



THE PADRE PIO FRATERNITY

Secular Franciscan Order
The Brother and Sisters of St. Francis Region

"When you look at the crucifix, you understand how much Jesus loved you then. When you look at the Sacred Host, you understand how much Jesus loves you now." - St Teresa of Calcutta



Council Members

Spiritual Assistant:
Fr. Steve Kluge, OFM

Minister:
Victoria Romero OFS

Vice Minister:
Lee Cunningham, OFS

Formation Director:
S. Lynn Oeser, OFS

Treasurer
Louis Coker, OFS

Secretary:
Michael Hancock OFS

Councilors:
Ellen Ferrone, OFS
Suzie Nelson, OFS
Maureen Copan, OFS
(Appointed)

BSSF Region Minister:
Dorothy Ann Rowland,
OFS

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

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



I love you this Much!
Bring a friend
to "Come and See."

July Gathering

Franciscan heart - by Gail and John Halada, OFS. John became a Secular Franciscan through his wife, Gail. Gail was diagnosed 2 years ago with Alzheimer's. They both talked how it has affected their lives and the help they have received from the Duke Family Support Program, to which our fraternity recently contributed.(see page 2).

Franciscan Rights and Responsibilities. - by Fr. Steve Kluge, OFM gave his usual excellent retreat on Catholic Social Teaching.

Ongoing Formation - "Life in Fraternity" presented by Sharon Winzeler OFS for Maureen Copan OFS. They stressed, "The fraternity is life giving and should always be carried inside oneself which is quite different from just having meetings. These only mark the rhythm of making the journey. What about fraternal service?"
(Read article 14 of the Rule)."

July birthday celebration - Chris Peffley, OFS, and Victoria Romero, OFS
The birthday cake from Gladys Whitehouse, OFS was wonderful as usual.



Apostolates

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

(OCOC is 09/27/2019)

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

Come and See 09/22/2019
St. Francis Church
In The Founders Room

August Devotion 2019

The month of August is dedicated to the **Blessed Sacrament**, and increased adoration of the Eucharist is encouraged. August is also dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and on August 15th, the church celebrates the Assumption of Mary into heaven.

Holy Father's Intention for August

Evangelization – Families That families, through their life of prayer and love, become ever more clearly “schools of true human growth”.

Five Graces of the Holy Eucharist *by Fr. Robert Spitzer*

What did Jesus intend this total gift of Himself to bring? Spiritual peace, forgiveness/healing, transformation in His image, unity within the mystical body, and everlasting life. For more information go to: <https://www.crediblecatholic.com/the-big-book/>

Civil Rights Museum Trip

An outing by six members of Padre Pio Fraternity: Anna, Phil, Jeanne, Jeanette, Maureen, Ellen and our guest Brother Jason Damon, OFM.

Early Saturday on June 29, we made the trip to Greensboro. We enjoyed a pleasant drive (thanks to our drivers Maureen & Phil) with good company and conversation. It was also an opportunity to build relationships with our fraternity sisters and brothers and to learn more about some of our country's darker moments. The ride was easy, yet some of the images inside can take your breath away and be quite haunting. These images are a witness to some of the challenges in justice our country has faced.

These challenges remind me of our Catholic faith and our deeper challenge to be Franciscans. We are called to be peace



makers, reaching out to those on the margins. As our docent reminded us several times, much has been accomplished, yet equality and freedom are not yet there for everyone.

As I've been reminded in our reflections on Catholic Social Teaching by Fr Steve, everything we have is a gift, to be used, shared and given away. Our visit reminds me that we are all children of God, and am I seeing God in all whom I encounter?

By Ellen Ferrone, OFS

Happy August Birthdays

2 Sister Rucia Rauton, OSC

25 Sister Nancy Shively,
OSC



30 Lynn Oeser, OFS

Happy 14th Anniversary of Profession

John Halada 8/28/05



John and Gail - see page 1

Suzie's Prayer Corner

Our sister, Suzie Nelson, OFS is interested in sharing our prayer lives. She is picking a name at random each month. This month she contacted Mike Oeser, OFS and this is his response.

"I try to keep my prayer life simple and consistent so that it remains a regular part of my day. First thing in the morning before I get up, I say "Thank you God for giving me another morning. Please help me to do your will today." After breakfast, I pray Liturgy of the Hours, Morning Prayer. After Morning Prayer, I read the daily readings and Bishop Barron's reflection. On the way to work, I pray the rosary with a CD in my car. At my Rite of Admission ceremony, Frank Peluso OFS gave me a book, *My Saint Pio Prayer Book*. I keep this book on my desk at work. Several times throughout the day I open it and say a prayer. It helps me to keep my day in perspective. After dinner, I pray the Liturgy of the Hours, Evening Prayer. My final prayer I say at bed time is to thank the Lord for the day and all of those he has brought into my life."

Announcements

1. The fraternity **picnic is Saturday, Sept. 7 at the Pullen Park Shelter 1**. The time is 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. It will be a potluck event, and Maureen will send out an Evite on Aug. 7 with an RSVP date of Aug. 21. A sign-up sheet for food and beverages will be available at the August 25 gathering.

2. Maureen is also sending an announcement for the ***Come and See*** in September to 22 parishes for publication in their bulletins. Anna has already placed it in the [NC Carolina](#).

St. Padre Pio, OFM Cap. (1887 to 1968)

Patron Saint of Eucharistic Adoration



St. Padre Pio a 20th century Mystic and a Stigmatic is a Patron Saint of Eucharistic Adorers because often times he would be found in Eucharistic Adoration. He considered

Adoration so important that he even instructed his fellow friars "When you want to find me come near the Tabernacle." Here are some of his quotes on the importance of Eucharistic Adoration in our lives:

"A thousand years of enjoying human glory is not worth even an hour spent in sweetly communing with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament."

"I weep and mourn at the feet of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament for often I'm consoled."

"We must always have courage, and if some spiritual languor comes upon us, let us run to the feet of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, and let us place ourselves in the midst of the heavenly perfumes, and we will undoubtedly regain our strength."

"By means of the angels, Jesus calls the poor and simple shepherds, in order to manifest Himself to them. He calls the learned men by means of their science. And all of them, moved by His inner grace, hasten to adore Him. He calls all of us by divine inspiration, and communicates with us by means of His grace. How many times has he invited us, too? And how readily have we responded? My God, I blush and become embarrassed when I have to answer such a question."

St. Padre Pio was so happy during his many hours of Eucharistic Adoration that he wrote: "When I am close to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, I feel as if my heart is bursting out of my chest."

<http://www.stfrancisadoration.orgst%20padre%20pio.htm>

"Have patience and persevere in the holy exercise of meditation; be content to begin with small steps till you have legs to run, better still wings to fly."

-St. Pio



The Four Pillars of The Secular Franciscan Life and Us



Reflecting on how Francis invited the Friars to participate in mission and ministry, our region expresses this approach in the Four Pillars, which is a foundation of our Secular Franciscan way of life. The Four Pillars give us a developed focus to live authentically *The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order*.

The Spirituality Pillar

This Pillar is built on the **belief, teachings and practices** of the Holy Catholic Church to promote **individual spiritual growth** and an opportunity for **group reflection and retreats**. Our members are reminded of basic Catholic truths they might already know. We assist them in communicating faith, love, and joy with each other and with the world. Our ongoing formation program this year focuses on Catholic Social Teaching and Franciscan Prayer. This month Adoration of the Eucharist is also encouraged.



The Formation Pillar

Initial Formation is assigned to our Formation Director and team. Ongoing Formation is the **responsibility of the council**. However, formation is also the responsibility of **every fraternity member**. The formation team suggests that every fraternity member prepare, present and facilitate Franciscan teachings and awareness of our OFS Essential Documents for ongoing formation. All members encourage the aspirants to share their formation experiences. The formation team follows the suggested course of our Regional Formation Director. There are three phases of formation the Orientation Phase, Inquiry Phase and Candidacy Phase. They lead to permanent profession, the promises or vows made on entering a religious order



The Fraternity Pillar

This Pillar maintains the **social interaction** of our fraternity members with each other. This is done through monthly gatherings and planned social events such as an Epiphany party, Lenten luncheon, Transitus celebration or picnic. Sponsors are appointed to inquirers and meet with them individually to discuss their **spiritual progress** as they prepare for permanent profession.



The Apostolate Pillar

The Apostolate Pillar helps us to spread the Gospel to the world by living the Gospel life. The fraternity group Apostolate gives us the important opportunity to actually **serve together as a fraternity**. When we get together in our fraternity gatherings, we have a chance to interact with each other. However, the fraternity apostolate gives us the added opportunity to interact and serve with each other at a different level. Our hearts are good and generous, but they need to meet together as a unit and we will **come to know each other at a deeper level**. When we live in relationship we learn about the other – sharing values, telling one's story, telling about person reveals the strengths and weaknesses – whether a leader or a follower, whether

insistent or compliant – in other words we learn whether we cooperate, share, truly listen, are open to change, respect the other, appreciate the person and the task. This pursuit is to communicate individuals serving as a unit in peace and harmony – to feed, to clothe, to comfort – to make Christ present in the name of Francis. Then and only then will our vocation as Secular Franciscans be realized and the passion for our vocation become alive. See article next page.

Social Action In Progress - Oak City Cares - Help

We are blessed to have an actively engaged fraternity, embracing our Franciscan Four Pillars.

As you know, our Oak City Outreach Center apostolate to serve food on the weekends to the homeless has finally come to its permanent home, as Oak City Cares.

We have been blessed to serve dinner to the homeless the 4th Saturday of the month for over four years with an abundance of food and volunteers. It's a humbling opportunity to have a conversation, share a smile, keep someone company during their evening meal.

With the new Center open Monday to Friday, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, the opportunity to serve is increased. There is need to help out by greeting the clients in the shower area and the laundry room. It's amazing the connection one can make in simply handing out a clean towel and face cloth. There is a transformation when someone has the opportunity to shower and have clean clothes. Miracles happen like improved self-esteem, getting a job and connecting with people.

If your skills lean more to administrative help, you're in luck. Lots to do behind the scenes.

So, if you have some time during the week and would like to check it out, you can reach out to Dianne, Jeanne or myself. Who knows maybe we'll get a chance to clean the showers together. By Ellen Ferrone, OFS, JPIC Animator

Pictures:

1. Lee Cunningham, OFS and Maureen Copan, OFS, hostesses.
2. Jeanette Cottone, OFS, Victoria Romero, OFS and Sharon Winzeler, OFS - preparing food.
3. Frank Peluso, OFS, Mike Oeser, OFS and Chris Peffley, OFS, serving the homeless.
4. Ellen Ferrone, OFS, Jeanne Casciere, OFS and Dianne Greet, OFS, cleaning showers for the homeless.

"Remember that the happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more."

— H. Jackson Brown Jr., writer



Photos by Ellen Ferrone, OFS

August Calendar

2. OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS OF THE PORTIUNCULA -- Feast -

Portiuncula indulgence:

St. Francis requested the Pope to grant remission of sins to all who came there. The privilege extends beyond the Portiuncula to others churches, especially held by Franciscans throughout the world. The conditions to obtain the Plenary Indulgence of the Forgiveness of Assisi (for oneself or for a departed soul) is as follows: The Portiuncula Indulgence is a grace not to be missed—not only for yourself but for the many suffering souls in Purgatory. ...Sacramental Confession to be in God's grace (during eight days before or after)... Participation in the Holy Mass and Eucharist ... Recitation of The Apostles Creed, Our Father and also a prayer for the Pope's Intention (such as an Our Father, Hail Mary, etc.).

4. **St. John Mary Vianney** - "We should consider those moments spent before the Blessed Sacrament as the happiest of our lives."

8. **HOLY FATHER DOMINIC**, Priest, Founder of the Order of Preachers -- Feast

"You are my companion. We will work together, supporting one another toward the same end, and no one will prevail against us." — *St. Dominic to St. Francis*

11. **CLARE OF ASSISI**, VIRGIN, II Order -- Feast

(For II and III Order: SOLEMNITY) While serving as the leader of her order, Clare defended them from the attempts of prelates to impose a rule on them that more closely followed the Rule of Saint Benedict than Francis. Clare was so devoted and dedicated to Francis that she was often referred to as "alter Franciscus," or another Francis. She encouraged and aided the man she saw as a spiritual father figure, and

took care of him as he grew old. **Happy Feast Day** From: *Catholic Online*.

"We become what we love and who we love shapes what we become." — *St. Clare*

14. **Maximilian Mary Kolbe**, priest and martyr, I Order -- Memorial - "If anyone does not wish to have Mary Immaculate for his Mother, he will not have Christ for his Brother." -- St. Maximilian Kolbe. OFMC

21. **St Pius X** - Secular Franciscan: Ever mindful of his humble origin, Pope Pius stated, "I was born poor, I lived poor, I will die poor." He was embarrassed by some of the pomp of the papal court. "Look how they have dressed me up," he said in tears to an old friend. To another, "It is a penance to be forced to accept all these practices. They lead me around surrounded by soldiers like Jesus when he was seized in Gethsemane." - *Franciscan Media*

25. **Louis IX, king, Patron of the III Order** -- Memorial August - **Happy Feast Day**- Saint King Louis IX - Patron of Architects and Monastic third orders Saint Louis IX was crowned King of France at age 12 and reigned until his death. St. Louis led an exemplary life, bearing constantly in mind his mother's words: "*I would rather see you dead at my feet than guilty of a mortal sin.*" His biographers have told us of the long hours he spent in prayer, fasting, and penance, without the knowledge of his subjects. The French king was a great lover of justice. French fancy still pictures him delivering judgements under the oak of Vincennes. From: <http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/>

"Love your brothers, and always wish their well-being and their good advancement, and also be to them in the place of a father, to instruct them in all good." *St. Louis IX*,