



THE ST. ANTHONY FRATERNITY NEWSLETTER

Fraternity #101 Volume 22 Issue 04 April 2019

Monthly Devotion: EUCHARIST AND HOLY SPIRIT

U.S. BISHOPS' RESPONSE TO MASS SHOOTING AT NEW ZEALAND MOSQUES

March 15, 2019

WASHINGTON—Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston and President of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops issued the following statement in response to today's mass shooting at two mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand.

"I am deeply saddened by the senseless attacks at the Noor and Linwood mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand that killed dozens of worshippers and seriously injured many others, including children. This slaughter of innocent Muslim brothers and sisters praying peacefully is being described as a terrorist attack carried out by a self-identified fascist and his accomplices. As the Catholic bishops of New Zealand said, 'we are particularly horrified that this has happened at a place and time of prayer.'

Unfortunately, we Americans are all too familiar with gun violence, which often targets religious communities. However, we must not remain complacent or desensitized to the horror of these tragedies.

I join with my brother bishops in New Zealand in expressing solidarity with the Muslim community and in calling Catholics to join in prayer for the victims of this shooting, their families, and the Muslim community that was directly targeted.

May almighty God change the hearts of those who hate to recognize the inherent dignity of all people and bring consolation to all those affected by this heart-rending loss."



SAF GATHERING RECAP

Rena Xuereb, SAF Formation Director led the prayer service at the March Fraternal Gathering. In the spirit of the Lenten Season, the Office of the Passion of the Lord was prayed for the appropriate day. **The "Office of the Passion of the Lord" is a devotion written by St. Francis of Assisi himself.** It consists of 15 "psalms" which are composites of various verses, mostly from the Davidic psalms but also from other parts of Sacred Scripture and pious sentiment. This prayer has been used for centuries by members of the Franciscan family. **Abraham Placencio, SAF Minister** presented a narrative and pictorial overview of his first Regional Gathering and introduced the newly elected Regional Executive Council members. Our Fraternity was blessed to receive and greet **Inn Sohn** as our March guest who is a parishioner of Our Lady of Annunciation parish. Inn was born in South Korea and immigrated with his family to the U.S. Inn was invited by **Bill Parras** who is in formation.



Inn Sohn

MONTHLY FRATERNAL EUCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS IN PARISHES

All SAF members are encouraged to participate as a fraternal group at monthly masses to be celebrated in our local parishes starting **May 5, 9:00 am Mass at Immaculate Conception Church, 619 Copper Ave NW.**

“FRANCISCAN REFLECTION: ”ST. FRANCIS AND THE EUCHARIST”

(Source: Liam McDonnell, Archbishop Curley Franciscan High School, Baltimore, My.)

At the time of St. Francis, there was throughout the Church a widespread apathy among believers about the faith and most especially about the Catholic teaching of the Eucharist. Jesus loves his church so much that he will never abandon or leave us alone. At each Mass, bread and wine becomes the body and blood of Jesus Christ. The Pope called for a Church Council; increasing respect for the Eucharist was one of the important goals of the Fourth Lateran Council.

St Francis was at the Council and took this call to heart. **Francis expressed the view that the Eucharist was the best way to continue Christ’s Incarnation and presence in the world.** St Francis saw that in the Eucharist Jesus emptied himself in a humble and simple form to give himself to us. **Eucharist is also the measure in which we may return our gratitude to Christ for dying for us.** St. Francis wrote many prayers and letters about the Eucharist. These words of St. Francis impressed me the most: **“In this world I cannot see the Most High Son of God with my own eyes, except for His Most Holy Body and Blood.”** In this quote he states how the Eucharist is so very important for us to get close to Jesus. He says that we cannot see Jesus with our own eyes but through the Eucharist. He also says: **“What wonderful majesty! O sublime humility! O humble sublimity! That the Lord of the whole universe, God and the Son of God, should humble Himself like this under the form of a little bread, for our salvation.”**

The Eucharist is the closest way to really embrace Jesus. The Eucharist is more than just bread and wine but the flesh and blood of the savior who died for us. St. Francis said that God was so humble that he was born as a baby, and then took the form of a little bread to remain with us and be our spiritual food. St. Francis tried to follow Jesus by being humble, a “lesser brother,” a “Friar Minor.”



ST. FRANCIS ON HOW TO RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT PERMANENTLY

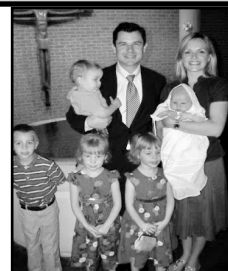
(Source: **Dr. Taylor Marshall**, former Episcopalian priest, now Catholic convert and author)

So-called spiritual gurus of every age promote techniques by which a person becomes “spiritual.” Contrast this to the perennial wisdom of Saint Francis. **One acquires the Holy Spirit, says holy Francis, not by techniques but by simple consistency in penance, prayer, alms, purity, and charity. Such persons will gain the Holy Spirit “permanently.”** Here are Saint Francis’ words on the subject:

“Furthermore, let us produce worthy fruits of penance. Let us also love our neighbors as ourselves. Let us have charity and humility. Let us give alms because these cleanse our souls from the stains of sin. Men lose all the material things they leave behind them in this world, but they carry with them the reward of their charity and the alms they give. For these they will receive from the Lord the reward and recompense they deserve. We must not be wise and prudent according to the flesh. Rather we must be simple, humble and pure. We should never desire to be over others. Instead, we ought to be servants who are submissive to every human being for God’s sake.”

The Spirit of the Lord will rest on all who live in this way and persevere in it to the end. He will permanently dwell in them.

They will be the Father’s children who do his work. They are the spouses, brothers and mothers of our Lord Jesus Christ.”



Marshall Family



MOTHER MARY ANGELA LETTER

January 23, 2019

Today the Church in the United States rejoices in one of her own daughters, **Saint Marianne Cope of the Sisters of St. Francis** in Syracuse, New York. We proudly claim this spiritual heroine as our own, though Marianne (known by her baptismal name of Barbara at the time) was a transplant to American soil. Her family came to the United States from Germany when she was one a year old. In her teenage years, she became a naturalized citizen, along with the rest of her family. The first saint from U.S.A. to be canonized, Saint Francis Xavier Cabrini, was also an immigrant to this country who became a naturalized citizen. **We can ask these two heroic missionaries to intercede for us now, as our nation faces difficult questions related to immigration reform, border security, and justice for refugees.**



(St. Marianne Cope)

Saint Marianne Cope exemplifies the vocation of the Franciscan Third Order, ministering courageously and compassionately among her sick and suffering brothers and sisters. She taught schools in the New York state area, but achieved her most memorable legacy in health care. She had already accomplished innovative advancements in medical training and patient advocacy while working in hospital administration in Syracuse. As mother general of her congregation, she then responded generously to a plea for assistance half a world away, in the Hawaiian islands. She was to spend the rest of her life serving victims of leprosy and their families, continuing the work begun by Saint Damien DeVeuster. She brought tenderness, warmth, graciousness, and a delicate charity to various initiatives within the leper colony on Molokai. She always responded with whole-hearted, Christ-like love, and we don't need to depart for faraway mission outposts in order to do the same. The people you encounter every day need the light and love of Christ that you can bring to them. God bless your Franciscan vocation within the world! May He reward you abundantly for the generous assistance you share with us, your very grateful Poor Clare sisters.

Mother Mary Angela, PCC (abbess)

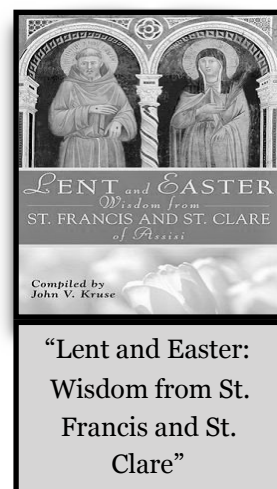
“Lent and Easter Wisdom From St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi”

This recommended lenten book is compiled by **Dr. John Kruse** who is a historical theologian with expertise in Franciscan spirituality.

Although they lived nearly 800 years ago, **Saint Francis and Saint Clare of Assisi serve as excellent guides for the modern Lenten journey.** Saint Francis and Saint Clare of Assisi abandoned their comfortable lifestyles and embraced lives of poverty, humility, and penance to better follow the call to Christian discipleship. Both saints underwent powerful conversion experiences in their lives. **In the course of their conversions, they ignited a movement that reformed the medieval Church and that continues to influence and inspire millions of Christians to this day.**

In this book of prayers, letters, poetry, rules of life, and testaments, Francis and Clare express their vision of the Gospel life. Included are numerous themes extremely appropriate for the Lenten and Easter seasons: **penance, conversion, self-sacrifice, service, embracing the cross, the humility and charity of Christ, joy, new life, and mission.** Through these daily meditations, Scriptural readings, and spiritual exercises, we follow two of the most influential figures in Church history.

Each selected writing is followed by a brief scripture passage, a fitting prayer, and a suggested action-making this book an ideal companion for daily use. **The words and example of these two great saints will inspire readers faithfully to follow Christ to the cross so that, together with them, they might experience the joy and new life of Easter.**



April/May SAF Calendar

| | | | |
|---------------|--|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Mar 30 | Council Meeting | ABP* | 9:00-12:00pm |
| Apr 7 | Candidacy Class | Rena's Home | 1:00-3:00 pm |
| Apr 13 | Orientation Class | Rena's Home | 10:00am-12 pm |
| Apr 28 | Candidacy Class | ABP* | 12:30-2:00pm |
| Apr 28 | FRATERNITY GATHERING (ABP*) 2:00-5:00pm (CFR Clothing Donations: See below) | | |
| May 4 | Council Meeting | ABP* | 9:00-12:00pm |
| May 5 | Candidacy Class | Rena's Home | 1:00-3:00 pm |
| May 5 | Fraternity Eucharistic Celebration | Immaculate Conception Church | 9:00am |
| May 11 | Orientation Class | Rena's Home | 10:00am-12 pm |
| May 19 | Candidacy Class | ABP* | 12:30-2:00pm |
| May 19 | FRATERNITY GATHERING (ABP*) 2:00-5:00pm (St Felix Pantry Donations) | | |

ABP means "A Becoming Place", 1350 Lakeview SW

Hospitality Assignments

| | | |
|----------------|---|--|
| Apr 28 | 1 | Ernestine, Connie Jo, Tommie, Gina, Clare, Bill, Adrian |
| May 19 | 2 | Abraham, Ed & Carol Ann, Margaret, Rex, Felis |
| June 23 | 3 | Victor & Rena, Mary Lou, Connie, Frances |

CFR CLOTHING DONATION NEEDS:

Men's Clothing: (1) T-shirts, plain without words or images (sizes L and XL; new or used if clean and in good condition) (2) Underwear, size L (new only) **Women Clothing:** (1) T-shirts (sizes L and XL; new or used if clean) (2) underwear; sizes 7,8,9 (new only)

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS:

| | | | |
|---------------|--------|--------------------|--------|
| Eva Bevington | Apr 1 | Carol Ann Dzienis | Apr 16 |
| Edith Bohan | Apr 1 | Pat Rocco | Apr 18 |
| Hazel Herrera | Apr 12 | Linda Sue Saavedra | Apr 25 |
| Joann Sanchez | Apr 14 | Abraham Placencio | Apr 27 |
| Marge Armijo | Apr 16 | | |

WE PRAY FOR:

Fred Bates, Isadore (Alcaria Valdez's son), Marilyn Migliarini, Marge Armijo, Margaret Martinez, Maria Lucero (Frances' mother), Ernestine Sedillo, Tommie Page and her daughters (Nanette and Stephanie). Jeannette Feldman, Connie Jo Martinez, Elizabeth Chavez, Barbara Heilman, Art and Erma Lente, Eva Bevington, John and Nancy Fishel, Linda and her family, Kevin, Derek Kolb, Cheryl Thomas (Br. Gordon's sister), Clare Domenici and Karen Fellner's sister.

For the repose of the souls of: Fr. Emeric Nordmeyer, OFM; Pedro Padilla (Frances' nephew); Winifred Klimka; Cidro Gallegos (Rena's brother); Dorothy Swanson; Minnie Vasquez (Espiritu Santo); Wilfred Otero; Arturo Olivas; and Harry Martinez (Connie Jo's husband).

FR. EMERIC NORDMEYER, O.F.M. (1927 – 2019)

Born: **April 12, 1927**

1st Profession: **August 16, 1948**

Solemn Profession: **August 16, 1951**

Ordination: **June 8, 1956**

Date of Death: **March 15, 2019**

Burial: **Mt. Carmel Cemetery, ABQ NM**

"The Rule and life of the Friars Minor is this: namely, to observe the Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ, by living in obedience without anything of one's own, and in chastity.

...

And whoever observe these things, let him be blessed in heaven with the blessing of the Most High Father, and on earth with the blessing of His Beloved Son and with the Most Holy Spirit, the Paraclete, and with all the powers of heaven and with all the saints."

Francis of Assisi

(The first words of his Rule and last words of his Testament)

NATIONAL PRIORITY FOR 2019-2021

(Source: *TAU/USA Winter, 2019*)

The National Executive Council (NEC) selected at their December 13-16, 2018, meeting in St. Louis, Mo. the National Priority for 2019-2021 to be:

“FRATERNITY LIFE”

To help all of us achieve this priority, NEC decided to highlight three aspects of fraternity life:

1. **Deepening our Franciscan Vocation**
2. **Growing in Fraternal Communion**
3. **Cultivating Universal Kinship**

Points to ponder the first aspect:

- **The fraternity is not an afterthought.** It originated with St. Francis, and its essential gospel quality was revealed to Francis by God Himself.
- We don't just “live the Gospel.”. We live it “in fraternal communion.” **Fraternal communion is defined as a *constitutive (essential) element of our vocation.*** We have a specific way of being in the world, and a specific way of being together... in fraternal communion.
- **The Constitutions tie building fraternity to our Franciscan mission of “rebuilding” the Church.** In fact, they term it one of the principal services we as an Order do for the Church. Recall that during our profession we promised to spend our efforts doing this very thing. If we fail to take this seriously, if we work half-heartedly, **if we rarely show up at fraternity gatherings, we are failing our brothers and sisters, we are failing to live our professions, and we are failing the Church.**
- Thomas of Celano tells us that **Francis and his brothers rejoiced when others were added to their company.**

- **Ask yourself: do people today feel that “great wonder” when they visit our fraternities?**



“Come to [Jesus], a living stone, rejected by men yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house...” (1 Peter 2:4-5a)

PRAYER FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

O God of all nations, the One God who is and was and always will be.

In your providence you willed that your Church be united to the suffering of your Son.

Look with mercy on your servants who are persecuted for their faith in you.

Grant them perseverance and courage to be worthy imitators of Christ.

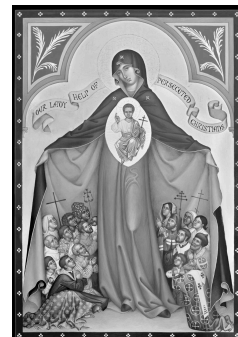
Bring your wisdom upon leaders of nations to work for peace among all peoples.

May your Spirit open conversion for those who contradict your will, that we may live in harmony.

Give us the grace to be united in truth and freedom, and to always seek your will in our lives.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen

Our Lady Help of Persecuted Christians, pray for us.



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|----------------------------|---|------------------------------|--|
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| Website | http://franciscanalbuquerque.sfousa.org | | |
| A Becoming Place | 1350 Lakeview SW, Albuquerque 87105. | (Location of SAF Gatherings) | |

St. Anthony Fraternity
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87197-6881



St. Anthony of Padua

We are the *Ordo Franciscanus Saecularis*
(The Secular Franciscan Order) in the
United States of America.

We live our vocation in
our Lady of Guadalupe,

Empress of the Americas Region.

Our Franciscan Community is the St.
Anthony Fraternity in Albuquerque, NM.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT: We, the fraternity of St. Anthony, inspired by the vision of St. Francis, commit ourselves to the Gospel as our Way of Life: "Going from Gospel to Life and from Life to Gospel." We believe that we are called to fraternity to share a life of joy and peace as well as to draw our inspiration from the cross of Jesus as Francis did. We believe that we are called to be renewed continually through the celebration of the Eucharist and to go forth to rebuild the Church through our witness.