



# The Franciscan Sun- Herald

St. John the Beloved Apostle  
Order of Secular Franciscan Fraternity  
June 2018

**Vol. 23, No.6**

**Meeting Place:**

Basilica of St. Mary, Catholic  
Church & Lyceum

313 Duke Street

Alexandria, VA

**Meeting:**

June 9, 2018 at Cathedral of  
St Thomas More 10 a.m.

(see page 2 for details)



## Rule 18

*Mindful that they are bearers of peace which must be built up unceasingly, they should seek out ways of unity and fraternal harmony through dialog, trusting in the presence of the divine seed in everyone and in the transforming power of love and pardon.*

*Messengers of perfect joy in every circumstance, they should strive to bring joy and hope to others.*

*Since they are immersed in the resurrection of Christ, which gives true meaning to Sister Death, let them serenely tend toward the ultimate encounter with the Father.*

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## Minister's Corner:

As summer is upon us and we make our plans for travel to connect with family or just to get away from the hectic pace of life, please bring Our Lord and St Francis with you to your loved ones. Safe travels for those of you who travel. If anyone cannot make the meeting in June or July please let me know so I can excuse you along with my prayerful blessing.

Hope to see all of you at the Cathedral for this year's ordinations to the Priesthood on Saturday, June 9. Please continue with ongoing formation via email letting Pat know your answers to the questions at the end of Chapters 2 and 3 in the book Compassion: Living in the Spirit of St Francis.

As I mentioned last month, St John the Beloved Apostle Fraternity turns **50** next year. I would like to schedule a celebration on the second Saturday in October 2019. Please reach out to past members and friends, and especially religious clergy who have guided us along the way to let them know. It will be a great time to renew our spiritual commitment to St Francis and to one another in our fraternal community. May the Lord keep you.

**OFS Newsletter Reflection and Prayer –**  
**June 2018 submitted by: Tom White,**  
**OFS**



**The  
Anima  
Christi**

*Soul of Christ sanctify me,  
Body of Christ, save me,  
Blood of Christ, inebriate me,  
Passion of Christ strengthen me,  
Water flowing from the side of Christ, wash  
me.*

*O'good Jesus hear me,  
Within your wounds hide me,  
Never permit me to be separated from you,  
from the evil one protect me, and at the hour  
of my death call me and bid me come to you  
that with your saints, I might praise you  
forever. Amen.*

This prayer was first recited in the Fourteenth Century and is still popular with many of the faithful who recite it after receiving the Most Holy Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

During the month of June, when we celebrate the Feasts of the Trinity and Corpus Christi, I thought it would be appropriate to reflect on the Body of Christ. It seems so normal for all of us to refer to the consecrated hosts consumed during Eucharist as the Body of Christ, but throughout the history of the Church, there was much debate. We have all heard these words of Jesus in the Gospel according to Luke:

*"The Last Supper.*

*14 When the hour came, he took his place at table with the apostles. 15 He said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer, 16 for, I tell you, I shall not eat it [again] until there is fulfillment in the kingdom of God." 17 Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and said, "Take this and share it among yourselves; 18 for I tell you [that] from this time on I shall not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." 19 Then he took the bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which will be given for you; do this in memory of me." 20 And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which will be shed for you." (Luke 22: 14-19)*

Of the four Gospels, this is the only one that includes the words *"Do this in memory of me."* Those six words have resulted in so much speculation and controversy since they were first spoken by our Lord. *What did Jesus mean when he said them? Do what in memory of me? Eat some bread and drink some wine in memory of me? Give up my life as you have? Is Jesus establishing a covenant or a memorial?* This debate started before the Last Supper, while Jesus was still near the Sea of Galilee, and still rages today. I good example of this debate in Jesus' time can be seen in the Bread of Life Discourse from the Gospel according to John:

*"The Bread of Life Discourse.*

*22 The next day, the crowd that remained across the sea saw that there had been only one boat there, and that Jesus had not gone along with his disciples in the*

boat, but only his disciples had left.<sup>23</sup> Other boats came from Tiberias near the place where they had eaten the bread when the Lord gave thanks. <sup>24</sup> When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into boats and came to Capernaum looking for Jesus.<sup>25</sup> And when they found him across the sea they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you get here?"<sup>26</sup> Jesus answered them and said, "Amen, amen, I say to you, you are looking for me not because you saw signs but because you ate the loaves and were filled."<sup>27</sup> Do not work for food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life,\* which the Son of Man will give you. For on him the Father, God, has set his seal." <sup>28</sup> So they said to him, "What can we do to accomplish the works of God?"<sup>29</sup> Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in the one he sent."<sup>30</sup> So they said to him, "What sign can you do, that we may see and believe in you? What can you do? <sup>31</sup> Our ancestors ate manna in the desert, as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'"

<sup>32</sup> So Jesus said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave the bread from heaven; my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. <sup>33</sup> For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." <sup>34</sup> So they said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."<sup>35</sup> Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life;

whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst.<sup>36</sup> But I told you that although you have seen [me], you do not believe. <sup>37</sup> Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and I will not reject anyone who comes to me,<sup>38</sup> because I came down from heaven not to do my own will but the will of the one who sent me. <sup>39</sup> And this is the will of the one who sent me, that I should not lose anything of what he gave me, but that I should raise it [on] the last day.<sup>40</sup> For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life, and I shall raise him [on] the last day." <sup>41</sup> The Jews murmured about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven,"<sup>42</sup> and they said, "Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph? Do we not know his father and mother? Then how can he say, 'I have come down from heaven'?" <sup>43</sup> Jesus answered and said to them, "Stop murmuring among yourselves. <sup>44</sup> No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draw him, and I will raise him on the last day.<sup>45</sup> It is written in the prophets:

'They shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who listens to my Father and learns from him comes to me. <sup>46</sup> Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. <sup>47</sup> Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life.<sup>48</sup> I am the bread of life.<sup>49</sup> Your ancestors ate the manna in the desert, but they died; <sup>50</sup> this is

*the bread that comes down from heaven so that one may eat it and not die.<sup>51</sup> I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world.”<sup>52</sup> The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us [his] flesh to eat?”<sup>53</sup> Jesus said to them, “Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you.<sup>54</sup> Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day.<sup>55</sup> For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.<sup>56</sup> Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him.<sup>57</sup> Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me. <sup>58</sup> This is the bread that came down from heaven. Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died, whoever eats this bread will live forever.”(John 6: 22-59)*

Following this discourse, many people no longer believed in him because they did not understand his words and believed he espoused cannibalism. As a result, many disciples left him. *"<sup>66</sup> As a result of this, many [of] his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him.”* (John 6: 66) How many left him? In the Gospel according to Luke, there were at least 72 disciples at one point:

*"The Mission of the Seventy-two. I After this the Lord appointed seventy[-two] others whom he*

*sent ahead of him in pairs to every town and place he intended to visit.”* (Luke 10: 1)

Jesus then turned to the remaining disciples, and

*"<sup>67</sup> Jesus then said to the Twelve, “Do you also want to leave?”<sup>68</sup> Simon Peter answered him, “Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.<sup>69</sup> We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God.”* (John 6: 67-69)

Even though Peter testifies to this, the Apostles still did not completely understand and would not completely understand until after the descent of the Holy Spirit. Since Jesus discourse on the bread of life and the Last Supper accounts in all the synoptic gospels, the Church has contemplated this mystery by which ordinary bread and wine are transformed into the Body and Blood of Christ. Some of the debates concern who Jesus was - Was he man or was he God, or was he something in between? Was Mary the Mother of Christ or the Mother of God? Is the bread and wine really the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ or is the Eucharist prayer merely a memorial? On the surface, these separate questions all seem to be about different topics, but they are all intertwined. If Jesus were not God, then we could not participate in the Eucharist time after time, because it would only be a one-time meal. Over the centuries, many people offered up their lives as martyrs (meaning witness) for these very questions. Undoubtedly, for those like St. Justin the Martyr and St. Ignatius of Antioch the question of "Who was Jesus?" and "What is the Eucharist?" were clear. They knew that Jesus was God and the

Eucharist was truly the Body and Blood of Christ.

In spite of this, the debate has continued for the entire history of the Church. Many other religious groups deny that Jesus is God, or that the Eucharist is Jesus Christ. This is partially due in our inability as human beings to explain how ordinary bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ while still appearing as bread and wine. Like Ignatius and Justin and so many others, in the end it comes down to "faith" or what do you believe and why do you believe it. Each person has their own reason for arriving at this conclusion, but almost all of them would say that in the end it comes down to faith.

If the "Bread of Life Discourse" had been part of an election campaign, Jesus and the twelve disciples would have lost to the other sixty disciples; so sometimes, being a witness means standing firm against everyone and everything else, even human logic and reasoning, for a belief. So, bearing witness that the Eucharist is the Body and Blood of Christ becomes applicable to other areas of belief and action as well; for we believe that all persons are members of the Body of Christ, whether they attend church or not. So, the answers to the questions: "Who is Christ?" and "What is the Eucharist?" impinges on not only the answers to those specific questions but in our answers to many others problem areas, such as the right to life, medical care, and poverty, to name a few.

In answering our own questions "What is the Eucharist?" and "Who is Jesus?" the gift of the Eucharist becomes more than just a memorial or an act at church. Then the question becomes will you witness with the twelve or the sixty. If you testify with the twelve that the Eucharist is the Body and

Blood of Christ, to what lengths are you willing to testify?

## Fraternity Focus

### This Month's Meeting

This month we met at the Cathedral of Saint Thomas Moore on Saturday for an absolutely marvelous Ordination Mass, presided by Bishop Burbidge.



Bishop Burbidge says the prayer of ordination.  
JOE CASHWELL | FOR THE CATHOLIC HERALD

The Church was packed full for the Mass. It was great watching the three men become priests, and such a strong a message of commitment.

### Upcoming Events

**June 29 –1 Aug – Chapter of Mats**  
Will be held in Priest Field.

### **Calendar for Christ House in 2018**

Remaining dates for Christ House this year will be **June 16**, August 18, October 20 and November 17. For further details, please see Sadie Martins or Marcia Campbell. If you have never tried it, please do so. It is a wonderful way to fulfill the needs of those less fortunate.

# Bulletin Board

## Our Family:

Recalling the words of St. Francis regarding the sick:

*I beg all my sick brothers that they do not become angry in their infirmities or disturbed either against God or against their brothers....  
Let them give thanks in all things so that they may desire to be as God wants them to be.*

## And Let Us Pray:

### **For the Healing of:**

Mary Ann Friesen, Karen Riedl, Lorraine Lee, John Dina & his family, especially Meredith, Catherine Williams, daughter Amy, Wayne, Cathy William's Son-In-Law, Pat McGrath's sister, Mary Wagner, Pat's husband, John Schupp, Wilma Connair, Karen's Mother-in-law, Stephen Connair, Karen's husband, Michael, Laura, Kim & Michelle Feldman, Rita's niece Sarah Lewis and husband Ben, and for all our families and friends who need God's healing that God will have mercy on all the sick and injured, especially those who are dying.

### **For the Repose of the Souls who have preceded us into eternal life:**

Lorre Bracey – Marcia's daughter, David Robertson – Joanne's son, Cathy Williams Mother, George Webb, Geneva's Father, Alfie Evans and for all the Souls in Purgatory who have no one to pray for them.

### **Special Intentions:**

For our Holy Father and all the leaders of the Church that they may faithfully adhere to Christ's teachings.

For religious vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life, for vocations to sanctity of marriage between one man and one woman, and for religious freedom.

For sanctity of all our priests, religious, and lay people.

For those being persecuted throughout the world for their faith.

For our veterans, military and first responders.

For John S. and all those struggling with addictions.

For the conversion of the socialized medicine in England to allow parents to have a say in the health treatment of their terminally ill children.

Please continue to pray for all the people of Ireland, that the Lord may guide their conscience to vote for prolife legislation in the wake of the terrible repeal of the Constitutional ban on abortion.

For an end to abortion, euthanasia, and assisted suicide in this country and throughout the world.

For peace in the world, peace in our families, peace in our hearts.

**May the Holy Spirit guide all our Leaders.**

**For our Fraternity and for all our intentions held close to our hearts.**

## Our Fraternity:

### **Profession Anniversaries:**

Congratulations this month to Claudia Carpenter - June 14, 2014; John Dina - June 21, 1982; and Stephen Piscitelli - June 23, 1977

**Birthdays:** Please extend Happy Birthday wishes to Karen Connair - June 8th, Diane Maple - June 14, and Fr. Terrence Staples - June 21st. May God Bless them throughout this coming year!

**In Memoriam:** May the souls of our dear sisters and brothers, Betty Barrett, June 1, 2001; Daniel Gormley - June 1, 2004; and William A. Keenan - June 2, 1987 **Rest in God's Peace.**

**Franciscan Saints, Blesseds & Holy Ones (for all 3 branches of the Order)**

June – Month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

1. Bl. Felix of Nicosia, lay brother, Capuchin religious, d/ 1787
2. Bl. John Pelingotto, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1304
3. Bl. Andrew of Spello, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1254
4. St. Francois Caracciolo, Priest, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1608
5. Bl Pacific of Cerano, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1482
6. Bl. Lawrence of Villamagna, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1535
7. Bl. Himiliana Cerchi, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1246
8. Bl. Nicolas de Gesturi, lay brother, Capuchin religious, d. 1958
9. Bl. Innocent Guz, Priest, Conventual religious, martyr 1940
10. Bl. Edouard Poppe, Priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1924
11. Bl. Yolanda of Hungary, Virgin, of the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1298
12. Bl. Floride Cevoli, Virgin, Capuchin religious, d. 1767
13. St. Anthony of Padua, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1231 Plenary Indulgence for cordbearers
14. Bl. Zephirin Jimenez, Martyr, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1936
15. St. Vincenta Gerosa, Virgin, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1847, and Saint Mary Bartholomea Capitano.
16. Bl. Marie-Therese Scherer, Virgin, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1888
17. Bl. Peter Gambacorti, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1435
18. Bl. Guy of Cortona, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1250
19. Bl. Achille Puchata, Priest, Conventual

- religious, martyr 1943
20. Bl. Micheline de Pesaro, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1356
21. Bl. Herman Stapien, Priest, Conventual religious, martyr 1943
22. St. Thomas More, Martyr, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1943
23. St. Joseph Cafasso, Priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1860
24. Nativity of St. John the Baptist
25. Bl. Bienvenu de Gubbio, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1232
26. Bl. Frederick Jassoone, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1916
27. Bl. Marguerite Baeys, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1879
28. St. Barthelemie Capitano, Virgin, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1833
29. Sts. Peter and Paul, Holy Day of Obligation, Plenary Indulgence
30. Bl. Raymond Lulle, Martyr, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1315



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