



THE ST. ANTHONY FRATERNITY NEWSLETTER

Fraternity #101 Volume 22 Issue 07 July 2019

Monthly Devotion: PRECIOUS BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST

MINISTER MESSAGE



Peace and all good Sisters and Brothers.

Earlier this Summer, I had the honor and privilege to be invited to speak to a boys

scout troop about **what it means to me to be a professed member of the OFS** and to share a story with them about our father Francis.

They are members of the **International Union of Guides and Scouts of Europe**. This Union is a Lay Association of Pontifical Rite recognized by the Holy See. The North American organization is called the Federation of North American Explorers. Locally in Albuquerque, they are the **Sangre de Cristo Group**. The boys that I spoke to are the **Timber Wolves**. Their name inspired me to tell the story of the **Wolf of Gubbio**. It is a very important story to me as I walk in the footsteps of our Seraphic Father, because it is a story of redemption. I was invited by my friend and colleague **Miles Gloetzner**, whose own spirituality encourages me. He is the scout master in the photo, saluting, along with the Timber Wolves members and **Father Artur Bubnevych**, Pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help parish.

Naturally I had to prepare for what I would share, so I reached out to my **Big Sister Rena** who supplied me with ample material to study by. She encouraged me to 'become an expert on the Wolf of Gubbio'. My visit with the youngsters started with a solemn Rosary lead by the scouts ranging from 5-24 years in age. Then the different scouts broke up in smaller groups.

(Continued to page 2)

SPIRITUAL ASSISTANT MESSAGE

"FIELD TRIP!!" Sound familiar? I wonder how Jesus managed such an on-foot excursion with 72 (count them--seventy-two!) folks? (Recall that "the disciples" were **co-ed groupies** of Jesus.) Included with this group, were the 12 "chosen ones" called "the [original] Apostles."



Jesus with co-ed "groupies".

As Franciscans, we are disciples of Francis — *i.e.*, trying to follow the ideals of *Il Poverello* as he discerned the presence of Jesus within him through the Church of his day. **Our Christian challenge — to be both disciples and ambassadors of Jesus — is the same today — personally.** As we try to give such examples to others (in family, fraternity, and the secularized world), **may we accept the Gifts of the Holy Spirit to humbly/truthfully also accept correction by both word and example from another.**

Indeed, this **Liturgical Season of Ordinary Time** may be lengthy as we re-adapt our Christian-Franciscan call. But, unlike a childlike road trip, may we repent of things in life that hinder it from being exciting and challenging as we mature from **dependence to independence to intradependence**: the ongoing formation of trying-on our vocation from Gospel to Life and Life to Gospel."

In Francis and Clare, and Jesus and Mary —

Br. Gordon
Spiritual Assistant

Sources for Reflection: Cf, (Latin meaning compare to ... Br. Gordon's discussion) 14th Sunday of Ordinary Time (Isaiah 66:10-14c; Psalms 66:1-7, 16, 20; Galatians 6:14-18; and Luke 10:1-12, 17-20)

SAF GATHERING RECAP

Our June SAF Fraternal Gathering celebrated the feast day and month of June in honor of our beloved patron saint, **St. Anthony of Padua**. SAF Minister **Abraham Placencio**, OFS led the Gathering with a sacred Feast Day Prayer service which included three brief sermons by St. Anthony on: (1) the importance of **loving God with our whole heart**, (2) **Humility** – the source of all virtues, and (3) the **Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**. The richness of spiritual teaching in St. Anthony's sermons was one of many reasons why he was declared a Doctor of the Church. We enjoyed a sumptuous picnic feast with a plethora of delicious summer picnic food (hamburgers, hot dogs, fried chicken, etc.). Our special guests were our Franciscan Friars in retirement: (left to right) Fr. Reinaldo Davila, Fr. Larry Schreiber, Br. Michael Burns, Fr. Gilbert Schneider and Br. Richard Garcia. Fr Gerald Steinmetz also attended but was not in the picture.



DEVOTION TO THE PRECIOUS BLOOD

Excerpt from *The Precious Blood of Christ*, **Fr. John A. Hardon, S.J.**

Devotion to the Precious Blood is **not a spiritual option, it is a spiritual obligation**, and not only for priests, but for every follower of Christ. I really believe that one of the symptoms of modern society (and I would even include, sadly, modern Catholic society) is a growing, gnawing secularism that lessens and weakens devotion to the Precious Blood. Devotion, as we know, is a composite of three elements: It is first- **veneration**, it is secondly- **invocation**, and it is thirdly- **imitation**. In other words, devotion to the Precious Blood of Christ, the Lamb of God who was slain, is first of all to be veneration on our part, which is a composite of knowledge, love and adoration. We are to study to come to a deeper understanding of **what those two casual words, Precious Blood, really mean**.

I found this passage in the oldest document, outside of sacred scripture, from the first century of the Christian era – to be exact, from Pope St. Clement I, dated about 96 A.D. Says Pope Clement: **"Let us fix our gaze on the Blood of Christ and realize how truly precious It is, seeing that it was poured out for our salvation and brought the grace of conversion to the whole world."**

(Minister Message continued from page 1)

I marched with the Timber Wolves to a nearby park where they performed a devout scout ritual on community. We sat in a circle where I told the story. I was going to use a script Rena had provided of the story by **Mother Mary Francis PCC** and I became inspired by the Holy Spirit and went off script and ad libbed the story, as by now I was very familiar with it. We shared with each other how we are all like the characters in the story, the towns folk, the wolf and even St. Francis.



Especially we talked about how St. Francis called the wolf to community and not isolation. The children had some remarkable insight how this story applies to us, every day. As service goes, **I learned more from them than they did from me**. It is a story about all of us Sisters and Brothers and I am now inspired to share the story with all of you in an upcoming On Going Formation.

So, **let's get to it Sisters and Brothers and place ourselves into the stories and life of our Father Francis**, learn them and him and follow in his footsteps in the world, but not of it.

Matthew 18:3 *"Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven"*.

Peace and all good.

Abraham Placencio, OFS, SAF Minister

FIRST YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF SAF COUNCIL SERVICE



(Left to Right) Mary Lou Narvaez, Israella Garcia, Rena Xuereb, Abraham Placencio, Tommie Page, Rex Schlicher, and Gerry Rohrkemper.

Let's offer our gratitude and appreciation at our July Fraternal Gathering to our beloved **SAF Council** for their **outstanding dedication** in meeting our spiritual, administrative and fraternal needs. We have been truly blessed with their fraternal leadership over the last year! God bless them!!!

MOTHER MARY ANGELA LETTER

May 9, 2019: Immersed in the radiance of Christ's Resurrection, **we are praying that each of you allow His light to penetrate your life more fully, transforming all your actions and desires.** These fifty days of the Easter season invite us to make St. Paul's exclamation our own: **"It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me."** We can add a grateful "Thanks be to God!" Surely this was St. Francis' great reason for rejoicing: united with the Son, he, too, was a son of the merciful Father.

Your faithful generosity to your Poor Clare sisters is another reason for our glad thanksgiving. May our Easter King bless and reward you for your sacrificial lives, devoted in so many ways to the service of the Church and your brothers and sisters.



St. Clare of Assisi, pray for our Sisters Juanita and Immaculata!

Our **Sister Juanita's** fiftieth anniversary of profession, celebrated during the Easter octave, highlighted the wonderful gift of our Franciscan vocation, in which gratitude and adoration blend into joyful praise. We are already anticipating the next jubilee celebration to take place on June 22,

when our **Sister Immaculata** will renew her covenant of love with Jesus. The Bridegroom provincially arranged for her anniversary to occur on the vigil of Corpus Christi, when the universal Church is caught up in exultant worship of Our Eucharistic Lord. May you always find in His Eucharistic Heart a fountain of blessings, peace, and power to sustain your Christian witness.

Mother Mary Angela, P. C. C.

Financial Statements for May/June 2019

	MAY	JUNE
MONTHLY DONORS	14	15
INCOME		
Regular Contributions	\$475.00	\$620.00
Endowment Interest	87.56	85.63
Exceptional Income		25.00
Book Sale (Orientation)	54.00	
TOTAL INCOME	\$616.56	\$730.63
TOTAL DEPOSITED	\$616.56	\$730.63
EXPENSES		
RECURRING EXP.		
Spiritual Asst. Stipend	\$75.00	\$75.00
Council Admin. Supplies		19.55
Newsletter Supplies/ Printing	14.37	111.96
Newsletter Postage	44.00	44.00
Poor Clares Donation	75.00	75.00
Franciscan Friars Donation	50.00	50.00
Contingency Transfer	50.00	50.00
Subtot. Recur. Expen.	308.37	425.51
EXCEPTIONAL EXPENSES		
Retreat Food/Supplies	109.68	
P.O. Box Renewal		148.00
Subtot. Except. Expens.	109.68	148.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$418.05	\$573.51
BEGIN. BALANCE	\$4,472.11	\$4,670.62
ENDING BALANCE	4,670.62	4,827.74
CONTINGENCY FUND		
Beginning Balance	\$1,862.17	\$1,912.32
Transfer from Expenses	50.00	50.00
Earned Dividend	0.15	0.16
TOTAL CONTINGENCY FUND	\$1,912.32	\$1,962.48

INITIAL FORMATION CLASSES		
(Orientation, Inquiry, Candidacy)		
DATE	TIME	PLACE
July SCHEDULE		
ORIENTATION (Adrian & Felicie)		
July 13	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	Xuereb's Home
CANDIDACY 2nd Yr (Frances & Regina)		
July 7	1:00 - 3:00 pm	Xuereb's Home
July 28	12: 30 - 2:00 pm	ABP*
CANDIDACY 1st Yr (Bill and Linda)		
July 9	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	Xuereb's Home
July 30	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	Xuereb's Home

AUGUST SCHEDULE		
ORIENTATION (Adrian & Felicie)		
August 10	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	Xuereb's Home
CANDIDACY 2nd Yr (Frances & Regina)		
August 4	1:00 - 3:00 pm	Xuereb's Home
August 25	12: 30 - 2:00 pm	ABP*
CANDIDACY 1st Yr (Bill and Linda)		
August 13	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	Xuereb's Home
August 27	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	Xuereb's Home
ABP* means "A Becoming Place", 1350 Lake View SW Xuereb's Home address: 8409 Plymouth Rock NE		

GATHERING & COUNCIL MEETINGS			
June 29	Council Meeting	ABP*	9:00-12:00pm
July 28	ST. ANTHONY GATHERING (ABP*) 2:00-5:00pm CFR Pantry		
August 3	Council Meeting	ABP*	9:00-12:00pm
August 25	ST. ANTHONY GATHERING (ABP*) 2:00-5:00pm St. Felix Pantry		

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS:

	Joanne Romero	Jul 7
	Consuelo Chavez	Jul 10
	Barbara Heilman	Jul 11
	Thomas McCord	Jul 15
	Rose Mary Garcia	Jul 21
	Rex Schlicher	Jul 23

WE PRAY FOR:



Mike Cano, Vicka Earl, Jaden (Norma's grandson), Big Pat, Maria Vega and Laura Martinez (Espiritu Santo), Jan Parker (National Minister), Vicka Earl (Regional Treasurer), Logan Rohrkemper (Gerry's niece), Tony DeCorte (Our Lady of Guadalupe Fraternity), Luz and Socorro Lopez, Harry Chavez (Elizabeth's brother), Fred Bates, Isadore (Alcaria Valdez's son), Marilyn Migliarini, Marge Armijo, Maria Lucero and family (Frances' relatives), 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, Derek Kolb, Cheryl Thomas (Br. Gordon's sister), Clare Domenici and Karen Fellner's sister.

FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF:

Jose Dolores Pacheco, Seth (Big Pat's son), Joe Muniz (Margarita's husband), Esther Herrera's mother & aunt, Carlos A. Armijo (Marge Armijo's nephew), Fr. Emeric Nordmeyer, OFM; Pedro Padilla (Frances' nephew), Winifred Klimka, Cidro Gallegos (Rena's brother), Dorothy Swanson, Minnie Vasquez (Espiritu Santo), Wilfred Otero, and Arturo Olivas.



Hospitality Assignments		
July 28	3	Victor & Rena, Mary Lou, Connie Chavez, Frances
August 25	4	Marilyn, Israella, Luciana, Gerry
Sept. 22	1	Ernestine, Connie Jo, Tommie, Gina, Bill and Adrian

POPE FRANCIS: “PRECIOUS BLOOD IS FOUNT OF SALVATION FOR THE WORLD”

By **Christopher Wells** (Vatican News)
Speaking to the spiritual family of the Most Precious Blood of Jesus, Pope Francis suggested three traits that can help them in their witness to Christ and in their charitable works: the courage of truth; attention to all, especially those who are furthest away; and the ability to captivate and communicate.



“Since the beginning of Christianity, the mystery of love of the Blood of Christ has fascinated many people,” Pope Francis said on Saturday, as he

addressed the spiritual family – religious men and women, and associated groups of lay faithful – of the Most Precious Blood of Christ.

The Holy Father noted that the audience comes on “the vigil of the month of July, when Christian piety turns in a special way to the Blood of Christ.”

Precious Blood: Fount of salvation for the world

The founders of these organizations, he continued, have also cultivated this devotion “because they have understood in the light of faith that the Blood of Christ is the fount of salvation for the world.” Pope Francis said God chose “the sign of blood because no other sign can express so eloquently **the supreme love of a life given for others.**” This gift of the Blood of Christ is renewed at every celebration of the Eucharist when “together with the Body of Christ, His Precious Blood” is made **really present at the words of consecration.**

Three suggestions

Meditation on “the sacrifice of Christ,” the Pope said, “leads us to accomplish works of mercy, giving our lives unsparingly for God and our

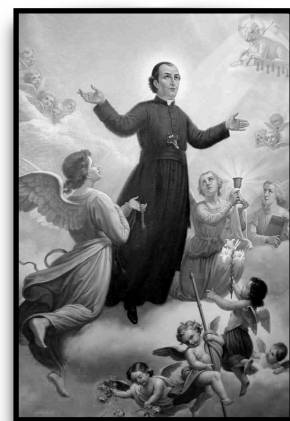
brothers and sisters.” With this in mind, the Holy Father suggested to the members of the Precious Blood Family three traits that could assist them in their work and witness: the courage of the truth; attention to all, especially those who are most distant; and the ability to captivate and to communicate.

Pope Francis said: “It is important to be courageous people, building courageous communities that are **not afraid to take sides**” **to affirm the truth.** Christians, moreover, have a mission to go out to all those in need, but especially those who are furthest away, putting the Gospel in terms that can be understood by everyone. Finally, Christians should allow “the Gospel and the Holy Spirit” to inspire their words and actions in order help others “open themselves to God and their neighbour.” He called on them to imitate “the style of Jesus,” saying, “I believe we are living in a time in which it is necessary to carry out **the revolution of tenderness.**”

True strength comes from the Gospel

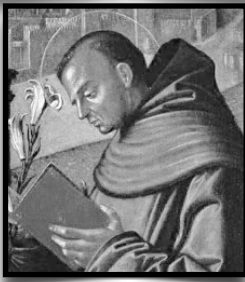
But while these suggestions can be helpful in the mission of the Precious Blood Family, Pope Francis said we must never forget “that the true strength of Christian witness comes from the Gospel itself.” This means relying “above all on the ‘superabundance of love’ expressed in the Blood of the Lord,” which has been brought to light throughout history by the Saints, especially **Saint Gaspar del Bufalo**, the founder of the Missionaries of the Most Precious Blood.”

Finally, Pope Francis reminded those present that **it is in Christ “that we find the sure principle of our existence. He is our fundamental and definitive hope.”**



Minister	Abraham Placencio, OFS	505-730-1838	abrahamisfranciscan@gmail.com
Vice Minister	Israella Garcia, OFS	405-450-5267	director@bailabaila.com
Secretary	Gerry Rohrkemper, OFS	505-873-2657	gmrso@aol.com
Treasurer	Tommie Page, OFS	505-452-0915	pagetomasita@gmail.com
Formation	Rena Xuereb, OFS	505-306-2005	vxuereb@comcast.net
Councilor 1	Mary Lou Narvaez, OFS	505-235-5772	malunarvaez44@gmail.com
Councilor 2	Rex Schlicher, OFS	505-839-9397	rlschlicher@msn.com
Spiritual Assistant	Br. Gordon Boykin, OFM	505-249-5774	gordyboy45@aol.com
Infirmarian	Margaret Martinez, OFS	505-899-6410	margova601@q.com
Newsletter Editor	Bill Parras	505-400-8305	billparras@mac.com
Website	http://franciscanalbuquerque.sfousa.org		
A Becoming Place	1350 Lakeview SW, Albuquerque 87105.	(Location of SAF Gatherings)	

St. Anthony Fraternity
Post Office Box 6881
Albuquerque, NM,
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.