



Friar Jose Luis Peralta Andrade, OFM, Pre-Profession Retreat Speaker

Fraternities Gather for Pre-Profession Retreat

Together, the St. Anthony Fraternity and the St. Francis Fraternity in Santa Fe, gathered on August 11 and 12, 2023, at the Franciscan “A Becoming Place “ to accompany Candidates Adrian Montoya, Felicie Truscio, (St. Anthony) and Candidates Rebecca Griego and Stanley Robb (St. Francis) for their Pre-Profession Retreat.

Retreat and Profession are important dates in the life of our fraternities, as they are in the lives of the Candidates. From the praying of the evening and the morning Liturgy of the Hours; to the presentations on Prayer and Discerning God’s Will; to a video presentation on Profession by Father Richard Trezza based on Fr. Felice Cangelosi’s presentation “Profession in the OFS: Gift and Commitment”; to Friar Peralta’s presentation on “Vocation, Commitment, and Profession to the OFS”, the Retreat was inspiring, relevant, and challenging in the commitment of life for life as Secular Order Franciscans “devoting themselves, especially to careful reading of the gospel, going from gospel to life and life to the gospel.”

A bounty of snacks, refreshments, and a lunch with a variety of salads, entrees, and desserts kept the participants fueled. The time for breaks and lunch gave the participants a time to get to know each other and share thoughts on the presentations.

This joint Fraternity Retreat will be followed by the joining of the two fraternities in the Rite of Profession on Sunday, October 22, at 2:00 pm, at the San Jose Mission de Los Duranes.

Calendar of Events

Council Meeting - Sept. 15
Fraternity Gathering - Sept. 24



Formation

Inquiry Phase

Scripture in the OSF Life
Sept. 2

Vatican II - OFS Rule and
Constitutions
Sept. 15



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September Birthdays

Arturo Lente - Sept. 2

Israella Garcia - Sept. 6

Ernestine Sedillo - Sept. 6

Clare Dominici - Sept. 7

Connie Jo Martinez - Sept. 8

Marilyn Migliarini - Sept 11

Lisa Trujillo - Sept 16

Two-Month Financial Statement 2023		
	JUNE	JULY
Monthly Donors	17	17
INCOME		
Regular Contributions	790.00	864.00
Endowment Interest	52.25	75.52
Exceptional Income (Raffle/Guest Donations)	200.00	40.00
Formation Books, St. Francis of Assisi	80.00	
Subtotal for Exceptional Income	280.00	40.00
TOTAL INCOME	842.45	979.52
Transfer from Savings		
TOTAL DEPOSITED	1122.25	979.52
EXPENSES		
Recurring Expenses:		
Spiritual Assistant Stipend	100.00	100.00
Council Administration Supplies	14.80	
Infirmarian Team (Misc. Exp.)		
Formation Expenses	186.48	
Newsletter Administration Supplies/Printing	39.00	12.32
Newsletter Postage	37.80	132.00
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	603.03	469.32
EXCEPTIONAL EXPENSES		
Subtotal Exceptional Expenses		
TOTAL EXPENSES	603.03	469.32
BEGINNING BALANCE	6538.62	7057.84
ENDING BALANCE	7057.84	7568.04
CONTINGENCY FUND		
Beginning Balance	3696.53	3747.59
Transfer from Expenses	50.00	50.00
Earned Dividend	1.06	
TOTAL CONTINGENCY FUND	3747.59	3797.59

Notes from the Retreat Presentations

“Vocation, Commitment, and Profession to the OFS”

Friar Jose Luis Peralta Andrade OFM

Two very important questions to ask ourselves are: “How is the life of St. Francis transforming my life? How am I embodying the gospel? Finding patterns in the life of Francis and how he followed Jesus helps us to do this so we don’t feel confused and helpless in times of conflict; when we are afraid; or feel insecure. Using sections of the movie “Brother Son, Sister Moon”, Friar Peralta illustrated how Francis took action to live the Gospel making Christ the inspiration and center of his life with God and people, and all creation. Poverty is the foundation all the virtues. Francis lived this virtue and his life in a radically different way; with freedom from self—the self must die. He lived in solidarity with the marginalized. He moved down, thus Minores or Friars Minor; he resisted the priesthood. His goal was to be another Christ and the way was by living the Gospel. Friar Peralta’s final challenge to us a fraternity was to be living gospels and to go and tell the world about the Resurrection in our own way. His final blessing was that the Lord show us the way to live according to the Gospel.

“ God’s Calling, Prayer, Discerning God’s Will”

Israela Garcia, Minister, St. Anthony Fraternity

Mary Dean, Minister, St. Francis Fraternity, Santa Fe

“However, I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord has given me—the task of testifying to the gospel of God’s grace.” Acts 20:24

These presentations and the 13-page handout were engaging, comprehensive, and interactive. Time was given for reflection questions, and comments.

Finding God’s Calling in Your Life: This is a serious call and we need clarity in our longing to belong to Christ. In order to do this we need to **commit** by putting God first and in control of our lives. If we are confused about what God expects of us, **pray**. As we seek to discern God’s will for our lives, **prepare** by using all the resources available to us - - Scripture, the wisdom of the brothers and sisters in our fraternity, and what we learn in continuing formation. **Obey**—Disciples are known by their obedience. **Act**—what needs to be done that we can do? Serve God without conditions. **Trust** that only God knows what He had called us to do.

Prayer—Four Basic Forms of Prayer: Praise God with Prayers of Blessing and Adoration. Ask for what we need including forgiveness with Prayers of Petition. Ask for what others need with Prayers of Intercession. Thank God for what he has given us and done for us with Prayers of Thanksgiving. Slow down and be quiet so you hear God’s voice and be open to Him.

Discerning God’s Will: God loves you and created you for a purpose. He chose you, accept His love. Listen and pray and cooperate with Him in clearing away the obstacles which get in the way of hearing His voice—sin, noise, past hurts, and fear. Distinguish between God’s voice and those of the world and the devil. This requires time, patience, and perseverance in the face of struggle. We need but to say with simple hearts, “Jesus I trust in You!”

Pre-Profession Retreat, August 11 and 12, 2023



Left to Right: Brother Gordon Boykin, OFM, Spiritual Assistant; Candidate Felicie Truscio; Friar Jose Luis Peralta Andrade, OFM; Israela Garcia, Minister; Candidate Adrian Montoya



Members of the St. Francis Fraternity in Santa Fe Candidate Rebecca Griego, Barbara O'Conner; Brother Gordon Boykin, OFM; Vickie Ortiz not pictured and in attendance Mary Dean, Minister; and Candidate Stanley Robb

Minister's Message



Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I send you a blessed greeting in the name of our Seraphic Father Francis, who received the Stigmata (1224) representing the wounds of Christ. Pope Paul V authorized the Feast of the Stigmata of St. Francis of Assisi to be commemorated and celebrated on September 17.

“St. Francis of Assisi was the first recorded stigmatic. According to the Roman Catholic Church, the presence of stigmata is a sign of mystical union with the suffering of Christ, and a genuine stigmatic must have lived a life of heroic virtue. The Feast of the Stigmata of St. Francis is celebrated on September 17th by Franciscans to recall Francis' body being marked with the wounds of Christ.” - Wikipedia

This is the opening prayer for the festal Mass for September 17:

“Lord Jesus Christ, who reproduced in the flesh of the most blessed Francis, the sacred marks of your own sufferings, so that in a world grown cold our hearts might be filled with burning love of you, graciously enable us by his merits and prayers to bear the cross without faltering and to bring forth worthy fruits of penitence: You who are God, living and reigning with God the Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. Amen.”

May we remember, as we move towards the Transitus of St. Francis, the sacrifices that he made for our Order and for Holy Mother Church. May we experience conversion of heart daily as we follow in the footsteps of our brother in Christ – Francis of Assisi...

Your servant minister,

Israela

Homebound Brothers and Sisters Receive Printed Materials from On-going Formation

There are many ways to keep in touch with our homebound fraternity members—visits, phone calls, cards, letters, and newsletters. Their phone numbers, addresses, birthdates, and dates of profession can be found on the Fraternity Roster. **What are you doing to keep in touch?** Linda Williams, Infirmarian, has been mailing them the materials we get at our monthly gatherings. Linda receives cards and letters expressing their gratitude for this on a regular basis. On August 16, **Lydia Wroten** wrote...”how grateful I am for all the information you send me”... and on July 27, **Jeannette Feldman** wrote, “Thank you ever so much for keeping me in touch with the monthly meetings and the prayers...I’m doing fine—attending exercise classes for the arthritis on my back. This old age is not for sissies but with prayer I can obtain strength....”

thank
you



Victor and Rena Xuereb
Mary Lou Narvaez
Rex and Jeannette Schlicher
Margaret Martinez
Abraham Placencio
Geri Rohrkemper
Geri Blanco Salazar
Angela L. Ortiz
*for providing the food
for our Gathering on
September 24th*



Profession Anniversaries

Gina Lubeck	September 6	3 years
Frances Lucero	September 6	3 years
Pat Rocco	September 29	21 years

Save the Date: November 13

Plan to Attend



The Poor Clares invite our Fraternity to attend the celebration of the 75th anniversary of their foundation in Roswell, NM.

Mass of Thanksgiving

Monday, November 13, 9:00 am
celebrated by

His Eminence Raymond Leo Cardinal Burke

Mass of Profession to be held at San Jose Mission en Los Duranes

On Sunday, October 22, 2023 at 2 pm, **Felicie Truscio** and **Adrian Montoya** of the St. Anthony Fraternity and **Rebecca Griego** and **Stanley Robb** of the St. Francis Fraternity in Santa Fe will be making their Profession as Secular Order Franciscans. The Mass of Profession and the Rite of Profession will be held at the San Jose Mission de Los Duranes, the mission Church of San Felipe de Neri Parish. It is located at 2110 Los Luceros Rd NW. A reception will follow in the Church Hall.

Imitating Virtues of the Blessed Mother

Topic of August On-going Formation

Rule 9 of the Secular Franciscan Order states:

“The Virgin Mary, humble servant of the Lord, was open to his very word and call. She was embraced by Francis with indescribable love and declared The protectress and advocate of his family. The Secular Franciscan should express their ardent love for her by imitating her complete self-giving And by praying earnestly and confidently.”

Mary’s virtues and her self-giving and prayer are set up as the primary example of gospel living. Our Minister, Israella, led the session using the handout: “Imitate the 10 Amazing Virtues of the Blessed Mother” from an article written by Genevieve Netherton for “good catholic.com. We read, reflected, and discussed each virtue in terms of how we can live out the virtue. Our goal was to pick one of Mary’s ten virtues each week, month, or year and to practice it in every day situations. The ten virtues are: **profound humility, lively faith, blind obedience, continual prayer, universal mortification, divine purity, ardent charity, heroic patience, angelic wisdom, and divine wisdom.** Some virtues are more difficult to imitate than others, but if we take a virtue at a time, start small be conscious of our efforts, and ask the Blessed Mother for guidance and assistance, it can be done.

We can imitate Mary’s virtue of **profound humility** by doing God’s will, seeing herself as God saw her. In imitating her we can acknowledge the faults and sins in our life; not be embarrassed to make mistakes in front of others; and accept compliments gracefully and quietly.

Mary’s entire life was a prayer. She placed herself in the presence of God in all that she did demonstrating the virtue of **continual prayer**. We can imitate her by making the time for silence, praising Him, thanking Him, and talking with Him. As we go about in our daily duties we can have conversation with him about anything and everything.

Mary demonstrated the virtue of **universal mortification** by mortifying herself a putting God’s will first and seeking to unite hers with His. From her example we learn to accept the small irritations, humiliations, and inconveniences of daily life.

We can imitate Our Blessed Mother’s virtue of **angelic sweetness**, the joy and peace she radiated to everyone she encountered, by opening up our hearts to the grace that is available to us. We can smile and be kind, friendly, and alert to the needs of other, putting them before our own.

The session ended with a quote from St. Maximilian Kolbe: “**Never be afraid of loving the Blessed Virgin too much. You can never love her more than Jesus did.**”

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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