

AGENDA

Feb. 23, 2025

Padre Pio Fraternity



THE JUBILEE PRAYER (FOR 2025 HOLY YEAR) by Pope Francis (to be led by a member before the meeting begins)

Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation

Opening Prayer from the Ritual

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Minister: Most high, all-powerful, good God, praise, glory, and honor and all blessings are yours.

All: Praise and bless my Lord, and give Him thanks, and serve him with great humility.

Minister: Let us pray. (Pause)

Most high, glorious God,
enlighten the darkness of our hearts
and give us right faith, firm hope, and perfect charity,
with wisdom and insight, O Lord,
that we may accomplish your holy and true will. **All: Amen**

Welcome guests

Announcements

Welcome to Ann Wester, OFS, who has officially transferred into our fraternity from St. Thomas More fraternity in Arlington, VA.

Ongoing Formation

Ellen Ferrone, OFS, will present on “Article 1 Discovering the Charism of Francis.”



Discussion questions:

Those in Initial Formation Reflection:

1. Francis was offered two other forms of life by Bishop John of St Paul. What other paths did you explore in your coming to the Secular Franciscan Order?
2. What was so compelling to you about this unique Franciscan call?

Ellen Ferrone, OFS
Padre Pio fraternity
member and
minister of the BSSF
Region

Those Professed:

1. Francis respectfully refused to take up the lifestyle of monk or hermit his belief that he was meant to follow the gospel unreservedly as the Lord had pointed out to him. He was to do so in a new way and without possessions. What principle is strong enough in your life that you would remain adamant to protect it?
2. Why is this position so strong in you?

Integration and Decision questions:

Initial Formation:

1. Francis chose to follow the example of Christ as literally as possible. What does “to follow the example of Christ” mean to me?
2. In which ways do you see yourself called to follow Christ?
3. Which of these ways will you take time to embody this month?

Ongoing Formation:

1. Francis was willing to sacrifice all to follow the gospel. What hinders you from following the gospel to the full?
2. Which areas of your life need to be adjusted in order to live the gospel to the full?
3. What one aspect will you try to change this month so as to follow more closely the example of Christ as forth in the gospel? How will you accomplish this?

Refreshments, Fellowship and Celebration of February Birthdays

2 Joan Monti, OFS; 4 Rachel Bongiorno, OFS; 11 Michael Hancock, OFS; 18 Marie Bianca, OFS; 21 Nkem Okereke, OFS; 28 Laurie Wilburn, OFS

Business

Treasurer's Report: Janette Perez, OFS

- Our Fair Share of \$55 per candidate and professed member is due to the BSSF Region. Please consider addition this to your donation. Thank you.

Padre Pio Fraternity,
% Janette Perez, OFS
1320 Regulator St.
Raleigh, NC 27603

The Padre Pio Fraternity's email address to receive money via Zelle is: secularppt995@gmail.com

- Payment for reservations for our annual retreat at St. Francis Springs is due today. You may pay by a check made out to the fraternity or send you payment through Zelle at the above address. Cost for the weekend is \$340/room.

Formation Director's Report: Gladys Whitehouse, OFS

- Update on retreat
- Upcoming formation topics

Oak City Cares: Mary Cockrill, OFS, and Marianne Norris, OFS

JPIC: Theresa Flynn, OFS

YouFra and Fraternity Directory: Anne Evangelista

Save the Dates

Feb. 23: Payment for retreat due: \$340/room for weekend. Payment goes to Janette Perez.

March 9-April 13: 6 p.m., on Zoom Book Club on nonviolence led by Michael Evangelista, OFS.

March 22: Next food service at Oak City Cares.

March 23: Next gathering

March 23: After gathering, Dinner and discussion of Franciscan Action Network immigration webinar

April 4-6: Retreat at St. Francis Springs.

April 22: Earth Day nature time and park cleanup at Lake Lynn. Meet at recreation center at 4 p.m..

April 27: Gathering

May 3: North Carolina Museum of Art visit at 10 a.m.

May 30: Permanent Profession of candidates at 11 a.m. Mass followed by a reception. We will not have a gathering in May. The profession will serve as our gathering for May.

Aug. 8-10: Brothers and Sisters of St. Francis Annual Regional Gathering at Black Mountain, NC

Closing Prayer

Liturgy of the Hours—Evening Prayer II