

Sandal Prints

May 2014

St. Clare Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order

Minister's Message

By Michael T. Reidy, OFS

Your participation ensures election success. Please vote!

Sisters and Brothers,

I was asked to say a couple of things on the upcoming elections. In this newsletter, you will find a list of those that have accepted nomination. I understand a separate mailing will go out this week to professed members of St. Clare Fraternity (including San Buenaventura-Portland and St. Francis of Assisi-Eugene). That mailing will include a copy of each nominee's resume. Please pray and study about your sacred choices to be made next month. We have encouraged every single professed member to perform their sacred obligation to participate in the election process. There are 62 professed active members in St. Clare Fraternity including Eugene and San Buenaventura. Every single member is required to participate, no proxy voting is permitted and all members must be present to vote. Without a quorum of 50% plus one of the qualified voting members there will be no election and thus no fraternity. Therefore, every single professed member is required to participate. We generally do not see more than two dozen members at an average fraternity gathering. If that happens when the visitor comes in May, there will be no election. We were saved last election by a majority of San Buenaventura qualified voters that constituted a quorum. Please take this to heart. Everyone is not only welcomed to participate, but needed to participate!

Schedule for the Chapter of Elections (Parish Center-Christ the King Parish)

- 9 am Regional Minister may be available to speak with individual fraternity members
- 10 am Visitation with whole fraternity begins
- 11 am Potluck Lunch (please provide at least 4 servings)
- 11:45 Elections
- 2:00 Mass and Installation of New Council
- 3:00 Reception
- 3:30 Regional Minister meets with New Council

Alleluia! Blessed Easter Season! Today was the Second Sunday of Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday. It was also the canonization of Pope John Paul II and Pope John XXIII. It was John Paul II who canonized St. Faustina and added Divine Mercy Sunday to the Roman Calendar in April, 2000. John Paul II was both beatified and canonized on Divine Mercy Sunday.

Francis was the first Saint to be so close to the Merciful Love of God that he bore in his own body the wounds of Christ's sufferings. His prayer before receiving the stigmata was:

"Lord, I ask you for two graces before I die: to experience in myself, as much as possible, the sufferings of your cruel Passion, and to feel for you the same love that drove you to sacrifice yourself for us."

Many observe the Novena of Divine Mercy from Good Friday to Divine Mercy Sunday and/or pray the Chaplet for Divine Mercy. The Passion and Cross were sacred to St Francis, also. He was celebrating the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on a novena of his own when he composed the

Calendar

May

- 6 Evelyn Brush's birthday
- 8 Shirley Stevens—32 yrs profession anniversary
- 9 Verna VanNewkirk's birthday
- 14 Joanne Cody—31 yrs profession anniversary
- 15 Dora Murphy—9 yrs profession anniversary
- 18 Chapter of Elections
10:00 a.m. Parish Center
*Christ the King Catholic Church
7414 SE Michael Dr., Milwaukie, OR*
- 21 Giovanna Zanotto's birthday
- 26 Tricia Fryer's birthday
- 27 Carlene Roeker's birthday

June

- 1 Ascension (observed)
 - 6-8 Regional Ministers' Meeting
Our Lady of Peace Retreat
 - 8 Pentecost
 - 8 Fraternity Gathering
1:15 p.m. Parish Center
*Christ the King Catholic Church
7414 SE Michael Dr., Milwaukie, OR*
- Vespers & Refreshments:
Barbara Allen, Allyn Rapcinski,
Verna VanNewkirk

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A Review of the April Gathering

by Lynne Burns, OFS

Francis and the Sultan, with an emphasis on peace, was the topic for our Fraternity gathering in April. The program presented by JPIC, was enriching, with an opening prayer by Francis and the Sultan, invoking the names of God. Next, we heard a monologue explaining the six principal teachings of Islam and how they compare to Christianity. We then viewed a clip from the DVD, "In the Footprints of Francis and the Sultan", followed by small faith sharing groups.

During the time of Francis, the Muslim people dominated the Middle East, particularly the Holy Land. The pope at that time called for a crusade to take back Jerusalem. Francis was strongly against the crusades and he traveled to the Middle East to try and stop the fighting. When he walked up to the crusaders to discourage the conflict, they initially dismissed Francis. However, Francis continued on his journey and he and Brother Iluminato met with the Sultan. The Sultan saw

something in Francis that he admired. Francis had an attitude of "I come to you with my truth and you come to me with your truth" (quoted from Murry Bodo). A mutual respect and understanding developed between Francis and the Sultan. From the encounter that Francis and the Sultan had, it changed Francis. It also challenges us to work towards creating dialogue with people who have a different religion or set of beliefs.

A question which initiated some sharing from the group that I was in, asked us to tell of an experience that moved us from one viewpoint to another. One member remembered meeting two African-Americans for the first time and the impact it had on her. Prior to her meeting, she had not been prejudiced against African-Americans, she just had not met any until she was an adult. She only saw African-Americans on television or in the newspaper. She also heard about the segregations between White Americans and the African-American population, particularly in the Southern part of the United States. Two factors which helped her to be accepting of them was the Civil Rights movement and an opportunity to meet these two people in person.

A Prayer for Mother's Day



Creator God, we are reminded today that new life and everlasting hope are found in you, the one who birthed all of creation and continues to care for all within it. We give you thanks for your on-going invitation to be co-laborers with you in this world you made good and beautiful.

We are grateful on this day that as a mother cares for her children, so also have you extended compassion towards us and cared for us as your people. May your Spirit enable us to extend the same love and concern towards others in their seasons of joy and sorrow. Help us to laugh with those who laugh. Weep with those who weep. And rejoice with those who rejoice.

On this day, we especially lift up to you all those who are mothers. We pray for those who know the joy of new life coming into this world and faithfully love and care for their families as you love and care for us. We pray for mothers who have adopted or are in the process of adoption, extending their families to children in need of a place to call home. We are reminded that in the same way you claim us as your children and call us to make our home in you.

God of comfort, your Word reminds us that creation groans as though in the pains of labor, waiting for the world to be made right. We continue to await the day when all will be made right. Until then, we grieve this day for all those who long to be

mothers but for whatever reasons, known and unknown, have yet to see that day come. We pray for those who have battled endlessly through infertility, miscarriage, and reproductive technology, knowing all too well that pregnancy is never to be taken for granted. We pray for those who have lost children to a world still muddled with chaos. We pray for the children throughout this world who long for someone to call mother. Make a way for them to enter into a family and a home, even through your church. We pray for those who also have lost mothers and grieve the passing of other loved ones. Make your compassion and concern known to all for whom Mother's Day is no longer a day to celebrate.

Jesus, you are the one we call brother and friend. We are grateful that in your life, death, and resurrection we discover new reasons to hope and the ability to trust God's promises that are to us and for the whole world. Remind us over and again- we are your people and nothing and no one can separate us from the love you have for us. In that light, continue to form us as your children, so we may be your light into the world. Walk with us towards the day when you will make a home among us and all the families of the earth will be united forever. Amen.

St. Clare Fraternity: Chapter of Elections
May 18, 2014 10:00 am
Parish Center, Christ the King Church, Portland

Minister

Clare Reidy
Michael Reidy

Vice Minister

Barbara Allen
Mary Lou Betzing
Jim Burns
Lete Davis
Clare Reidy

Secretary

Barbara Allen
Mary Lou Betzing
Lete Davis

Treasurer

Lete Davis
Clare Reidy

Formation Director

Lynne Burns
Clare Reidy

Councilor

Barbara Allen
Mary Lou Betzing
Jim Burns
Lynne Burns
Lete Davis
Natalie Ettlin
Tricia Fryer
Kay Haberlach
Clare Reidy
Michael Reidy
Laura Wagman



St. Francis, pray for us

Almighty, most high and supreme God, Father,
holy and just, Lord, King of heaven and earth:
we give you thanks for yourself.

Of your own will you created all things spiritual and
physical, and made us in your own image and likeness,
and gave us a place in paradise,
through your only Son, in the Holy Spirit.

We trust in you and we ask for your light
so that we may choose those who will properly
serve our fraternity through their leadership.

Help us to select those who are able to animate
and guide us by their example, their virtues and
prudent decisions so that the gospel of Jesus
in the spirit of St. Francis may come alive
in our community.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Minister's Message, continued from page 1

Praises of God using Merciful Savior as the highest of his
Praises of God. Before then, the God of the Bible had
never been known by this name, Merciful. Savior, yes
from Isaiah 43:11 Moshia or Deliverer as in Exodus.
Yeshua Ha-Mashiach is an overlapping concept of
Messiah. But no one had yet called God the Merciful in
Christian or Jewish circles. We know from the Psalms that
God had been declared Kindness and Mercy and that his
judgment from the Ark of the Covenant was from His
Mercy seat, but these were declared attributes, rather
than essence or names for God. Names for God would be
like Elohim or El Shaddai, etc.

Where did Francis get his view of God as Merciful? We
know Francis had personal experience with the Divine
after having been a victim and prisoner of war, suffering
from post-traumatic stress and long periods of ill health,
especially later in life with blindness and the wounds of
Christ when he composed those Praises, but also because
he learned love and mercy at the hands of his enemies,
whom he called neighbor. He learned Love and Mercy,
not from Grace, but from suffering. This Francis tells us
is his view of Perfect Joy.

*“Above all the graces and gifts of the Holy Spirit which
Christ gives to His friends is that of conquering oneself
and willingly enduring sufferings, insults, humiliations,
and hardships for the love of Christ.” (Fioretti, Chapter 8).*

Before Francis visited the Sultan, he stepped down from
the administration of the order and Brother Elias
became Minister General. St Francis did not even
consider leadership of the order he himself began as
more important than the love of his enemy. In his youth,
Francis had dreamed of honor in battle and wished to
gain the indulgence of participation in the Crusades as a
warrior. In his maturity, he sought holy martyrdom
instead, but discovered in his journey that God, the
Merciful, had a better idea, loving your enemy and
becoming a peacemaker. It was the Sufi's of Malik al-
Kamil that taught Francis that there were 99 names for
God. The Hebrews had only a dozen names for God,
YHWH had no vowels and was not even pronounced.
The Gentile Christians added another dozen or so Greek
names for God. Beneficent and Most Merciful were the
first two names of God the Sultan taught Francis. When
Francis returned to La Verna, he composed the 33
Praises of God just before receiving the stigmata.
Merciful Savior was the last name Francis used in his
Praises for God.

Goodness, Mercy, and Love is the Perfect Joy of our
seraphic father, Francis. We demonstrate we are
children of God and Brothers and Sisters of Penance by
exercising Mercy to neighbor and enemy by deed, word,
and prayer through acts of repentance,, reparation, and
penance. Mercy transforms our selfish and tribal
perspective to a cosmic view of the Divine Seed in
everyone and everything. Christ calls us to demonstrate
our love for Him by respect and kindness to our
neighbor, especially our enemy.

*“You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor
and hate your **enemy**.' But I tell you, love
your **enemies** and pray for those that despitefully use
you.” —Matthew 5:43.*

Blessed Divine Mercy and Chapter of Elections!

Mike



Franciscan Saints and Blesseds

MAY

- 3 Bl. Arthur Bell, Henry Heath, John Woodcock, et al., priests, martyrs of England, I Ord.
- 7 Bl. Agnellus of Pisa, religious, I Ord.
- 8 Bl. Jeremiah of Valacchia, religious, I Ord.
- 9 St. Catherine of Bologna, virgin, II Ord.
- 10 St. Ivo of Brittany, III Ord.
- 11 St. Ignatius of Laconi, religious, I Ord.
Bl. Antonio of St. Anne Galvoa, I Ord., founder
- 12 St. Leopold Mandic, priest, I Ord.
- 16 St. Margaret of Cortona, III Ord.
- 17 St. Paschal Baylon, religious, I Ord.
- 18 St. Felix of Cantalice, religious, I Ord.
- 19 St. Crispin of Viterbo, religious, I Ord.
St. Theophilus of Corte, priest, I Ord.
- 20 St. Bernardine of Siena, priest, I Ord.
- 21 Bl. Franz Jägerstätter, Martyr, III Ord.
- 24 Dedication of the Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi
- 28 St. Mariana of Jesus de Paredes, virgin, III Ord.
- 30 St. Ferdinand, king, III Ord.
- 30 St. Camilla Batista of Varano, OSC

Gaze...Consider...Contemplate...Imitate

by Sr. Loretta Schaff, osf

This theme that was chosen for this year comes from our beloved sister in faith, Clare of Assisi.

So . . .as we rejoice in the 50 days of Easter:

may we gaze on the Risen Christ and be radiant in
His light and not blush with shame;

may we consider the great mystery of Resurrection
and discover new resurrections in our own lives;

may we contemplate the golden wounds of the
Risen Christ and know in the depths of our hearts
that all pain and suffering will be
transformed unto the glory of God;

may we imitate the forgiveness, the peace, and the hospitality of the Risen
Christ and
rise to become a new Fraternity of Resurrection.

Treasurer's Report

By Lete Davis, OFS

Month ending Mar. 31, 2014

General Income	\$595.43
General Expenses*	\$392.89
Account Balances	\$3388.28

*Expenses include monthly and necessary budgeted expenses to operate the Fraternity.

“Regarding expenses necessary for the life of the fraternity and the needs of worship, of the apostolate, and of charity, all the brothers and sisters should offer a contribution according to their means.”

—Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order, Chapter 25

Council Members

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Michael T. Reidy, OFS
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Vice-Minister

Kay Haberlach, OFS

Secretary

Patricia Fryer, OFS

Treasurer

Lete Davis, OFS

Formation Director

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Clare Reidy, OFS
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Submission deadline for the next issue is May 20

This month's banner is a portion of an abstract painting entitled *Ascension* by Eduardo Rodriguez.