



# St. Anthony Fraternity

## February 2024

### Fraternities Gather for Franciscan Centenary Plenary Indulgence and Mass

On January 20, 2024, the St. Anthony Fraternity, the Espiritu Santo Fraternity, and the emerging fraternity from Gallup, Fire of Assisi, gathered at Holy Family Church, to receive a plenary indulgence. This was petitioned for by the Conference of the Franciscan Family, and granted by Pope Francis under the usual conditions of plenary indulgences. The purpose of this gathering anytime between December 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, and February 2, the Feast of the Presentation in the Temple, is to promote spiritual renewal and increase the life of grace as we celebrate 800 years of Christmas at Greccio as experienced by St. Francis of Assisi. The ministers of the fraternities led us in praying the rosary.

Father Patrick Schafer, OFM, presided at the Mass. All were then invited to a dinner in the Parish Hall hosted by Espiritu Santo Fraternity.



Maria Camarena, Minister, Fire of Assisi;  
Luz Elena Tena, Minister, Espiritu Santo;  
Israella Garcia, Minister, St. Anthony



## CALENDAR

Sun. Feb 25 1:00 pm

### GATHERING

#### Inquirers' Formation

Sat. Feb 3 - Liturgy of the Hours (session 1)

Sat. Feb 16 - Liturgy of the Hours (session2)



### Hospitality Group 2

For providing the meal for our gathering on Feb 25

Victor & Rena Xuereb

Mary Lou Narvaez

Rex and Jeannette Schlicher

Margaret Martinez

Abraham Placeno

Gerry Rohrkemper

Geri Blanco Salazar

Angela Ortiz



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### February Birthdays

Lydia Wroten February 19

Ed Dzienis February 24

	Dec 2023	Jan 2024
<b>Two-Month Financial Statement</b>		
Monthly Donors	12	19
<b>INCOME</b>		
Regular Contributions	1254.00	1120.00
Endowment Interest	84.59	87.40
Exceptional Income	150.00	100.00
Subtotal for Exceptional Income	150.00	100.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	1488.59	1307.40
Transfer from Savings		
<b>TOTAL DEPOSITED (Checking Acct.)</b>	1488.59	1307.40
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
<b>RECURRING:</b>		
Spiritual Asst. Stipend	100.00	100.00
Council Admin, Supplies	15.45	
Formation Expenses	32.77	34.57
Newsletter: Supplies and Printing	14.37	14.37
Newsletter Postage	132.00	
Apostolate: Poor Clares (Donation)	100.00	100.00
Apostolate: Franciscan Friars (Donation)	75.00	75.00
Fair Share to Regional		
Contingency Fund Transfer to Savings	50.00	50.00
Subtotal Recurring Expenses	387.59	373.94
<b>EXCEPTIONAL EXPENSES:</b>		
Subtotal Exceptional Expenses		
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	387.59	373.94
Beginning Balance (Checking Acct.)	6891.95	7992.95
Ending Balance (Checking Acct.)	7992.95	8926.41
<b>Contingency Fund: (Available Savings Funds)</b>		
Beginning Balance	4003.25	4054.44
Transfer from Expenses	50.00	50.00
Earned Dividend	1.19	
<b>TOTAL CONTINGENCY FUND</b>	4054.44	4104.44

# Minister's Message



To my brothers and sisters in Christ and Francis,

By the time you read this we will be in the Season of Lent. We will be praying more, attending church more often, helping others more, fasting more, going to confession more and doing penance more... - right?

This past week, I have been speaking with friends and family about Lent and how we can make this Lent more meaningful. What surprised me is that most of them said: "I don't know yet", "I'm not sure" or "I haven't thought about it". I was raised with saintly parents who expected us children to have a concrete answer by the week of Lent. As a child, my thoughts of Lent were mostly about giving something up. As I have gotten older, I've heard that instead of giving something up, we should simply give something. I prefer to do both.

Lent is about so much more than we can imagine it should be, but in the Gospel, we are reminded to "take up our cross..." As children of God and brothers and sisters of Francis, may we walk beside Francis and our Lord as we carry the cross He has conferred upon us for the salvation of all souls. As we walk to Calvary through our Lenten offerings, we should daily recite the prayer of St. Francis because if we integrate this prayer into our daily lives, we can both give something up and, also, simply give something...

**Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace; (Give up being angry)**  
**Where there is hatred, let me sow love; ("I love you.")**  
**Where there is injury, pardon; ("I forgive you.")**  
**Where there is doubt, faith; ("Jesus, I believe and trust in you.")**  
**Where there is despair, hope; ("Do you need anything?")**  
**Where there is darkness, light; ("Can I pray with you? Give up your time)**  
**And where there is sadness, joy. (Share a smile and/or a hug)**

**O Divine Master,**  
**Grant that I may not so much seek**  
**To be consoled as to console; (Give up feeling sorry for ourselves)**  
**To be understood, as to understand; (Just listen to someone)**  
**To be loved, as to love; (Show kindness)**  
**For it is in giving that we receive, (Give up a meal, Gift a meal)**  
**It is in pardoning that we are pardoned, ("Jesus, forgive me.")**  
**And it is in dying that we are born to Eternal Life. (Die to self)**  
**Amen.**

I pray for a blessed and fruitful Lent for all Franciscans throughout the world as we continue to commemorate the 800<sup>th</sup> Centenary of the Stigmata of St. Francis which is so intertwined with the Passion of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

In prayer and thanksgiving,

Your sister in Christ and Francis - Israela



Mary Lou Narvaez and Israela Garcia visit Marilyn Migliarini

Marilyn Migliarini, our former Vice-Minister and a long time member of the Formation Team, sends her appreciation and gratitude for all the prayers that helped her get through her illnesses of the past six months. From emergency rooms, hospitals, and rehabilitation facilities, Marilyn is now at an assisted living apartment in her new home at Camino Retirement Apartments.



### Profession Anniversaries

Carol Ann Dzienis	2-2-2001	23 yrs
Ed Dzienis	2-2-2001	23 yrs
Joanne Romero	2-15-2001	23 yrs

### Letters from Our Homebound Brothers and Sisters . . .

*From Lydia Wroten, . . . "All members are in my thoughts and prayers. I miss you all."*

*From John & Nancy Fishel ... Beloved fraternity family. May God bless all of you with a joy-filled and healthy New Year!*

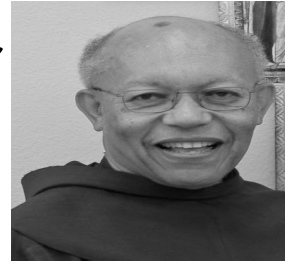
*Thank you for thinking of us in your prayers and cards. We are so grateful and know that we pray for all of you!*

Bill Parras  
Elizabeth Chavez  
Consuelo Chavez  
Connie Jo Martinez  
Marilyn Migliarini  
Margaret Martinez



Our homebound brothers and sisters

# Spiritual Assistant's Message



FEBRUARY 2024

Dearest sisters and brothers in St. Francis,

*WHERE* has the time gone?! It seems like only yesterday that (in a very secular way) we were celebrating St. Valentine day, New Years, Christmas (with Plenary Indulgences), Advent, Halloween, and Thanksgiving. Now, we're in the Liturgical Season of Lent.

As understanding Christians and understanding Franciscans we learn that Lent is *not* the time of dread. It is a time/chance of deprivation with purpose. How else may “not *my* will, but *YOUR'S* be realized”?

Remember, again, that the three penitential (not magic) words are: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. At prayer, let's review and practice Francesco's and Chiara's method of *Leccio Divina*. At fasting, we're blessed to live under the revised restrictions. (I remember them being changed when I was yet a boy.) The relaxing of such strict laws as fasting from *all* food and drink—including *water*—before receiving Holy Communion was, probably, the main reason the Church changed the “Last Supper” (dinner) to the Last Breakfast—LOL. (*That*, and the farmers protesting that they had to work the fields in starvation mode.) Anywayyy—Catholic fasting is a *breeze* compared to some other religions!

But I digress . . . At almsgiving, I mentioned at another time and location, that—instead of giving-*up* favorite snacks and foods, we should be giving-*in* to taking chances at living the Gospel more communally. That is, in being more pro-active in helping others at Gatherings, or in the marketplace (and not *just* WalMart).

When we come together for our next Fraternity Gathering, let's come with eyes wide open to our sisters and brothers in Fraternity. Let's try to be helpful, complimentary, and/or assist someone we have been shy to meet.

In peace and goodness,  
Br. Gordon, O.F.M.  
—Fraternity Spiritual Assistant



## FRATERNITY CONTACTS

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### **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 Life to Gospel”. We believe that we are called to be renewed continually through the celebration of the Eucharist and go forth to rebuild the Church through our witness.**

**We are the Ordo Franciscanus Saecularis (The Secular 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 located in Albuquerque, New Mexico.**