



# St. Anthony Fraternity Newsletter

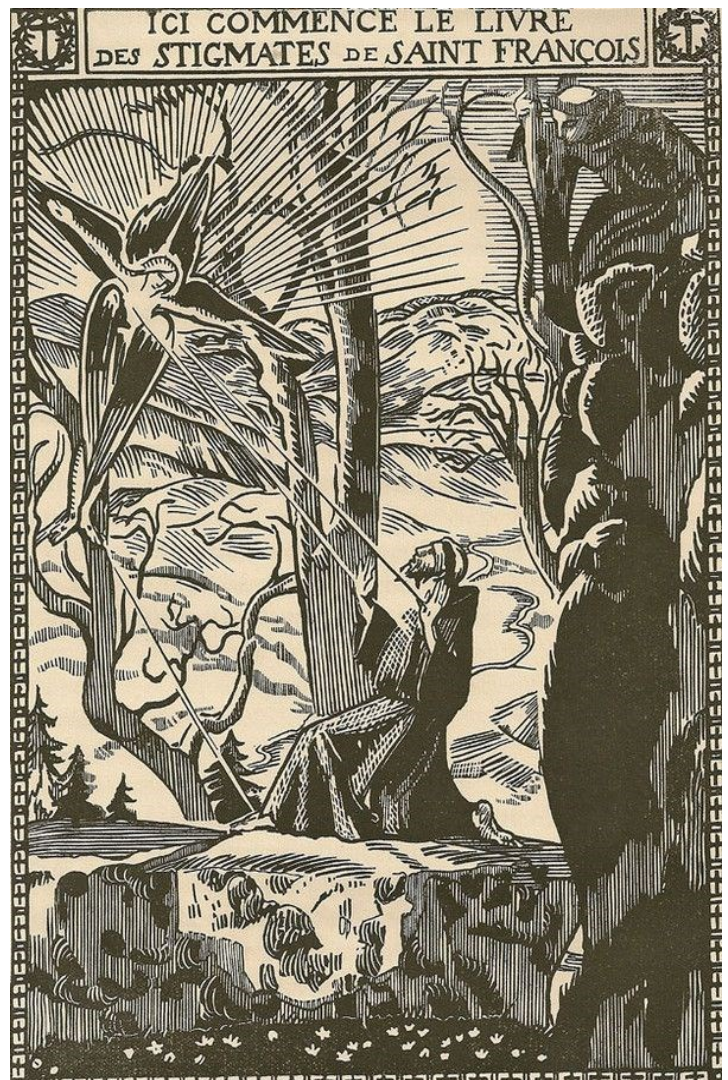
## January 2024

### **St. Anthony Fraternity to Join Franciscans Worldwide in Commemorating the Stigmata of St. Francis in 1224**

On January 5, 2024 the Franciscan Family gathered in Rome for the solemn opening of the celebration of the eighth centenary of the Stigmata of St. Francis. This international event was broadcast live in Italian. Speakers from various countries spoke in their language. Tibor Kauser, OFS, General Minister of the Secular Franciscan Order spoke about how Francis was transformed through the stigmata to Christ, and that to live the gospel is to be like Christ. Other speakers spoke about how the stigmata is love and suffering and that with suffering we grow in love; that through transformation, understanding, and love, God allows all of us to share in His love. One speaker stated that the lesson to be learned from the stigmata is total conformity to Christ—to Christ on the cross and the merciful love that flows from the crucified Christ.

This two hour celebration began with Mass and included the celebration of the stigmata at La Verna, the place where Francis received the wounds of Christ

From this opening of the celebration of the Stigmata of St. Francis, we as fraternities will initiate actions to meet the objectives for celebrating the gift of the Stigmata. During this year as we reflect on the Stigmata of St. Francis, the readings and resources of the Secular Franciscan Order—USA, invite us to prayerful and contemplative silence in our daily lives; a silence that allows us to listen to ourselves, to others, and to God. Like Francis we can make listening a way of life. In The Life of St. Francis by Thomas of Celano, the Second Book, Chapter II, he writes: ...“He found it easier to do what is perfect than to talk about it; so he was constantly active in showing his zeal and dedication in deeds, not in words, because words do not do what is good, they only point to it. ...”



## CALENDAR

Sun. Jan. 28 at 1:00 pm  
GATHERING



Formation Schedule

**Inquirers**

Jan 20 FUN Chap 11  
Franciscan Movement I  
Feb 3 Liturgy of the  
Hours (session 1)  
Feb 17 Liturgy of the  
Hours (session 2)



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## January Birthdays

Matty Miquel Jan 4  
Brother Gordon Jan 19  
Jeannette Schlicher Jan 21  
Reina Romero Jan 24  
Bill Parras Jan 28

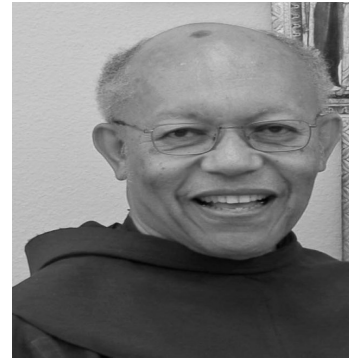


*Prayer Requests*

Consuelo Chavez  
Margaret Martinez  
Marilyn Migliarini  
Bill Parras

Two-Month Financial Statement 2023	OCT	NOV
Monthly Donors	14	13
<b>INCOME</b>		
Regular Contributions	575.00	355.00
Endowment Interest	84.59	87.41
Exceptional Income: <u>Oct</u> : Retreat , Profession Food, St. Francis Fraternity/Other, Profession Program. <u>Nov</u> : Donation for Picnic Food	200.00 700.00 150.00 100.00	133.33
Subtotal for Exceptional Income	1150.00	133.33
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	1809.59	575.74
Transfer from Savings		
<b>TOTAL DEPOSITED (Checking Acct.)</b>	1809.59	575.74
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
<b>RECURRING EXPENSES</b>		
Spiritual Asst. Stipend	100.00	100.00
Council Admin, Supplies	19.95	24.80
Formation Expenses		
Newsletter: Supplies and Printing	0	27.75
Newsletter Postage	132.00	
Website Fee (annual)		
Apostolate: Poor Clare's Donation	100.00	100.00
Apostolate: Franciscan Friars Donation	75.00	100.00
Franciscan Friars Donation	75.00	75.00
Contingency Fund Transfer to Savings	50.00	50.00
Subtotal Recurring Expenses	476.95	559.55
<b>EXCEPTIONAL EXPENSES: <u>OCT</u>: Retreat</b>	200.00	50.00
Donations, SFO Profession Food, Profession Food Donation, Priest Stipend, Hall Donations, Music Fee. <u>NOV</u> :	300.00 700.00	50.00 75.00
Brother Gordon Stipend, Margaret Cortez, Stipend	150.00	
Flowers Poor Clares	150.00	
	100.00	
Subtotal Exceptional Expenses	1600.00	175.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	2076.95	175.00
Beginning Balance (Checking Acct.)	7318.11	7050.75
Ending Balance (Checking Acct.)	7050.75	6891.94
Contingency Fund (Available Savings Funds)		
Beginning Balance	3900.95	3952.11
Transfers From Expenses	50.00	50.00
Earned Dividend	1.16	
<b>TOTAL CONTINGENCY FUND</b>	3952.11	4002.11

# Spiritual Assistant's Message



JANUARY 2024

Dearest sisters and brothers in St. Francis,  
The Gospel for the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time is the “Come ‘n’ See” Good News as written by our Christian brother, John —“the one whom Jesus loved.” The inviting words “Come and see,” are especially meaningful for us Franciscans because they are those for a hospitality event put together for inquiring newbies.

Obviously, we don’t have to wait to be involved with such an event to put Jesus’ words into evangelical action. The monthly going to each of our Fraternal Gatherings is answering the call to ‘Go and participate.’ We have each other, we are *committed* to one another, to “live from Gospel to life, and life to Gospel”— a mantra of continual encouragement.

We have just left the comforting Season of Christmas (the crib). In less than a month, we will be in the Season of Lent and Holy Week (the cross). May we continue to take example from one another in living the Franciscan ideal of True Joy with Jesus.

In peace and goodwill,

Br. Gordon, OFM  
—Fraternity Spiritual Assistant



thank  
you



**Hospitality Group 1 - Thanks for providing the food for our Gathering on Sunday, January 28.**

Ernestine Sedillo  
Connie Jo Martinez  
Tommie Page  
Bill Parras  
Ed & Carol Dzienis

Felis Otero-Armijo  
Consuelo Chavez  
Martha Ramirez  
Lisa Barczak



## St. Anthony Fraternity Christmas Gathering 2023

### Commemorating Christmas at Greccio 1223 at the Annual Creche Sharing



**Victor Xuereb holds the figurine of St. Francis and the Child Jesus as Rena Xuereb states:** *“Victor and I want to present our own figurine of St. Francis and the Child Jesus and we want to share our thanksgiving for many blessings; and want to share our pilgrimage to Assisi and our tour of Greccio, the place where the*

*for each pilgrim to give birth to Jesus in our hearts. This was a surprise to the group as this celebration was not noted in our schedule. This was the place where Francis went to remove himself from the world for prayer.*

*This October the 22nd we were privileged to renew our Franciscan Commitment at the Profession of Felicie Truscio and Adrian Montoya at the San Jose Mission; on the 23rd we celebrated our wedding anniversary; and on the 24th we celebrated our 30th anniversary as Secular Franciscans.*

*We thank all of our brothers and sisters for your support and ask forgiveness for our short comings. We have been truly blessed by our Lord.*

**Lisa Trujillo selects the angel to add to the Creche.**

*“I was drawn to the angel figure in the Nativity because I was thinking of my new baby angel, my first grandchild, who was born December 16. I am so grateful for the beautiful gift of new life that God graces us with and the ability to co-create with Him.”*





# Minister's Message

Blessed New Year!

As for me, I am still celebrating the birth of our Lord. My tree and decorations are still up, I am still listening to the soundtrack of The Messiah, and I may have a few goodies still hanging around. The Catholic observances of Christmas and Easter are so beautiful that I wouldn't mind celebrating these two all year long. When it is Christmas Eve and you know the reason for the anticipation and celebration, there is no other night in the entire year that feels the same. The joy and hope in the knowledge that Salvation is being born just brings me so much Peace. This is the same with the Triduum and Easter. The institution of the Eucharist, the Crucifixion and the Resurrection communicate to us very profound feelings of awe (Eucharist), sorrow (Crucifixion) and joy (Resurrection).

As Franciscans, we know that the heart of St. Francis burned with love of Jesus in both His Incarnation and His Passion. So much so, that he received the wounds of Christ on his body and, I believe, in his heart. As we begin this 800<sup>th</sup> Centenary Year of celebrating the Stigmata of our Seraphic Father Francis, may we open our hearts – as Francis did – to receive what God wills for us. May we continue our vocation courageously – witnessing the Holy Gospel, sharing God's peace, exemplifying Francis' humility and reflecting Clare's path to holiness.

Beginning this year, I think I will try to carry both Christmas and Easter in my heart as a daily reflection to remind me of the incredible gifts of Salvation's Nativity and Salvation's Resurrection!

Peace be with you,

Your servant minister, Israela

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## January Profession Anniversaries



Consuelo Chavez 1/28/2018 6 yrs.  
Jeannette Feldman 1/22/2006 18 yrs.  
John Fishel 1/22/2006 18 yrs.  
Nancy Fishel 1/22/2006 18 yrs.  
Felis Otero-Armijo 1/28/2018 6 yrs.  
Bill Parras 1/23/2022 2yrs.  
Gloria Quesada 1/22/2006 18 yrs.  
Pat Rocco 1/22/2006 18 yrs.  
Socorro Romero 1/22/2006 18 yrs.  
Linda Williams 1/23/2022 2 years

## **Fraternity Contacts**

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**St. Anthony Fraternity**  
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**Albuquerque, New Mexico**  
**87917-6881**

### **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 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 located in Albuquerque, New Mexico.**