



St. Anthony Fraternity Welcomes Six Inquirers



Minister Israela Garcia and Spiritual Assistant Brother Gordon preside at the Welcoming Ceremony
Left to right Inquirers: Geri Blanco, Martha Ramirez, Reina Romero, Ann Sims, Lisa Barczak, Lisa Trujillo

The Fraternity Gathering in June is a special event - - A picnic, guests from our sister fraternities, and “Come and See” guests. This June 25th the event was extra-special- - a Welcoming Ceremony for the Inquirers . Our Minister and Spiritual Assistant conducted the ceremony, and all present conveyed blessings and prayers of encouragement and support as they travel together on this Franciscan journey toward Profession as Secular Order Franciscans.

The ceremony concluded with statements of introduction by each Inquirer. We learned that **Geri Blanco** is a teacher at St. Thomas Aquinas and that her grandmother was a Secular Order Franciscan. She works with Infirmarian, Linda Williams. **Martha Ramirez** has a degree in occupational therapy and retired from law enforcement, making it clear, not as a police officer, but as support staff. She belongs to Holy Family Parish. She first went to the Espiritu Santo Fraternity, but concluded that her Spanish skills needed work, so she found her way to the St. Anthony Fraternity. **Reina Romero** was introduced to the Seculars by Mary Dean of the St. Francis Fraternity in Santa Fe. Reina was a Peace Corp Volunteer in Columbia; was a Spanish teacher. and is a grandmother. A retired nurse, **Ann Sims**, stated she has always loved St. Francis and his love of creation , and now in “God’s time” is on the Franciscan path. **Lisa Barczak**, mother two children, had an interest in becoming a lay Benedictine. But when fraternity members Gina Lubeck and Bill Parras were at Annunciation Church inviting members to “Come and See”; she came and saw and got the call to follow Francis not Benedict. **Lisa Trujillo**, belongs to Holy Rosary Parish and learned about the Seculars from Candidate Adrian Montoya. In August she went to the “Q” and has begun her Franciscan journey with the experience of seeing the US Franciscan Spirit in action.

Prayer service in honor of our patron St. Anthony



Frances Lucero and Inquirers Geri Blanco, Ann Sims, Reina Romero, Lisa Barczak, Lisa Trujillo, and Martha Ramirez lead the Gathering in Prayer and Reflection on three of St. Anthony's Sermons

From St. Anthony's sermon on 'Loving the Lord our God with all our Hearts'

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart." The heart is situated in the middle of a person's breast, slightly toward the left side, in the upper part of the chest. It is not large in size. It is not too long in shape but tends toward roundness; its extremity is narrow and pointed. O man, your heart's location and appearance teach you how you ought to love the Lord your God. Just as the heart is situated in the upper part of the chest, so too should your aspirations and desires be turned on high to the glory of heaven. "Where your treasure is", that is, Jesus Christ, "there your heart is" (Mt.6:21).

Silent reflection: Let us take a few minutes to reflect on where our treasure is.

Prayer —All: We beseech You, Lord Jesus, that You bind us with love toward You and toward others in such a way that we can love You "with all our heart". So profoundly that nothing can separate us from it; "with our whole mind", so wisely that we be not deceived by other loves; "with all our strength and with all our mind", that we may never divert from Your Love and may love others as ourselves. With Your help, who are blessed for all ages. Amen

Closing Prayer —All

Almighty, eternal God, you have given us St. Anthony as an outstanding preacher and intercessor in times of need. Grant that with his help we may follow the examples of Christian living and experience your support in all adversities. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen

A Message from the Minister * * *

Brothers and Sisters,

I would like to thank everyone that joined us for our annual St. Anthony picnic and “Come and See” last month. What a turn out! It was encouraging and exciting to witness the fellowship of our members and visitors. The Welcoming Ceremony for our six Inquirers was beautiful and the Inquirers themselves led the prayer service. We are so blessed to have a thriving Fraternity! This does not happen by itself... Every one of you is essential to the spiritual and membership growth of our Fraternity. Our Heavenly Father gives us life, our Seraphic Father encourages us and the Holy Spirit guides us. May we continue with our Order’s call to rebuild the Church through our love and care for one another and all of our brothers and sisters throughout the world. Start rebuilding with your families, relatives, friends and co-workers. Then, continue with your fellow parishioners and even strangers.

We can renew and strengthen ourselves for this call to rebuild the church in this month of the Feast of the Most Precious Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ. The Precious Blood of Christ is precious because it is Christ's own great ransom paid for the redemption of mankind. There is no remission of sin without the shedding of blood for the salvation of humanity. Jesus shed his precious blood for our salvation. The least we can do is reflect, like St. Clare and other Franciscan saints, His image to others.

From the Votive Mass of the Precious Blood:

"O God, who by the Precious Blood of your Only Begotten Son have redeemed the whole world, preserve in us the work of your mercy, so that ever honoring the mystery of our salvation, we may merit to obtain its fruits. Through Our Lord Jesus Christ, AMEN...

Peace to you always – your servant minister, Israela



Ministers Join Us for the Come and See Picnic and in Welcoming our Six Inquirers



Left to Right:
Israela Garcia, St. Anthony Fraternity; Brother Gordon Boykin, OFM, Spiritual Assistant; Mary Dean, St. Francis Fraternity, Santa Fe; Luz Elena Tena , Espiritu Santo Fraternity

Enjoying the Picnic Festivities

Left to right: Mary Lou Narvaez, Father Larry Schreiber, OFM, Martha Ramirez, Israela Garcia, Rena Xuerub, and Father Paul Juniet, OFM



Notes from our Franciscan Homebound sisters and brothers

From:

Marilyn Migliarini

Hi Linda,

I just wanted to thank you for sending me the handouts from ongoing formation. I really appreciate that; it really makes me feel connected to the Fraternity. You're so sweet.

God bless you

From:

Pat Rocco

Linda,

I really appreciate all the information you have been sending me on the gatherings.

Peace and God
Bless you,

A voicemail from :

Alcaria Valdez

Felis,

Just to let you know that I receive the newsletter. I read it page by page. I feel refreshed and close to my Franciscan brothers and sisters. While I can't attend the meetings, I feel warm and that St. Francis is there with everyone.

St. Francis had a great love for those who had to bear the yoke of illness and suffering. Whenever and wherever he could, he ministered to them, and asked his followers to do the same. The ministry of caring for the sick and homebound is, therefore, a Franciscan as well as a Christian charism. Most of all, our prayers bring them strength to continue their task in the mystical body. So our goal is to assure that the infirm, elderly and homebound members are visited and offered comfort, companionship and prayer. (Taken from the Introduction of the St. Anthony Fraternity's Infirmarian Ministry)

**Poor Clare Monastery of Our Lady of Guadalupe
809 East Nineteenth Street
Roswell, New Mexico 88201-7599**

**Peace and Blessing
May 20, 2023**



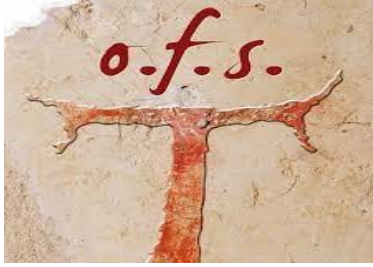
Our dear Brothers and Sisters in St. Francis,

As the novena in preparation for Holy Pentecost begins, you can be sure that all your intentions have a place in our prayers. We are begging the Holy Spirit to pour out his gifts and graces upon all Fraternity members, as well as your families and loved ones. May He guide you into all truth, and the fullness of joyful Gospel living!

We are praying, too that the Spirit will inspire more brothers and sisters with desire to join in your blessed way of life, along the spiritual itinerary revealed to us in the lives of St. Francis and Clare. We are interceding for those discerning God's call to go deeper in their spiritual lives through the OFS vocation. Our special prayers accompany Adrian and Felicie as they prepare for Profession as Secular Franciscans. Congratulations! Our own pair of novices are on the same journey toward Profession, so please keep Sister Antonia and Sister Benedicta in your prayers.

The unfolding glories of springtime, as well as the beautiful liturgies of the Easter season, all speak to us of resurrection and newness of life. However, we did not leave penance behind at the conclusion of Lent ! Two our sisters are currently receiving chemotherapy treatments for cancer, and we continue to carry the cross along with them. Their faith and trust in God, their resolute generosity in service to their fellow sisters, despite the limitations of pain and infirmity all speaks so eloquently of God's grace at work in daily life, within the souls of those who love Him. The Lord is blessing us with opportunities to offer sacrifices, joined to our prayers for the Church, the world, and needs of all God's children. You have a large share in our spiritual offerings and intercessions, and we beg our heavenly Father to reward your generous charity to our Poor Clare family.

**Gratefully, in Our Lady of Guadalupe,
Your Poor Clare nuns**



Living in Fraternity and Prayer

It is within our St. Anthony Fraternity that we develop and live our Secular Order Franciscan Vocation. But living in fraternity is not just talking about it. Making special efforts to meet with brothers and sisters will sometimes mean setting other priorities aside. Being companions to each other on this shared journey is something we have chosen, something we have promised. Praying for each other actively and deliberately, and praying with prayer partners or spiritual companions enhances our spiritual health and that of our fraternity .

A prayer of St. Francis . . .

Canticle for the Poor Ladies of San Damiano

Listen, little poor ones called by the Lord, who have come together from many parts and provinces.

Live always in truth, that you may die in obedience.

Do not look at the life without, for that of the Spirit is better .

I beg you out of great love, to use with discernment the alms the gives you.

Those weighed down by sickness and the others wearied because of them, all of you bear in peace.

For you will sell this fatigue at a very high price and each one of you will be crowned queen in heaven with the Virgin Mary.

thank
you

Group 3 for providing the meal for our Gathering on July 23!
Israela Garcia, Felicie Truscio, Adrian Montoya, Frances Lucero, Gina Lubeck, and Linda Williams



Prayer Requests

- ◆ Sister Antonia and Sister Benedicta as they prepare for Profession as Poor Clares
- ◆ The Poor Clare Sisters who are receiving treatment for cancer
- ◆ Our homebound St. Anthony Secular Order Franciscans
- ◆ Ernestine Sedillo as she continues to reorder her life after the fire that destroyed her house
- ◆ For the health of Margaret Martinez, Geri Rohrkemper, and Marilyn Migliarini

Calendar of Events

Council Meeting - July 17
 Fraternity Gathering - July 23
Inquirers Phase

July 28:

Chapter 5, Lay Spirituality

August 5:

Chapter 6, Writings of Francis and Clare

Candidate Phase

July 22, The Franciscan Saints



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July Birthdays

Joanne Romero	July 7
Consuelo Chavez	July 10
Barbara Heilman	July 11
Thomas McCord	July 15
Geri Blanco	July 20
Rex Schlicher	July 23

Two-Month Financial Statement 2023		
	April	May
Monthly Donors	12	13
INCOME		
Regular Contributions	605.00	605.00
Endowment Interest	52.26	50.57
Exceptional Income	55.00	35.00
Subtotal for Exceptional Income	55.00	35.00
TOTAL INCOME	712.26	690.57
Transfer from Savings		
TOTAL DEPOSITED	712.26	690.57
EXPENSES		
Recurring Expenses:		
Spiritual Assistant Stipend	100.00	100.00
Council Administration Supplies		
Infirmarian Team (Misc. Exp.)		
Formation Expenses		57.00
Newsletter Administration Supplies/Printing	8.80	60.30
Newsletter Postage	37.80	37.80
Website Fee		
Apostolate: Poor Clare's (Donation)	100.00	100.00
Apostolate: Franciscan Friar (Donation)	75.00	75.00
Fair Share to Regional		
Contingency Fund (Transfer to Savings)	50.00	50.00
Subtotal Recurring Expenses	371.60	423.10
EXCEPTIONAL EXPENSES (Yearly rental fee for P.O. Box)		248.00
Subtotal Exceptional Expenses		248.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	371.60	423.10
BEGINNING BALANCE	6178.49	6519.15
ENDING BALANCE	6519.15	6538.62
CONTINGENCY FUND		
Beginning Balance	3593.34	3645.44
Transfer from Expenses	50.00	50.00
Earned Dividend	2.10	
TOTAL CONTINGENCY FUND	3645.44	3695.44

Fraternity Contacts:		
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Infirmarian	Linda Williams	951-776-7487 WLINDAE1950@aol.com
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**St. Anthony Fraternity
P.O. Box Box 6881
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 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

