



# St. Anthony Fraternity Newsletter

## February 2025

### Welcoming Ceremony for Ryan McRae and Angela Ortiz

A highlight of the Saint Anthony Fraternity’s January Gathering was the Ceremony of Welcoming for Ryan McRae and Angela Ortiz, following the completion of their orientation phase of formation. Following the Ritual of the Secular Franciscan Order, words from the Minister, Formation Director, and Spiritual Assistant expressed the Fraternity’s welcoming, support, and encouragement of the new inquirers.



*Pictured from left to right: Minister, Israela Garcia, Formation Director, Jeannette Schlicher, Brother Gordon Boykin, Ryan McRae, and Angela Ortiz .*

Ryan McRae, his wife, children, one son, and one daughter, who will attend the University of New Mexico this fall, moved to Albuquerque from Virginia in August 2024. He is currently employed by the Department of Homeland Security.

Ryan enjoys hiking, backpacking, and Jiu-Jitsu. Ryan was part of a fraternity in Virginia and learned about our Fraternity in Albuquerque through the website.

He is currently attending San Felipe de Neri parish but is looking to join a parish permanently once he and his family buy a home and become established in a community.

“ I am most looking forward to growing my faith through the teachings of St. Francis. If I can get a little closer to his way of life each day that will be a success for me. ”

— Ryan McRae

“ I believe our Lord Jesus Christ has a plan for us all as we journey through this life and of course, the Holy Spirit has big ideas for us if we are open. I met Ernestine Sedillo at a doctor’s office. I did not know Ernestine at all. She saw the St. Francis cross I was wearing and we got to talking and she invited me to the Fraternity. At that time in my life I had been praying for direction and needing something more in my Catholic Christian walk since my husband died. I was already in a Divine Mercy group and the prayer healing ministry at the Catholic Charismatic Prayer Center. I’m still part of these groups but I guess I was yearning for something more. I’ve taught liturgical dance to women and youth when I was younger. All the things I’ve done for the Lord Jesus Christ have led me to the beautiful saint of St. Francis. I am overjoyed to be where I am and excited to grow and learn more about my faith in Jesus Christ with my mentor and brother St. Francis. ”

— Angela Ortiz

# Important Dates and Reminders

## February

- **Council Meeting** February 7 at 6:00 p.m. at A Becoming Place | 1350 Lakeview Rd SW

- **Fraternity Gathering**

February 23 1:00 p.m. at A Becoming Place | 1350 Lakeview Rd SW

Please bring:

- Donations of non-perishable food for the St. Felix Food Pantry.
- New/gently used clothing donations for Francis House.
- Our Fraternity meal will be hosted by Hospitality Group 2:

Mary Lou Narvaez, Angela Ortiz, Reina Romero, Gerry Rohrkemper, Geri Salazar, Rex and Jeannette Schlicher, Ann Sims, and Lisa Trujillo

Our Fraternity's January donation to the St. Felix pantry was **57 pounds of food!**

Thank you for your generosity!



Your generosity makes a difference to your neighbors in need.

Clothing donations from the Fraternity will be delivered to the Trinity Catholic Worker House at 1925 Five Points Rd SW where three refugee families and others are housed.

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## *Fraternity News*

Yolanda Chavez from Gallup has officially joined our fraternity. Welcome Yolanda!

The OFS National Executive Council, led by Minister Jane DeRose-Baumman, OFS, will be meeting in Albuquerque from February 26 to March 2 at the Norbertine Retreat Center. We send our prayers for a fruitful session.

We have learned that Hazel Maria Herrera, OFS, passed in May 2024. Eternal rest, grant upon her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.



# Minister's Message



Happy February, brothers and sisters!

We rejoice in our sisterhood and brotherhood in this month dedicated to the Holy Family! For me, this month represents the time between the Christmas Season and the Lenten Season when Jesus grew from a baby to a young Man.

I mean, He didn't do it in one month but it is a time when we can reflect on the beautiful life that our Blessed Mother and St. Joseph provided for Jesus. Imagine growing up with two Saints as your parents! Imagine the Savior of the world running around, playing, learning, enjoying nature and being obedient to His parents. They are the perfect family...

In our families, we do not find perfection. Sometimes, we do not find holiness. The prayers that we have all prayed from the beginning of time for our families, is in the millions! As a mother, how many prayers Pica must have prayed for Francis... How many prayers must Pietro have prayed for Francis (after being hurt and angered by him)... Think of your parents and how much they prayed for you and how much we, as parents, pray for our own children...

Many times, our families are attacked by the evil one in so many different ways. We must be on our guard – especially as we journey through the Lenten Season. We must pray always for the strength and holiness that we need in order to be good examples to our own families and to our Franciscan family. We must never forget that we are all members of God's family. May we honor that gift.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph – Pray for us...

Your sister in Christ and Francis,

Israela



## February Profession

## February Birthdays

Joanne Elfers, OFS Feb 3

Lydia Wroten, OFS Feb 19

Ed Dzienis, OFS Feb 24

Adrian Montoya, OFS Feb 28



## Anniversaries

Edith Bohan (Affiliate)  
2/25/2005

Carol Dzienis 2/2/2001

Ed Dzienis 2/2/2001

# 2025 Important Dates

## Council Meetings

2/7/25 | 6:00 - 8:00 PM  
3/7/25 | 6:00 - 8:00 PM  
4/11/25 | 6:00 - 8:00 PM  
5/9/25 | 6:00 - 8:00 PM  
6/6/25 | 6:00 - 8:00 PM  
7/11/25 | 6:00 - 8:00 PM  
8/8/25 | 6:00 - 8:00 PM  
9/12/25 | 6:00 - 8:00 PM  
10/10/25 | 6:00 - 8:00 PM  
11/7/25 | 6:00 - 8:00 PM  
12/5/25 | 6:00 - 8:00 PM

## Fraternity Gatherings

2/23/25 | 1:00 - 4:00 PM  
3/23/25 | 2:00 - 5:00 PM  
4/27/25 | 2:00 - 5:00 PM  
5/25/25 | 2:00 - 5:00 PM  
6/22/25 | 2:00 - 5:00 PM  
7/27/25 | 2:00 - 5:00 PM  
8/24/25 | 2:00 - 5:00 PM  
9/28/25 | 2:00 - 5:00 PM  
10/26/25 | 2:00 - 5:00 PM  
11/16/25 | 1:00 - 4:00 PM  
12/21/25 | 1:00 - 5:00 PM

*Should any schedule changes be needed, notifications will be sent via email to Fraternity Members.*

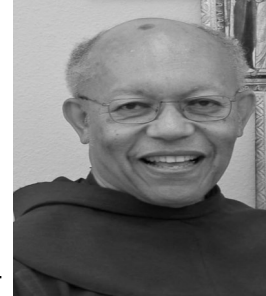
Candidacy  
Formation  
Sessions:  
February 8 and  
February 22  
*The Franciscan  
Journey:*  
Chapter 18: Being  
Faithful, and  
Chapter 19: How  
to Love People



# Spiritual Assistant's Message

Dearest sisters and brothers in St. Francis,

Very recently (on the "Sixth Sunday In Ordinary Time), the Gospel focus was on Christ's teaching of the Beatitudes.



We know what an attitude is--a frame of mind that could be either good or bad. But what is a beatitude? It is a desired state of blessing, happiness, or joy. It is a disposition in which we should always try to be.

When we catch ourselves daydreaming, perhaps we could "snap out of it" by focusing on our life with the Lord as he lays out our life for us in "the Beatitudes"--A.K.A., the Gospel Commandments. In other words, how we are to think about and treat our sister and brother--esp., those closest to us, i.e., family, parishioners, neighbors, and fellow Franciscans.

Jesus gives us the benefit of the doubt that, as called to witness Him in the market place, our witness should be as fresh as produce! And, one of the best ways for that to happen is to read and reflect on the daily Gospel as good and new news.

In the peace and goodwill of Francis,

Br. Gordon Boykin, OFM  
-Fraternity Spiritual Assistant

## Fraternity Website

Be sure to check our St. Anthony Fraternity's website at:  
<https://franciscansalbuquerque.sfousa.org/>

The St Anthony Fraternity of  
Secular Franciscans in  
Albuquerque, New Mexico

"For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;  
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life." - St. Francis of Assisi

HOME OUR FRATERNITY OUR RULE OUR CONSTITUTION PHOTO AND VIDEO CONTACT MONTHLY NEWSLETTERS

WHO ARE THE SECULAR FRANCISCANS

FRANCISCAN SPIRITUALITY

FRANCISCAN HISTORY AND THE WRITINGS OF ST. FRANCIS

WRITINGS OF ST. CLARE

Calendar: JANUARY 2025  
May 21, 2017 By Rick - 1 Comment

January 2025: The Epiphany of the Lord. JAN 12: The Baptism of the Lord. JAN 11: Candidacy Phase Formation: 10:00 a.m. ... Topics: Higher Prayer ... [Read more](#)

St. Anthony Fraternity Meeting Location  
July 21, 2016 By Rick - Leave a Comment

The meetings for the St. Anthony Fraternity, OFS, usually take place at A Becoming Place, the Franciscan facility of the Our Lady of Guadalupe Order of Friars Minor Province located at 1350 Lakeview SW in Albuquerque, NM. Directions: ... [Read more](#)

# Prayer Request

Please pray for our sister, Gina Lubeck, OFS, as she suffers from debilitating sciatica pain.

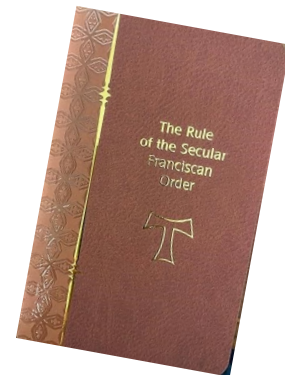
If you wish to contact Gina, she kindly asks that you call her cell phone (505-450-5994) and not her home phone.



Felicie Truscio visited with Fraternity affiliate, Clare Domenici, last month.



## Reflecting on the Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order



### **Rule Two**

The Secular Franciscan Order holds a special place in this family circle. It is an organic union of all Catholic fraternities scattered throughout the world and open to every group of the faithful. In these fraternities the brothers and sisters, led by the Spirit, strive for perfect charity in their own secular state. By their profession they pledge themselves to live the gospel in the manner of St. Francis by means of this rule approved by the Church.

**Commentary** (*Official Commentary prepared by the USA National Spiritual Assistants' Commission.*)

This second paragraph identifies the Secular Franciscan as a vital part of the whole family of Francis and points out its special secular character. It also stresses that all the necessary prerequisites are present to make it an official Order within the Catholic Church.

# Treasurer's Report

SAINT ANTHONY FRATERNITY, OFS				2024	2025
TWO MONTH FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR				December	January
<b>MONTHLY NUMBER OF DONORS</b>				16	14
<b># INCOME</b>					
1	Regular Contributions:			893.64	1,049.08
2	Endowment Interest:			73.08	73.28
	Exception Income:				
3	Chapter Donation			0.00	
4					
5	Subtotal Exception Income (Item 3+4)			0.00	0.00
6	TOTAL INCOME (Items 1+2+5)			966.72	1,122.36
7	Transfer from Savings:				
8	TOTAL DEPOSITED (Checking Acct.) (Items 6+7)			966.72	1,122.36
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
<b>RECURRING:</b>					
	Spiritual Assistant Stipend			100.00	100.00
	Council Administration Supplies			0.00	42.94
	Infirmarian Team (Misc. Expenses)			38.73	
	Formation Expenses			139.29	77.81
	Newsletter Admin. Supplies/Printing			52.72	
	Newsletter Postage				
	Website Fee:				
	Apostolate: Poor Clares (Donation)			100.00	100.00
	Apostolate: Franciscan Friars (Donation)			75.00	100.00
	Fair Share to Regional:				
	Contingency Fund (Transfer to Savings)			50.00	50.00
9	Subtotal Recurring Expenses:			555.74	470.75
<b>EXCEPTIONAL EXPENSES</b>					
	Anniversaries registration				
	Anniversaries catering			450.00	
	Anniversaries hall			150.00	
	Anniversary assistance			250.52	
10	Subtotal Exception Expenses:			850.52	0.00
11	TOTAL EXPENSES (Items 9+10)			1,406.26	470.75
<b>BEGINNING BALANCE (Checking Acct.)</b>				6,509.58	6,070.04
<b>ENDING BALANCE (Checking Acct.) (Items 8-11+12)</b>				6,070.04	6,721.65
<b>CONTINGENCY FUND: (Available Savings Funds)</b>					
	Beginning Balance			4,654.06	4,705.05
	Transfer from Expenses			50.00	50.00
	Earned Dividend			0.99	34.33
	TOTAL CONTINGENCY FUND			4,705.05	4,789.38



## **Fraternity Contacts:**

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<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Gerry Rohrkemper</b>	<b>505-873-2657</b>	<b>gmrsfo@aol.com</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Adrian Montoya</b>	<b>505-440-1203</b>	<b>atmontoya@yahoo.com</b>
<b>Formation Dir.</b>	<b>Jeannette Schlicher</b>	<b>505-839-9397</b>	<b>jgcase@yahoo.com</b>
<b>Councilor 1</b>	<b>Frances Lucero</b>	<b>505-321-6077</b>	<b>francislucero@yahoo.com</b>
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<b>Br. Gordon Boykin</b>	<b>OFM</b>		

**St. Anthony Fraternity**  
**P.O. Box 6881**  
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<https://franciscansalbuquerque.sfousa.org/>

### **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.**