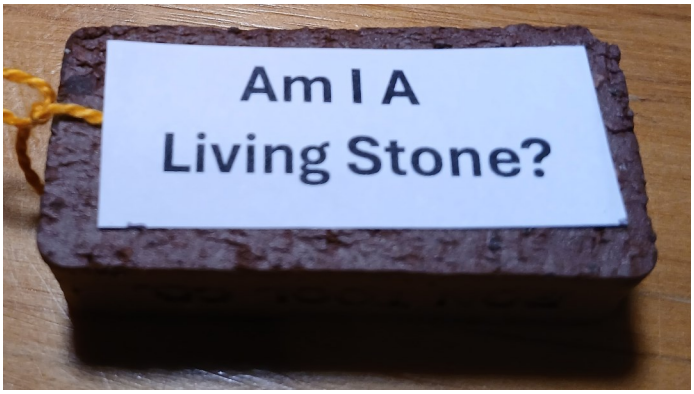
St. Anthony Fraternity Newsletter

October 2024

Building With Living Stones
Theme of 70th Anniversary Celebration



On Sunday, September 22, 2024, the members of the St. Anthony Fraternity were joined by Secular Order Franciscan from other fraternities, family, and friends to celebrate 70 years of being a canonically established fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order. The celebration was held at the San Jose Mission Church and Parish Hall.

Israela Garcia, Minister, began the Prayer Service. A core part of the Service were the readings and reflections from 1 Peter: 2:4-10 and Ephesians 2: 19-22 .

> "*Come to Him a living stone, rejected by human beings but chosen and precious in the sight of God, and like living stone, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house to be a hold priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.*" (1 Peter 2: 4)

> *"So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the holy ones and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the capstone. Through him the whole structure is held together and grows into a temple sacred in the Lord; in him you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.*
> (Ephesians 2: 19-22)

These two Scripture readings are a metaphor for the establishment of the St. Anthony Fraternity in 1954. The St. Anthony Fraternity began with five members—five living stones. With the grace of the Holy Spirit, they took the responsibility for setting the first stones. Through their work, prayer, and active collaboration with Father Leonard Foley, OFM, and Msgr. Jose Garcia, they began the building of a fraternity of living stones. This structure has grown over the decades and at times it has needed repair . This work was done with God's grace and with the members working with one another to continue building and repairing. Seventy years later, the St. Anthony Fraternity continues to grow and thrive . The sisters and brothers all share in their responsibility as living stones for the life of the fraternity, living the Gospel life according to the rule of St. Francis of Assisi.

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The Prayer Service was followed by a celebration in the Parish Hall. The hall was festively decorated. Two statutes of St. Anthony and the Banner of the St. Anthony Fraternity adorned the front of the Parish Hall. Guests enjoyed a bountiful meal and special cakes made for the occasion. There was music and folklorico dancing by Aria Lugo, age 5. The milestones of the Fraternity's 70-year history were presented by Felis Otero-Armijo, Secretary. Jeannette and Rex Schlicher were acknowledged as the Saint Anthony Fraternity members present who have been part of the Fraternity since 1983. Mementos of the event were given to the guests: a mini brick with the words, "Am I a Living Stone?", a copy of the History of the St. Anthony Fraternity, and a copy of Formation Director Rena Xuereb's reflection on the anniversary, "Others Must Pass This Way".

Israela Garcia, Minister begins the Prayer Service held at the San Jose Mission Church.

Aria Lugo, age 5, dances folklorico at the Anniversary Celebration.

Calendar of Events

Gathering - Oct 27

Council Meeting - Nov 15

Gathering - Nov 24 1:00 pm

Orientation Phase - Nov 2
The Creed—Catechism of the Catholic Church (cont.)

November Birthdays

Dolores Cortez - Nov 4

Alcaria Valdez - Nov 21

Hospitality Group 2

October 27 Gathering

Jeanette & Rex Schlicher
Gerry Rohrkemper
Geri Blanco Salazar
Angela L. Ortiz
Lisa Trujillo
Ann Sims
Reina Romero

thank you

Two-Month Financial Statement	AUG 2024	SEP 2024
Monthly Donors	16	14
INCOME		
Regular Contributions	609.00	580.00
Endowment Interest	87.17	87.16
Exceptional Income (Franciscan Journey and Essential Documents Text Books	135.00	43.00
Subtotal for Exceptional Income	135.00	43.00
TOTAL INCOME	831.17	710.16
Transfer from Savings		
TOTAL DEPOSITED (Checking Acct.)	831.17	710.16
EXPENSES		
RECURRING:		
Spiritual Assistant Stipend	100.00	100.00
Council Administration Supplies (checks)		
Formation Expenses		
Infirmarian Team		38.70
Newsletter: Supplies and Printing	29.97	
Newsletter Postage (stamps & seals)	166.86	146.00
Website Fee		
Annual Post Office Box Fee		
Apostolate: Poor Clares	100.00	100.00
Apostolate: Franciscan Friars (Donation)	75.00	75.00
Fair Share to Regional		
Contingency Fund (transfer to Savings		50.00
_EXCEPTIONAL EXPENSES		120.00
(Registration for Council Members — Regional Meeting)		
Subtotal Exceptional Expenses		120.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	505.26	629.73
BEGINNING BALANCE (CHECKING ACC)	6702.07	7026.98
ENDING BALANCE (CHECKING ACT)	7026.07	7107.41
CONTINGENCY FUND (Available Savings Fund)		
Beginning Balance	4397.85	4449.15
Transfer from Expenses	50.00	50.00
Earned Dividends	1.30	1.32
TOTAL CONTINGENCY FUND	4449.15	4500 .47

Minister's Message

Peace and All Good!

First, let me thank you all for helping and attending the St. Anthony #101 Fraternity 70th Anniversary! If you were not able to join us, I want you to know that you were with us in our hearts and connected to us through St. Francis and the Holy Spirit. Also, thank you to all who were able to help and attend the Regional Chapter the week after the Anniversary Celebration. I am especially grateful and in awe of our St. Anthony Fraternity. It was nice to host the Chapter in Albuquerque and, with your help, we had a very fun and successful Chapter!

This was a very busy time for our Fraternity and we still have Elections to go on Saturday, October 19th. After elections, the new Council will be busy adjusting to their new call within their vocation to serve our Franciscan brothers and sisters in the Fraternity. This is a good time to reflect on servant leadership and how we can serve the world as good and faithful servants. Let us join in prayer for our outgoing and incoming Councils:

Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we pray in thanksgiving for all the servants of <u>your</u> Franciscan Order that have responded to your call to service with their "YES". We thank you for calling others to serve as You guide them in their continuing journey to You, Most High.

All Glory, All Honor and All Praise be to You Almighty God. - Amen

In the joy of Francis,

Israela

<u>A Reminder</u>

Bring non-perishable food to the Gathering on October 27 for the St. Felix Pantry.

Felicie Truscio reported that 26 lbs of food were taken to our last Gathering.

For the health of :

Consuelo Chavez

Victor and Rena Xuereb

Arturo Lente

Connie Jo Martinez

All our Homebound Brothers and Sisters

St. Anthony Fraternity Hosts Chapter of Our Lady of Guadalupe Region

Our Lady of Guadalupe Region Servant Leaders: (left to right) Brother Gordon, Spiritual Assistant; Israela Garcia, Councilor; Terry Craig, Secretary; Elizabeth Trevino, Formation Director, Gigi Gregory, Vice-Minister; Sofia Villarreal, Minister; Leticia Briones, Councilor; Bonnie Franco, Treasurer

On September 28, 2024, St. Anthony Fraternity hosted the Regional chapter meeting of the Secular Franciscan Order at "A Becoming Place". This meeting provided the brothers and sisters of the fraternity an opportunity to experience the roles and responsibilities of the Regional Officers in helping the fraternities to live their Franciscan vocation. The Region oversees 13 fraternities in New Mexico and West Texas. From elections, to visitations, to orientation of newly elected councils, to financial audits, formation, and resources, the Regional officers give meaning to the concept of servant leadership.

The Regional Chapter Agenda items were those that we have in our Fraternity Council—prayers from the Ritual, spiritual reflections on the Gospel, minutes, reports, and announcements. Woven throughout by the presenters of the Chapter Agenda of September 28, was Franciscan charism in questions for discernment: "Do I swallow my pride and ask questions because in humility I may be helping someone else?" "How can I observe the Gospel?" "Do I listen to the voice of God in nature and from other people?" "How can I listen to God if I don't even listen to what a person is telling me?!" "Am I living my vocation in the Order of the Secular Franciscans?" "Do I hear the voices of Francis and Clare in the Rule and Constitution?" " Do I make use of the resources provided by the Secular Franciscan Order-USA?" "What will I continue to do to LISTEN, DISCERN, and GO FORTH?"

The Regional Chapter meeting began with Liturgy of the Hours at 9:00 am and ended with Mass in the Chapel of "A Becoming Place" at 4:00 pm.

The evening concluded with a dinner at Hacienda Del Regocijo, followed with entertainment by Baila, Baila Ballet Folklorico.

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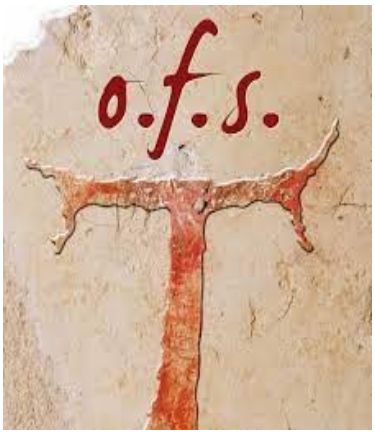
Our Mission Statement

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.



Profession Anniversaries

Marie Allen	3/6/1955	69 years
Rex Schlicher	3/13/1983	41 years
Jeanette Schlicher	3/13/1983	41 years
Elizabeth Chavez	3/21/2010	14 years
Marilyn Migliarini	3/21/2010	14 years