

# Sandal Prints

St. Clare Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order  
October 2018

**Our Fraternity Vision:** To be a contemporary incarnation of Christ Jesus as a vibrant fraternity in the spirit of St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi through contemplation of the Gospel, on-going conversion and service to others.

**Our Fraternity Mission:** St. Clare Franciscan fraternity makes a difference every day, enhancing the lives of everyone they encounter by being the living presence of St. Francis of Assisi.

## Minister's Message

by Evelyn Brush, OFS

*Sisters and Brothers,*

We have had a wonderful warm summer with colorful flowers. And, except for the newly arrived gray skies, I am enjoying the beauty of autumn. After nearly two decades in the high desert of Central Oregon with its dusky evergreen hues, I marvel at nature as I watch the leaves change colors. I also greatly appreciate that I live in an apartment and don't have to rake.

Most of you know that I work at a small parish as the Pastoral Minister in SE Portland. I am the only full-time staff and responsible for parish life which includes catechesis, sacramental prep, bingo, Seniors events, and movie night etc. Since January 2018, my pastor has been on medical leave, healing from prostate cancer.

My pastor came to the office last month and gathered the staff and office volunteers around to thank us for our work and give us a pep talk. He could see us from his window and the activity of the parish based on the parking lot. He said that he would watch as I hurried between buildings, between activities, going about the work of the parish. He spoke directly to me and told me to "slow down."

Now, I have been told to slow down many times in my life. Sometimes it is by people who worry that I "burn the candle at both ends". Sometimes by people who think that I make them look bad. Sometimes because my energy level is overwhelming for them. Each time, I accept their comments and continue on my way. But this time, my pastor offered me a whole new way of thinking that stopped me in my tracks. He said, "I want you to slow down so that you can enjoy your job." Wow! No one had ever said that before! No one had given me a reason to slow down that had any meaning to me.

Now as I walk between buildings, I try to breathe deeply and admire the trees as their leaves change to bright autumn colors. I try to stand more erect and be conscious of each step I take. I then have the time and mindfulness to thank God for the great job I have and an amazing boss.

Peace and All Good,

*Evelyn*

## October

### Gatherings

- 14 Fraternity Gathering  
1:15 pm, Parish Center  
Christ the King Catholic Church  
11709 SE Fuller Rd., Milwaukie, OR

### Birthdays

- 2 Lete Davis
- 7 Laura Wagman
- 8 Allyn Rapcinski

### Profession Anniversaries

- 4 Lynne Burns—24 yrs
- 5 Michael Reidy—29 yrs
- 5 Jerri Wagner—23 yrs
- 11 Allyn Rapcinski—32 yrs

### Refreshments & Vespers

October 14, 2018  
Tom Brannon, Jim Burns,  
Lynne Burns

November 11, 2018  
Shonne Farrell, Laura Wagman

December 9, 2018  
Clare Reidy, Mike Reidy,  
Bruce Siggins

## Ongoing Formation

October 14, 2018  
We Turn to Our Neighbor

"I love my brother because he too is Christ, is Christlike, is the flesh of Christ. I love the poor, the widow, the slave, those in prison. . . Let's consider the 'protocol' by which we will be judged: Matthew 25. I love all these people, because these people who suffer are the flesh of Christ."

- Pope Francis, Address at Caserta, 7/28/14

*Truly, I tell you,  
whatever you did for one of  
the least of these  
brothers and sisters of mine,  
you did for me.*  
~MATTHEW 25:40

## A Transition for Sister Loretta

by Evelyn Brush, OFS

By now, members of the fraternity have received a copy of Sr. Loretta's letter of resignation. She presented each of us the letter personally at the last council meeting. I had a chance to speak with her privately before the meeting. Though dismayed about her decision, I was not surprised. On top of her regular commitment to St. Clare, which includes monthly meetings of both the council and fraternity plus quarterly meetings of the formation team, Sr. Loretta visits both St. Francis (Eugene) fraternity and the St. John emerging fraternity in Boise, ID. Her responsibility as the region Spiritual Assistant and developing a training program for Secular spiritual assistants has filled her time.

I asked Sr. Loretta to consider working with our fraternity in the manner she works with Eugene and Boise. I proposed that she visit us on a quarterly basis whereby she could remain a resource for us as well as possibly lead a retreat day or give an on-going formation presentation. This would allow her to maintain friendships she has forged over the last six years and provide some continuity for us regarding formation matters. She said that she would take time to discern the idea. Please keep her in your prayers as she discerns and prepares for this transition at the end of the year.

## St. Clare in the News

by Evelyn Brush, OFS

Those of you living in Oregon, did you see the latest copy of the Catholic Sentinel? Our very own Tricia Fryer was quoted on the front page!! She participated in an interview regarding sacramentals. She highlighted the prayer value of both the Franciscan Crown rosary and use of the San Damiano cross.

The Catholic Sentinel earlier carried a short article inviting people to join us for the Transitus at St. John the Baptist. I had sent them a press release and a flyer. I was quite distressed when the print edition of the paper used the term Lay Franciscans. I sent the writer a gentle reminder that nothing I had submitted carried the name "lay". I also included some explanations that I thought might be helpful.

*"Secular" is the opposite of "Religious". "Lay" is the opposite of "Clerical". Recent popular cultural usage of the word 'secular' sort of means bad, or anti-religious. In this context, 'religious' is being interchanged with holy or righteous. But in the Church, 'secular' means one who lives in the world and can inherit. Thus, diocesan priests are secular (no vow of poverty). Members of religious orders, i.e. Jesuits, Dominicans, Franciscans, SOLT, AJ, etc., hold everything in common and cannot inherit. So, you can have secular clerics and religious clerics. There are secular orders and clerical orders. It is always a challenge with the ancient wording of the Church and the modern American vernacular.*

The writer apologized for her error and corrected the online version of the article. The Catholic Sentinel has been a good support for increasing public awareness that our order exists and that we are active within the Archdiocese of Portland.

## Spiritual Reflections

by Sr. Loretta Schaff, ofS

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

These days are filled with such rich opportunities in prayer in our Franciscan Life: Stigmata of Francis (Sept. 17), Finding the Body of Clare (Sept. 23), Padre Pio (Sept. 23), Transitus (Oct. 3), Feast Day of Francis (Oct. 4). Let us be filled with joy that our lives can be transformed by entering into the holiness of these days.

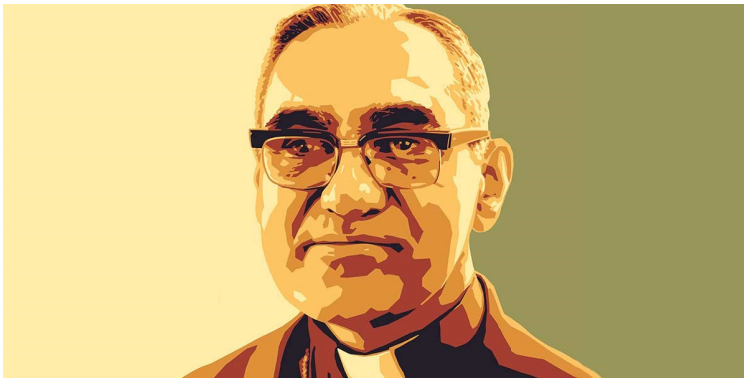
I share with you a Litany of St. Francis discovered in my own prayer. I offer it to you for reflection. I redacted it a bit because it is twice as long as what is shared here. Pace e bene!

### *Litany of St. Francis*

**Response: St. Francis, pray for us.**

Joyful poverello  
Happy troubadour  
Lover of creation  
Lover of God  
Lover of Mary  
Lover of Scripture  
Lover of Church  
Respecter of church authority  
Vowed in poverty  
Vowed in chastity  
Vowed in obedience  
Humble in serving the poor  
Example of life for brother  
Example of life for Clare and her Sisters  
Fraternally loved by his brothers  
Man of vision  
Man of action  
Man of contemplation  
Mirror of poverty  
Possessed by God's grace  
Exemplar of kindness  
Gifted with preaching  
Gifted with peace making  
Gifted with stigmata  
Gifted with wisdom in suffering  
Exemplar of simplicity  
Exemplar of unity  
Observer of the gospel  
Preaching peace to all  
Knowing peace is the dwelling place of God  
Final peace, love of Crucified  
Groaning in prayer through Christ Crucified

*Prayers From Franciscan Hearts - Ramona Kruse*



## Oscar Romero (1917–1980) Canonized October 14, 2018

Oscar A. Romero, Archbishop of San Salvador, in El Salvador, was assassinated on March 24, 1980, while celebrating Mass in a small chapel in a cancer hospital where he lived. He had always been close to his people, preached a prophetic gospel, denouncing the injustice in his country and supporting the development of popular and mass organizations. He became the voice of the Salvadoran people when all other channels of expression had been crushed by the repression.

### *A Future Not Our Own*

It helps now and then to step back and take a long view. The Kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is beyond our vision.

We accomplish in our lifetime only a fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work. Nothing we do is complete, which is another way of saying that the kingdom always lies beyond us. No statement says all that could be said. No prayer fully expresses our faith. No confession brings perfection, no pastoral visit brings wholeness. No program accomplishes the Church's mission. No set of goals and objectives include everything. This is what we are about. We plant the seeds that one day will grow. We water the seeds already planted knowing that they hold future promise. We lay foundations that will need further development. We provide yeast that produces effects far beyond our capabilities. We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing this. This enables us to do something, and to do it very well. It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest. We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker. We are workers, not master builders, ministers, not messiahs. We are prophets of a future not our own.

*This prayer was composed by Bishop Ken Untener of Saginaw, drafted for a homily by Card. John Dearden in Nov. 1979 for a celebration of departed priests.*

## Prayer For Christian Martyrs

Source: Catholic Relief Services

Lord, so great is our love for you  
That even though we walk in a world where speaking  
your name can mean certain death  
Your faithful still speak it  
And speak it all the louder.  
Help us work for a world where all may speak their  
creeds  
And pray their prayers  
Without fear of violence.  
Hear the prayers of those who abide with you  
in dangerous times  
and in dark valleys,  
And who die with your name on their lips.  
Draw them quickly to your side  
Where they might know eternal peace.  
Amen

## World Day of the Poor

November 18, 2018

Pope Francis has named the thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary time the World Day of the Poor. Here is an excerpt from Pope Francis' message (available at <https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/poveri.index.html>):

“I would like this year's, and all future World Days, to be celebrated in a spirit of joy at the rediscovery of our capacity for togetherness. Praying together as a community and sharing a meal on Sunday is an experience that brings us back to the earliest Christian community, described by the evangelist Luke in all its primitive simplicity: ‘They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers... And all who believed were together and had all things in common; and they sold their possessions and goods and distributed them to all, as any had need’ (Acts 2:42.44-45).”



This poor man cried,  
and the Lord heard him

2018



## 12 Months of Franciscan Peace

Adapted from the 12 Weeks of Franciscan Peace by Carolyn D. Townes, OFS, National Chair for JPIC in the United States

*Each month focuses on one specific PEACE building block and will include a connection to the prior month, a short explanation of the month's theme, a Psalm fragment, a Reflection Question and a prayer for the Month.*

The thought for the **second month was EMPATHY**. Empathy requires focusing full attention on the other person's message. We give to others the time and space they need to express themselves fully and to feel understood.

### **Psalm Fragment:**

*"You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore." ~ Psalm 16:11*

**Reflection Question:** When someone is in need, do you offer them your presence or your advice?

**Prayer for the month was:** "Lord, grant me the spirit of patience to be present to someone who is hurting or in need. May I be Your presence to them. I pray in Jesus' name. Amen."

### **For the 3<sup>rd</sup> month, the theme is LISTENING.**

When we hear, we hear with just the ears. When we listen, we listen with the whole body – ears, eyes, heart, posture, mind – open and empty.

Many people wrongly assume that listening is a passive process of being silent while another person speaks. We may even believe that we are good listeners, but what we are often doing is listening selectively, making judgements about what is being said, and thinking of ways to end the conversation or redirect the conversation in ways more pleasing to ourselves.

*So when (Joseph and Mary) did not find Jesus, they returned to Jerusalem looking for him. Now so it was that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers. (Luke 2:45-47)*

The work of active listening takes place up in your head; ...It requires a sacrifice, an extension of oneself, to block out the noise and truly enter another person's world – even for a few minutes. Active listening is attempting to see things as the speaker sees them and attempting to feel things as the speaker feels them. This identification with the speaker is referred to as *empathy* and requires a great deal of effort.

Our Lord Jesus was an active listener, just as His mother. It took great discipline to listen to the words of the angel Gabriel. Mary did not hear what she wanted to hear; she listened to the words, asked a clarifying question, then gave her fiat – her yes to God. You must truly listen in order to properly respond.

### **Psalm Fragment:**

"Oh, that my people would listen to Me, that Israel would walk in My ways!" – Psalm 81:13

**Reflection Question:** When was the last time you sat down in quiet and listened to God speak to your heart?

**For this month:** Be mindful about listening to the conversation you are engaged in – without interrupting or distractions. Then, spend some quiet time actively listening to God in the Scriptures.

### **Prayer for the month:**

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because He has anointed me.

To preach the gospel to the poor;

He has sent me to heal the broken hearted,

To proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind,

To set at liberty those who are oppressed;

To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.

—Luke 4:18-19



## A New Book by Fr. Dan Horan, OFM

Fr. Dan's latest book, *Reading, Praying, Living Pope Francis's Rejoice and Be Glad: A Faith Formation Guide*, is now available for pre-order from Amazon and the publisher Liturgical Press. Here is the publisher description:

"Drawing on the wisdom of the Second Vatican Council's landmark teaching on the universal call to holiness, Pope Francis addresses all Christian women and men in his latest apostolic exhortation *Gaudete et Exsultate* and invites them to embrace fully their baptismal call to live the Gospel. Fr. Horan guides readers through Pope Francis's apostolic exhortation with helpful commentary, additional context, and expert insight. Each chapter includes suggestions for prayer and reflections questions, which makes *Reading, Praying, Living Pope Francis's Rejoice and Be Glad* an ideal resource for adults, students, and faith formation groups interested in learning more about this teaching and exploring their own spirituality. This is the most extensive and helpful commentary on *Gaudete et Exsultate* available anywhere. It does not include the full text of the apostolic exhortation."



## October Prayer Intentions

To underline our communion with the Pope, we offer the intention of the Holy Father for the month and an intention for OFS according to the life and important events of the Order.

The Mission of Religious: That consecrated religious men and women may bestir themselves, and be present among the poor, the marginalized, and those who have no voice.

OFS: For the national fraternities of Croatia (VFP), Sri Lanka and India.

## October Franciscan Saints and Blessed

- 4 Our Holy Father Francis
- 6 St. Mary Frances of the Five Wounds
- 10 Sts. Daniel and Companions
- 12 St. Seraphin of Montegrano
- 20 Bl. James of Strepar
- 20 Bl. Contardo Ferrini
- 21 Bl. Josephine Leroux
- 22 St. Peter of Alcantara
- 23 St. John of Capistrano
- 26 Bl. Bonaventure of Potenza
- 30 Anniversary of Dedication in Consecrated Franciscan Churches

## 2018 National Chapter

The National Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order – USA (NAFRA) began its 2018 Chapter in St Louis on October 9th. Many important topics will be addressed by our servant leaders this week and, on Saturday, an election will be held to select our national leadership team for the next three years. Please be sure keep the entire National Fraternity in your prayers as the Holy Spirit guides them during these discussions and the election. Materials related to the Chapter, including our National Minister’s State of the Order presentation are available online at: <https://secularfranciscansusa.org/2018-national-chapter/>

## 2018 JPIC Award Presented

“Greetings, dear Family!

It was my joyful honor to present the 2018 recipient of the Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Award, Kathleen Carsten, OFS (on the right in the photo). Kathy, as she is affectionately known, is a parish nurse and an advocate for the seniors and the plights of senior housing.

Wishing you blessings of peace and all good,  
 Carolyn D. Townes, OFS  
 National Animator, Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC)”



## Treasurer’s Report

by Jim Burns, OFS

Month ending August 31, 2018

|                   |            |
|-------------------|------------|
| Account balances  | \$ 3292.01 |
| General Income    | \$ 325.00  |
| General Expenses* | \$ 625.00  |

As of September 24, 2018

|                  |            |
|------------------|------------|
| Account Balances | \$ 2840.54 |
|------------------|------------|

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

Contributions may be mailed to the Fraternity Treasurer at:  
 St. Clare Treasurer, 14917 NE 87th St.,  
 Vancouver, WA 98682

“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

### Minister

Evelyn Brush, OFS  
 evelyn.parker.brush@gmail.com

### Vice-Minister

Ramiro Hernandez, OFS

### Secretary

Tricia Fryer, OFS

### Treasurer

Jim Burns, OFS

### Formation Director

Juan Urias, OFS

### Councilors

Mike Reidy, OFS  
 Barbara Allen, OFS

### Spiritual Assistant

Sister Loretta Schaff, OFS

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### Newsletter Editor

Barbara Allen, OFS  
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**Submission deadline for  
 the next issue is  
 October 20**