

St. Anthony Fraternity Newsletter

December 2024

The Saint Anthony Fraternity is a Vibrant Community of Professed Secular Franciscans, Affiliates, and Those Working Toward their Profession

The Saint Anthony Fraternity #101 is a blessed community of Secular Franciscans, whether active, homebound, or in the formation process. The monthly Fraternity gatherings are well-attended and the entire Fraternity ensures the gatherings include prayer and contemplation, ongoing formation, fraternity, and hospitality. The Council meets monthly and helps guide the fraternity in all its activities and responsibilities. The bi-monthly formation sessions educate and help candidates and inquirers discern their calling to the Order and grow in their faith, following the footsteps of our beloved patron, St. Francis of Assisi.

Please continue to pray for our Fraternity and contribute your unique spiritual gifts and presence.

As 2024 comes to a close, we reflect on all the fraternity highlights of the past year and the special moments we've celebrated together in the past year.

January 2024

5— Celebration of the eighth centenary of the Stigmata of St. Francis.

20 – Mass and reception at Holy Family Church celebrating 800 years of Christmas at Greccio as experienced by St. Francis of Assisi.



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Important Dates and Reminders

December

- **Council Meeting** Dec 14 10:00 a.m. at A Becoming Place | 1350 Lakeview Rd SW

- **Fraternity Gathering**

Dec 22 1:00 p.m. at A Becoming Place | 1350 Lakeview Rd SW

Please bring:

- Small gift for Fraternity gift exchange, if you'd like to participate.
- Donations of non-perishable food for the St. Felix Food Pantry.
- New/gently used clothing donations for Francis House.
- We will have a welcoming ceremony for Angela Ortiz and Ryan McRae, celebrate the centenary and share reflections on the Creche.



We will have a Fraternity Potluck at the December Gathering. **Please bring an item according to your last name:**

A through L = Dessert

M through R = Main Dish

S through Z = Salad or Side Dish

Our Sister, Felicie Truscio, reports our Fraternity's recent donations to the St. Felix pantry were:

October = 31 pounds

November = 37 pounds

Thank you for your generosity!



All Active Fraternity Members Asked to Complete Virtus Training

- In cooperation with the Archdiocese of Santa Fe, for the protection of all minors who may interact with the Fraternity, all active members are asked to complete the Virtus Training.
- Virtus Training can be completed online anytime, or in person. See website for details. If possible, please complete by January 31, 2025. Certification is good for five years.
 - Website: <https://archdiosf.org/victims-assistance>
 - Go to the left side bar and find "Links" then "VIRTUS Online – English"
 - Direct link: https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/37415/reg_2.cfm?theme=0
 - Send certificate of completion for Fraternity records:
 - to Jeannette at jgcase@yahoo.com
 - Cc: Minister Israela at director@bailabaila.com

Minister's Message



Brothers and Sisters in Baby Jesus,

As we anticipate the birth of our Lord, my prayer is that we may all truly devote more time to the season of Christmas and the joy that it is intended to bring. The true Gift of Jesus is the salvation that He so humbly and freely gifts us. Through the innocence of a child is how He chose to come to us.

When I look at the Babe in the Creche, I think about where His life took Him as He grew up with the Holy Family. I think about how he was just like us in every way – except sin. I think about how He trusted in the Father as He approached Calvary after realizing that the cup would not be taken away. It seems strange to think about His death at the time of His birth – but that is why He was born... to save us.

Christmas is a time to enjoy our families. May we be a holy example to our own families through our example of living a Gospel life. St. Francis was in love with the Babe of Bethlehem and we all share in that love. Thank you, Father Francis, for creating the Creche so that we could re-live the birth of Jesus in such a beautiful way.

May peace and joy be with all of us this Christmas season. Thank you, Jesus...

In the love of Christ,

Israela



December Birthdays

Regina Lubeck Dec 13

Mary Lou Narvaez Dec 13

Martha Ramirez Dec 18



December Profession

Anniversaries

Israela Garcia Dec 16, 2012

Mary Lou Narvaez Dec 16, 2012

Tommie Page Dec 16, 2012

Gerry Rohrkemper Dec 20, 1992

March 2024

Celebrated the life of Abraham Placencio, OFS at his funeral presided by Archbishop Wester and at the March Fraternity Gathering.

St. Anthony Fraternity visits emerging Fraternity, Fire of Assisi, in Gallup for formation.



April 2024

20 – Rite of Admission Retreat with visitors from the Fraternities of St. Francis, the Fire of Assisi, and Espiritu Santo



June 2024

23 – Rite of Admission for Six Inquirers

23 – Annual picnic



September 2024

17 – Feast Day of the St. Francis' Stigmata

22 -- St. Anthony Fraternity 70th Anniversary

27-29 Hosted Regional Chapter Meeting



October 2024

3 – Transitus Celebrated at Holy Family Parish
6 – National Zoom Meeting on the Stigmata
19 -- St. Anthony Fraternity Elections



Spiritual Assistant's Message

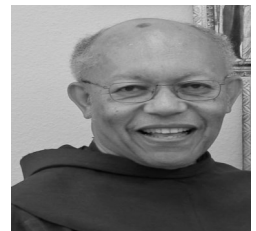
Dearest sisters and brothers in St. Francis --

How many Christmases will *this* be for you? Whatever the number, I hope it's not the same ol', same ol' thing.

Like other events remembered during the Liturgical Year, the recollection is cyclic—that, it's the *same* but **different**. Jesus isn't being reborn every year; anymore than Santa squeezes down the chimney of our home--*what* chimney?!

The coming of Jesus means opening the depths of our hearts to the changes he asks us to make as ordered through our Baptism. And, additionally, as Secular Franciscans, striving to live from "Gospel to Life, and Life to Gospel."

In Peace and all good things during this Christmas Season,
Br. Gordon, OFM



Treasurer's Report

SAINT ANTHONY FRATERNITY, OFS				
TWO MONTH FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 2024				
			October	November
MONTHLY NUMBER OF DONORS			15	13
# INCOME				
1	Regular Contributions:		730.00	515.00
2	Endowment Interest:		84.36	87.26
Exception Income:				
3	Chapter Donation		88.00	120.00
4				
5	Subtotal Exception Income (Item 3+4)		88.00	120.00
6	TOTAL INCOME (Items 1+2+5)		902.36	722.26
7	Transfer from Savings:			
8	TOTAL DEPOSITED (Checking Acct.) (Items 6+7)		902.36	722.26
EXPENSES				
RECURRING:				
	Spiritual Assistant Stipend		100.00	100.00
	Council Administration Supplies			
	Infirmarian Team (Misc. Expenses)			
	Formation Expenses		44.72	42.94
	Newsletter Admin. Supplies/Printing			13.52
	Newsletter Postage			
	Website Fee:		183.00	
	Apostolate: Poor Clares (Donation)		100.00	100.00
	Apostolate: Franciscan Friars (Donation)		75.00	75.00
	Fair Share to Regional:			
	Contengency Fund (Transfer to Savings)		50.00	50.00
9	Subtotal Recurring Expenses:		552.72	381.46
EXCEPTIONAL EXPENSES				
	Anniversaries registration			
	Anniversaries catering		1,050.00	
	Anniversaries hall		150.00	
	Anniversary assistance		50.00	
10	Subtotal Exception Expenses:		1,250.00	0.00
11	TOTAL EXPENSES (Items 9+10)		1,802.72	381.46
BEGINNING BALANCE (Checking Acct.)			7,069.09	6,168.78
ENDING BALANCE (Checking Acct.) (Items 8-11+12)			6,168.73	6,509.58
CONTINGENCY FUND: (Available Savings Funds)				
	Beginning Balance		4,501.76	4,552.92
	Transfer from Expenses		50.00	50.00
	Earned Dividend		1.16	
	TOTAL CONTINGENCY FUND		4,552.92	4,602.92



Gina Lubeck and Lisa Barczak brought some holiday cheer to homebound Fraternity member, Marilyn Migliarini.



Fraternity Contacts:

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Br. Gordon Boykin	OFM		

**St. Anthony Fraternity
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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.