it was necessary to operate on the right breast some months later. Unfortunately, due to the dissemination of the cancer cells in her body, the doctors informed her that she would not live more than four months. The man immediately went to Rotondo and waited for confession with Padre Pio. He asked Padre Pio to help his wife's mother and heal her. The man recounted, "Padre Pio sighed long twice and said: 'We have to pray, everybody has to pray.' She will recover!" It happened! In fact, my mother-in-law recovered after her operation and she went by herself to San Giovanni Rotondo to thank Padre Pio who smiling told her: 'Go in peace, my daughter! Go in peace!'" Instead of four months, his mother-in-law lived for nineteen more years.

One of Padre Pio's miracles occurred in 1953, to a lady with abdomen problems. She had a medical check-up and x-rays because of pains in the abdomen she was experiencing. After some investigation, she learned that an immediate operation was necessary. A friend of the lady, who knew of her problem, suggested to her: "write a letter to Padre Pio in order to ask for his prayers and help". The woman received an answer in which Padre Pio suggested that she go to the hospital—he would pray for her there. She went to the hospital and again had a medical check-up and x-rays just before the operation. The same doctors were astonished to find she no longer had the serious illness anymore. After forty years the woman is still grateful to Padre Pio for his help. *From The Padre Pio Foundation*



Joy, with peace, is the sister of charity. Serve the Lord with laughter.





The Pope's Intention for February 2019

Universal – Victims For a generous welcome to the victims of human trafficking, enforced prostitution, and violence.



Happy February Birthdays

2 Joan Monti, OFS
11 Michael Hancock, OFS
20 Sister Kathleen Ann Horvat, OSC



Matthew - 36 "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" 37 Jesus replied: " **'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'** 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: **'Love your neighbor as yourself.'** 40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

The month of February is dedicated to the Holy Family.



The Holy Family is the name given to the family unit of Jesus: The Divine Son of God Jesus, his mother the Virgin Mary, and his foster-father Joseph. Devotion to the Holy Family is a recent development, but one that naturally grows out of a love for Jesus and his family. The Holy Family month is a good time to remember the family unit and pray for our human and spiritual families. We also may take this month to reflect on the value and sanctity of the family unit, and to evaluate our own family life. We also think of the love that emanates from the Holy Family to our own families. This year, February falls during the liturgical season known as Ordinary Time because Lent begins March 6 this year. *From Various Sources*

Secular Franciscan Saints for February

- 3. Martyrs of Japan, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, lay brothers and Franciscan Third Order Secular
- 6. Bl. Pius IX, Pope, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d.1878 - The Pope who defined the dogma of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
- 7.. Bl. Alojzije Stepinac, Bishop, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1960
- 12. Bl. Andre Ferrari, Bishop, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1921
- 16. Bl. Veridiana, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1242
- 18. St. Bernadette Soubirous, Virgin, cordbearer, d. 1879
- 19. St. Conrad de Plaisance, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1351
- 21. St. Margaret of Cortona, penitent, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1297, She served the sick poor without recompense,
- 24. Bl. Innocent XI, Pope, known as the "Saviour of Hungary" Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1689
- 26. Bl. Antonia of Florence, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1533



Gathering Jan.27, 2019 – Rite of Extraction

Did you know that a Saint for the whole year is an old tradition for the beginning of each new year in the Franciscan family?



At the beginning of each year in the world there is the race to rely on “luck” with the purchase of lottery tickets for local or national, and even international drawings, remaining in agonizing wait for the extraction of the winning numbers.

For us of course this does not happen. Indeed we have an original lottery: an “extraction of patron saints.” As our formation director, S. Lynn Oeser, OFS called us by name, we selected a saint from David Shick, OFS’s basket, a virtue from Ben Whitehouse, OFS’s basket, and a spiritual saying from Michael Oeser, OFS’s basket. Then read them aloud as we see Joanne Jacovec. OFS reading her’s in the picture. We were given an envelope by Lynn to put them and in which we found the name of a prayer partner for the year. What a wonderful way to start the new year.

“Follow the saints because those who follow them will become saints.” St. Clement I

“The saints have always been the source and origin of renewal in the most difficult moments in the Church’s history.” - St. John Paul II

"We become what we love and who we love shapes what we become." ~ Clare of Assisi

THE SHEMA ~ (Deuteronomy 6:4-9)

Hear, O Israel, the Lord is our God,
the Lord is One.

Blessed is the Name of His glorious kingdom for all eternity.

You shall love the Lord your God, with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your resources.



The prayer begins with the word "Shema," a Hebrew word full of meaning. Shema is often translated to hear or listen, but it's more than just sound waves entering your ear. Biblically, to Shema means to listen and obey. Listening and doing are two sides of the same coin. It's about giving respect to the one speaking to you and doing what they say. In that sense, real listening takes effort and action. - *The Bibleproject.com*

Mark your Calendar: March 16, Lenten meal at Theresa Flynn’s home. Details will follow.



The Fraternity Epiphany Party - January 5, 2019

Sharon Winzeler, OFS graciously hosted 22 of us for a pleasant and enjoyable social gathering at her home. Good food and good company is always fun. Conversing with loving members of the fraternity and their families is always extremely rewarding. Thank you Sharon and for the pictures, too.

Sunday Morning of Hospitality, Coffee & Donuts at St Francis Church

Thanks to all those who helped in the hospitality hosting on January 6, 2019. We made certain our "Come and See" brochures were available to the parishioners. We hosted after the three morning masses.

Quote

"Blessed is the servant who loves his brother as much when he is sick and useless as when he is well and be of service to him. And blessed is he who loves his brother as well when he is afar off as when he is by his side, and who would say nothing behind his back he might not, in love, say before his face." - St. Francis of Assisi



There Are No Two Just Alike – Theme for March for Life 2019



The consequences of Roe v. Wade is over 50,000,000 total abortions performed since 1973. The concern of the pro-life movement is reflected in the movie “It’s a Wonderful Life.” You may have watched it again this past Christmas. George Bailey has lost hope and thinks about his life. Was it worth it? Did he accomplish anything? Would the world be better off if he had never been born? His guardian angel, Clarence shows him what life would have been like without him. His life and all lives do make a difference.

Celine Dion credits her family’s parish priest for convincing her mother not to abort her. Andrea Bocelli’s mother was advised to have an abortion after she was misdiagnosed with appendicitis while she was pregnant. Other famous persons were also not aborted in spite of the advice. Imagine the world without these talented people. **Being pro-life is not in opposition to science.** It’s quite the contrary in fact! Medical and technological advancements continue to reaffirm the science behind the pro-life cause – that life begins at fertilization, or day one, when egg meets sperm and a new, unique, human embryo is created.

It’s a biological truth that our DNA (the carrier of genetic information) is unique; no one else that ever existed or exists has the same DNA. Thus, YOU are unparalleled. The information in DNA is stored as a code made up of four chemical bases. The order, or sequence, of these bases determines the information available for building and supporting a human life, similar to the way in which letters of the alphabet appear in a certain order to form words and sentences. Otherwise the DNA you received at conception had your name on it and no one else’s. DNA spells out all the characteristics that becomes a human being.

God does not call us to perfection in the appearance or abilities given to us in DNA, but to **perfection in love** and the ways we can express it. Our relationships on this earth are meant to help us grow in God’s perfect love. God calls us to embrace and uphold the dignity of every human life from conception to death

Loving Words That Matter for the Right to Life



Olivia Gans Turner was on EWTN (Jan. 14, 2019) and explained that the words we use as pro-lifers affects the way people think. She gave a detailed description of them. When a pro-choice member says one thing you use another expression with words that create an image. For example, when they say “choice,” you need to use expressions that would not be approval of the word “choice.” Words such as “decision, alternatives or options” are used. Instead of emphasizing a “fetus”, the “unborn child, preborn or baby” is used. The baby is not an “it,” the baby is a “she or he.” Saying “mother” instead of “a pregnant woman” gives credence to motherhood. (EWTN catalogue has a video of Olivia’s talk called, “When they say - you say.”)

“Killing the unborn” is a more descriptive term for the unborn victims of abortion than “murder.” The doctors performing abortions are called “abortionists” not “physicians.” And, it is not a “clinic” where he operates, but “an abortion facility.” Be kind to women who have had abortions. Never say murder, address the issues lovingly with respect.

It is important to realize that the words we use do matter. Studies of efficiency experts show two or more words to describe the same condition measure the effect on our preferences and/or decisions. The National Right to Life has a number of resources available that you can use to understand and get involved to help them in the fight to save innocent human life from abortion. To be informed go to NRL.org.

- By the Editor.