



**The Franciscan
Sun- Herald**
St. John the Beloved Apostle
Order of Secular Franciscan Fraternity
October 2019

Vol. 23, No.12
Meeting Place:
Basilica of St. Mary, Catholic
Church & Lyceum
313 Duke Street
Alexandria, VA
Advent Meeting:
October 3, 2019, 7:00 p.m.
Transitus of St. Francis,
Monastery of the Holy Land
in America, Washington,
DC. (see page 2 for details)



Minister's Corner:

The Rule of the OFS:
Article 11

Trusting in the Father, Christ chose for himself and his mother a poor and humble life, even though he valued created things attentively and lovingly. Let the Secular Franciscans seek a proper spirit of detachment from temporal goods by simplifying their own material needs. Let them be mindful that according to the Gospel they are stewards of the goods received for the benefit of God's children.

Thus, in the spirit of "the Beatitudes," and as pilgrims and strangers on their way to the home of the Father, they should strive to purify their hearts from every tendency and yearning for possession and power.

October is the month of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary. Most of our brothers and sisters in St Francis rely on our Lady for patronage and intercession through the Holy Rosary. October 7 is the Feast Day of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary. This month our celebration of our Holy Father St Francis Transitus falls on Thursday, Oct 3, the vigil of the first Friday of the month. It's a time to reflect on the Canticle of the Creatures which is a prayer poem that he composed to honor our Father Creator of all things.

It's also a time to reflect on the last 50 years since our St John the Beloved Apostle Fraternity was founded April 1969 as we prepare for a celebration of our Franciscan Spirituality, founded at what used to be the historic St Mary's Catholic Church which has since then become a glorious Basilica.

Our plan is to combine the Advent Party with our 50th anniversary for Saturday December 14 from Noon to 4pm at St Joseph's Room at the Lyceum where we

**Fraternity Council
Spiritual Assistant:**
Thomas A. McGrath, OFS
240-688-7817
tom@mcgrathusa.net

Secretary:
Claudia Carpenter, OFS
703-960-2772
crpntrc@verizon.net

Minister:
Steve Piscitelli, OFS
703-768-4957
steve_piscitelli@msn.com

Councilor:
Sadie Martins, OFS
703-548-5063
nannysadie@aol.com

Vice Minister:
Marcia Campbell, OFS
703-978-6966
marcampbell19@verizon.net

Councilor:
Rita Evans, OFS
540-752-0224
ritaandscott@hotmail.com

Treasurer:
Scott Graham, OFS
646-210-9327
sagraham41@hotmail.com

Councilor:
Geneva Park, OFS
703-768-5556
jim.geneva@cox.net

Formation:
Tom White, OFS
703-307-2378
thomaswhitemsa@gmail.com

usually meet. We will provide the spiral Ham and have everyone bring side dishes and deserts for our pot luck celebration, but we should hope to see a few of our past members come by and perhaps Fr. Hathaway and members of Basilica of St Mary staff.

I have been working with our register to determine how many of our 152 members have passed so as to prepare a fitting memorial for them. As the oldest Franciscan in our group, I fondly remember quite a few of those who have had a hand in forming and sustaining our wonderful group.

Since Donna and I are traveling with Fr. Staples to Jerusalem in October, we will attempt to get him to RSVP to attend our 50th Anniversary in December even though he is very busy with multiple parishes. Apparently, ten years ago he celebrated Mass for the us on our 40th anniversary of our fraternity which he was a professed member. If we can arrange a mass I will let everyone know, but right now I am just hoping for a decent turnout.

Continue prayers for Camilla Aksamit, Art Scarano and Cathy Williams that they can be in good enough health to attend. We need to keep all our members and our past members in our prayers for their safe travels whether they can come or not. I received word that Cathy will transfer to TAU Fraternity at St Josephs in Herndon VA which is much closer for her.

Our next regular meeting will be after 8:30 Mass at Basilica of St Mary on November 9. We have St Joseph's room reserved for 9 am. We will resume our regular schedule unless Scott has a breakthrough with the Catholic environment group who schedule to can come give us a talk.

So we will attend the Transitus at Franciscan Monastery. If there is a problem with transportation please let me know, or if you wish to attend another transitus in the area, you can attend at St Francis of Assisi in Triangle VA, or St Josephs in Herndon. However Region has said there will not be a transitus at All Saints in Manassas this year.

I encourage everyone to carpool with me from my home; or with Tom White or with Scott Graham from Basilica of St Mary parking lot. Please try to leave in time to arrive at the monastery by 6:30pm to get a seat. The service starts at 7pm. Hope to see all of you there.

Pax et Bonum.
Steve Piscitelli, OFS, Minister.

Feast of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary – October 2019

On October 7, the Roman Catholic Church celebrates the yearly feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. Known for several centuries by the alternate title of "Our Lady of Victory," the feast day takes place in honor of a 16th century naval victory which secured Europe against Turkish invasion. Pope St. Pius V attributed the victory to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who was invoked on the day of the battle through a campaign to pray the Rosary throughout Europe.

The feast always occurs one week after the similar Byzantine celebration of the Protection of the Mother of God, which most Eastern Orthodox Christians and Eastern Catholics celebrate on October 1 in memory of a 10th-century military victory which protected Constantinople against invasion after a reported Marian apparition.

Pope Leo XIII was particularly devoted to Our Lady of the Rosary, producing 11 encyclicals on the subject of this feast and its importance in the course of his long pontificate.

In the first of them, 1883's "Supremi Apostolatus Officio," he echoed the words of the oldest known Marian prayer (known in the Latin tradition as the "Sub Tuum Praesidium"), when he wrote, "It has always been the habit of Catholics in danger and in troublous times to fly for refuge to Mary."

"This devotion, so great and so confident, to the august Queen of Heaven," Pope Leo continued, "has never shone forth with such brilliancy as when the militant Church of God has seemed to be endangered by the violence of heresy ... or by an intolerable moral corruption, or by the attacks of powerful enemies." Foremost among such "attacks" was the battle of Lepanto, a perilous and decisive moment in European and world history.

Troops of the Turkish Ottoman Empire had invaded and occupied the Byzantine empire by 1453, bringing a large portion of the increasingly divided Christian world under a version of Islamic law. For the next hundred years, the Turks expanded their empire westward on land, and asserted their naval power in the Mediterranean. In 1565 they attacked Malta, envisioning an eventual invasion of Rome. Though repelled at Malta, the Turks captured Cyprus in the fall of 1570.

The next year, three Catholic powers on the continent – Genoa, Spain, and the Papal States - formed an alliance called the Holy League, to defend their Christian civilization against Turkish invasion. Its fleets sailed to confront the Turks near the west coast of Greece on October 7, 1571.

Crew members on more than 200 ships prayed the Rosary in preparation for the battle - as did Christians throughout Europe, encouraged by the Pope to gather in their churches to invoke the Virgin Mary against the daunting Turkish forces.

Some accounts say that Pope Pius V was granted a miraculous vision of the Holy League's stunning victory. Without a doubt, the Pope understood the significance of the day's events, when he was eventually informed that all but 13 of the nearly 300 Turkish ships had been captured or sunk. He was moved to institute the feast now celebrated universally as Our Lady of the Rosary.

Pax et Bonum

Article from the Catholic News Agency
<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/saint/feast-of-our-lady-of-the-rosary-617>

Fraternity Focus:

October Program:

On the evening of October 3rd at 6:30 pm, we will gather at the Monastery of the Holy Land in America to celebrate the Transitus of Saint Francis with our Franciscan family from all branches of the order. This gathering will take the place of our meeting normally held on the second Saturday of each month at the Lyceum of St. Mary Basilica.

Events:

40 Days for Life Campaign:

The Fall 40 Days for Life Campaign is here! The dates are Sep 25-Nov 3 so, please mark your calendars to come out and pray during this Campaign and bring a friend or two!

There will be an online vigil calendar so that you can sign up for a particular time to come pray and also find out when might be a good

time to join others who have already signed up. Note that the Alexandria Women's Clinic has moved to 5999 Stevenson Avenue. When you come out to pray, please stand on the public sidewalk directly in front of the Clinic. The Sunoco Gas Station is directly across the street.

For more information contact:

Jim and Geneva Park
703-768-5556
jim.geneva@cox.net

Queen of Apostles 40 Days for Life Apostolate: On the third Saturday of each month, a group of pro-life prayer warriors and sidewalk counselors from the various parishes in the Diocese (and sometimes the Bishop comes) attend the 8:00 Mass and at 9:00 AM go to an abortion clinic, to pray for an end to abortion. For more information, please contact Richard Hayden at 703-799-2646.

Christ House Apostolate: The Fraternity's next Christ House Apostolate will be October 19th, 3:00 – 6:00 pm. The last date for Christ House this year will be November 16th.

Upcoming Formation Opportunities:
Annual Regional Retreat: The next Annual Regional Retreat will be at Priest Field from May 29 to May 31, 2020. As more information becomes available, we will provide updates, so save the date!

Initial Formation: Stella and Sovanny's formation meetings will continue on October 26th in the Father Rankin House at St. Mary Basilica. Mass will be at 8:30, followed by a one-hour formation class. This class will focus on Chapters 12 and 13 of the Journey Book.

Transitus:

October 3, 2019: Transitus of St Francis of Assisi will be held at the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in America, 1400 Quincy St NE, Washington, DC 20017 from 7:00 - 8:00 PM.

The event will also be broadcast online and can be viewed by clicking on the link or by cutting and pasting the link into your browser. <https://myfranciscan.org/live/>

You can also go to this link for more information:

<https://myfranciscan.org/event/the-transitus-of-saint-francis-10-03-19/>

Feast of St Francis of Assisi:

October 4, 2018: The Poor Clare Monastery, Mass at 7:00 AM
2503 Stone Hedge Dr, Alexandria, VA 22306; Phone: (703) 768-4918

Or for those who like to travel:

The Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in America will celebrate the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi at Masses held at 6:00 a.m., 7:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

The Shrine of Saint Anthony at 12290 Folly Quarter Rd. Ellicott City, MD 21042 will celebrate Mass at 12:00 in honor of Saint Francis.

Blessing of the Animals:

Will be held at the Franciscan Monastery in Washington, DC on Saturday, October 5th, in their gardens (weather permitting). Time to be determined but tentatively 10:00 am - 12:00 pm.

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:

Art Scarano; Lorraine Lee; Camilla Aksamit; Cathy Williams and Family; Karen Riedl; John Dina and family; Stephen Connair, Wilma Connair; Ben Lewis; Claudia's sister, Pamela Voetberg, Laine Ritter; Suzie Kermec; Michelle Tringhese; Scott Beard; Fr. Mike Hann; Patricia Lutz Moran, Peggy Gregory, Barbara Clinscales, Skip Wallace and for all our families and friends who need God's healing. May God have mercy on all the sick and injured, especially those who are dying.

In gratitude for God's healing and Gifts:

Much like the ten lepers cured by Jesus in Luke 17: 11-18, we seem to spend most of our time praying for our own and other's needs, and less time giving thanks to God for all he does for us. Let us be like the leper who returned to Jesus, praising God for all He has done.

We give thanks to God for all he has done for us and our families, especially for the life of our Fraternity, our faith and prayer life, for the cooler weather, for all those who volunteer their time to serve the less fortunate, for all our first responders who keep us safe, for the Holy Angels God has provided to watch over us, for Jennifer Jenkins, who is pregnant with her first child, for all your servants who work tirelessly for the salvation of souls and for the multitude of other things we did not notice.

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

Br. Ed Coughlin; Peg McGrath Ward; Lorre Bracey; David Robertson; Cathy Williams Mother; Michael Feldman; George Webb; Alfie Evans; Elsie Mae Corro; Joan Hartley; Donald Wagner; Jean Weaver; Beverly Pardini; Naed Smith; Judy Ryerse; William Martin; Susan Encroft, Vicki Santora and all the Souls in Purgatory.

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 the sanctity of marriage between one man and one woman, and for religious freedom.

For the 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 all those who mourn the loss of loved ones, that their sadness might be turned into joy.

For all those struggling with addictions. For all victims of sex abuse worldwide especially victims within the Church.

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

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

For all those affected by natural disasters and forest fires, and for all those providing disaster relief and their families.

For our leaders, that the Holy Spirit guide them to make morally faithful decisions.

For all our political candidates, that they would protect and respect the dignity of each person, by protecting the right to life, from conception to natural death.

For our Fraternity members and their families; and for all our intentions held close to our hearts.

Our Fraternity:

Profession Anniversaries:

Rita Evans - October 9, 1999

Ruth Higgins - October 9, 1999

Becky Hsu - October 9, 1999

Fraternity Birthdays:

Becky Hsu - October 13th

Ying White - October 13th

Reyna Monogue - October 31st

In Memoriam: May the souls of all our dear sisters and brothers, especially Jean Dodd - October 19, 2002 rest in God's Peace.

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

October – Month of the Holy Rosary and the Holy Angels

1. Bl. Nicolas de Forca, Priest, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1449

2. Bl. Antoine Chevrier, Priest, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1879

3. St. Therese of the Infant Jesus, Patron of France; St. Marie-Joseph Tossello, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1880

4. Solemnity of our Seraphic Father St. Francis, d. 1226, Plenary Indulgence for tertiaries and cordbearers

5. Commemoration of the establishment of the 3 Orders

6. St. Marie-Francoise des Cinq Plaies, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular

7. Feast of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary

8. St. Brigitte de Suede, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1373

9. Bl. Marie-Angele Truszkowska, Virgin, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1899

10. St. Francois Borgia, Priest, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1572; and St. Daniel and Companions, Religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, Martyrs, d. 1227

11. Feast of the Divine Maternity of Our Lady; and St. Pope John XXIII, d. 1963

12. St. Seraphine de Montegrano, lay brother, Capuchin religious, d. 1604

13. Bl. Pacifique de Valence, lay brother, Capuchin religious, martyr 1936

14. St. Jean de Dukla, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, martyr 1936

15. Bl. Sebastien de Jesus, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1734

16. Bl. Anicet de Dbrzno, Priest, Capuchin religious, martyr, 1941

17. Bl. Balthazar de Chiavari, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1490

18. Bl. Jacques de Strepa, Bishop, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1409; and Feast of St. Luke the Evangelist

19. St. Pierre de Alcantara, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1512

20. Bl. Contardo Ferrini, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1902

21. Bl. Martyrs of Polonais, d. 1941-42

22. Bl. Jean-Baptiste Bullaker, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, martyr 1642; and St. Pope John Paul II, d. 2005
23. St. Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1870
24. Bl. Josephine Leroux, Virgin, the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, martyr 1794
25. Bl. Maria Veronica Masia Ferragut, Bl. Maria Felicidad Masia Ferragut, and Bl. Jesus Masia Ferragut, Virgins, Capuchin religious, Martyrs 1936
26. Bl. Martyrs of the War of Spain, 1936-37
27. Bl. Bonaventure de Potenza, Priest, Conventual religious, d. 1711
28. Bl. Anne-Eugenie Picco, Virgin, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1921; and Feast of Sts. Simon and Jude, Apostles
29. Bl. Thomas de Florence, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1447
30. Bl. Ange d'Acre, Priest, Capuchin religious, d. 1739
31. Bl. Christophe de Cahors, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1272



St John the Beloved Apostle Fraternity
Newsletter Contact: Tom White, OFS,
thomaswhitemsa@gmail.com
703-307-2378