

St. Anthony Fraternity Newsletter

September 2026

Six Candidates Become Professed Members on August 23, 2026!



Pictured: Ann Sims, OFS, Martha Ramirez, OFS, Reina Romero, OFS, Lisa Barczak, OFS, Lisa Trujillo-Montoya, OFS, and Geri Salazar, OFS

"By the grace of God, I renew my baptismal promises and consecrate myself to the service of his Kingdom. Therefore, in my secular state I promise to live all the days of my life the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Secular Franciscan Order by observing its rule of life. May the grace of the Holy Spirit, the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and our holy father St. Francis, and the fraternal bonds of community always be my help, so that I may reach the goal of perfect Christian love."

During Holy Mass on Sunday, August 23, 2026, at 2:00 p.m., six St. Anthony Fraternity candidates completed the Ordo Franciscanus Saecularis Rite of Profession at the San Jose Mission Church in the North Valley in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Each candidate was accompanied by their Fraternity sponsor. In attendance were members of the St. Anthony Fraternity (Albuquerque), the Espiritu Santo Fraternity (Albuquerque), and the St. Francis Fraternity (Santa Fe), and many beloved family and friends. Father Arthur Anderson, OFM, was the celebrant. The Rite of Profession was led by SAF minister Israela Garcia and Formation Director Frances Lucero. Mass music and songs by Consuelo Chavez, OFS, Matty Miguel, SIM, and Rita Santistevan, SIM, beautifully complemented the special two-hour service. Spiritual Assistant Brother Gordon Boykin, OFM, led the Prayer of Divine Grace with the Litany of the Franciscan Saints. Each of the professed was presented with symbols of Profession: Sacred Scriptures, San Damiano Cross, and a Candle. A joyous reception was held for all at the San Jose Mission following the Mass.



See pages 4 and 5 for more photos.

Important Dates and Reminders

September

- **Council Meeting:** September 4 at 10:00 a.m. at A Becoming Place | 1350 Lakeview Rd SW
- **Fraternity Gathering:** September 27 at 2:00 p.m. at A Becoming Place | 1350 Lakeview Rd
  - Please join the NAFRA Zoom session at 1:00 p.m. (See page 6 for more info.)
  - Hospitality Group 1 will be hosting our Gathering meal (names below). Thank you!

You may continue to bring any donations you can make to these ministries:

- Donations of non-perishable food for the St. Felix Food Pantry. Please consider including protein-based canned items such as chicken, pasta with meat, peanut butter, tuna, and similar.
- Donations for the Francis House on Zuni St. Men's and Women's socks and underwear (all sizes) continue to be in need by the guests served. Sweats and hoodies, and men's jeans and casual pants (sizes 32, 34, 36) are always appreciated, too. Individual packages of body wipes are also on the wish list. Please pray for the ministry of the Francis House, which assists vulnerable residents of Albuquerque.
- If you're unable to bring donations to the Gatherings, please contact Adrian for pick-up and delivery. phone: 505-440-1203 or email: atmontoya@yahoo.com.
- The Francis House is also looking for regular volunteers to help serve at Francis House on **Sundays** for any amount of time between 8 am and 12 noon. Please contact Dan Lyons at (505) 681-4312 or email uhlllyons@gmail.com if you are interested in helping.

Our Fraternity's August 2026 donation to the St. Felix Pantry was **38** pounds of food!



For your generosity in supporting those most in need in our community.



Upcoming Meetings

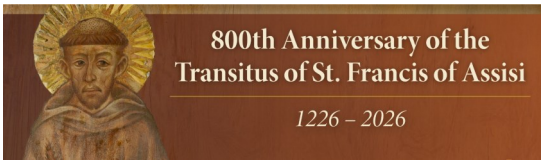
Meeting Location: A Becoming Place | 1350 Lakeview Rd SW

Council Meetings	Fraternity Gatherings
10/2/26 | 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	10/25/26 | 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.
11/6/26 | 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	11/22/26 | ***1:00 - 4:00 p.m. *** *Please note time change.*

The September 27th Fraternity meal will be hosted by Hospitality Group 1:
Lisa Barczak, Consuelo Chavez, Adrian Montoya, Felis Otero-Armijo, Tommie Page, Martha Ramirez, Lisa Trujillo-Montoya

Minister's Message





Brothers and Sisters in Christ and Francis,

As October 3rd approaches, we are preparing our hearts to commemorate the Transitus of our Seraphic Father, Francis. I ask that every member of St. Anthony Fraternity take time to contemplate on their vocation and Profession to the OFS on that day…

We will be sharing a short In-Home Transitus service along with other options through email if you cannot attend the Transitus Celebration at Holy Family Catholic Church in Albuquerque. Another option would be to read one of Francis' prayers or writings. Maybe you can sing the Canticle of the Sun. Another thing you can do is go on a nature walk or spend some time outside – even if just for a few minutes. During that time, give thanks and praise to God for Creation and for the blessings He has bestowed on us during our lives.

We are coming to the end of the celebrations of the 800th Centenary with the commemoration of the Anniversary of the Transitus of St. Francis of Assisi, or the Easter of St. Francis of Assisi, and we should always be reminded of our Franciscan teachings and charisms as we put them into practice with our families and those we encounter every day. As Father Art told us at our last retreat: "We are still here. There is still something we are supposed to be doing."

As we welcome our newly professed into our Fraternity and the Order, may we be good examples of humility and love. May we be good sisters and brothers to them as we help each other along the journey toward our own transitus and eternal life. And may we do what is ours to do…

Peace and blessings in Christ and Francis,
Israela

800th Commemoration of the Transitus of St. Francis of Assisi
Saturday, October 3, 2026 7:30 p.m. (Following 6:30 p.m. Spanish Mass)

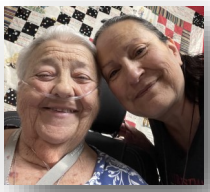
Holy Family Church, 562 Atrisco Dr SW, Albuquerque, NM 87105

Sponsored by Espiritu Santo Fraternity. Reception Following.
St Anthony Fraternity asked to bring desserts.

More information about in-home service and other options will be emailed.

September Birthdays

Arthur Lente September 2
Israela Garcia September 6
Ernestine Sedillo September 6
Clare Domenici September 7
Marilyn Migliarini September 11
Lisa Trujillo-Montoya September 16



Israela and Marilyn celebrating Marilyn's birthday.

September Profession Anniversaries

Regina Lubeck September 6, 2020
Frances Lucero September 6, 2020



August 23, 2026 SAF Profession











We thank you, Lord, for calling us to the Secular Franciscan Order!



All Are Invited!

On Saturday, September 26, 2026, Father Arthur Anderson, OFM, will lead a "Day of Recollection on the Transitus of St. Francis of Assisi" for the 800th Anniversary. The Day of Recollection will focus on what St. Francis would probably call his "first death" and invite us to review the pivotal points in making our own personal conversions.

The event will be held inside Holy Family Church at 562 Atrisco Dr. SW, Albuquerque, from 8:30 am to about 12:00 noon. There is no fee to attend. Free-will offerings will be accepted. A take-out lunch can be purchased for $10.

Please register for the event (for headcount purposes) by calling Esther Lucero-Miner at the Holy Family Parish office at 505-842-5426, ***or*** email your name & phone number to Adrian Montoya, OFS, at atmontoya@yahoo.com, and he can share your RSVP with the church. Let him know if you would like to order a take-out lunch.

REMINDER: As shared via email, the Regional Chapter of Elections that will be held on November 6-8, 2026, at the Holiday Inn West in El Paso. You can register to attend as an observer and/or nominate someone for the Regional Council.

To register to observe: Email Bonnie Franco, OFS, Regional Treasurer, at yfranco@aim.com as soon as possible. Attendees are responsible for their own costs.

Regional Executive Council (REC) Nominations: REC elections are being held this year on November 7, 2026, for the following positions: Regional Minister, Regional Vice-Minister, Regional Secretary, Regional Treasurer, Regional Formation Director, and Regional Councilor. If you would like to nominate someone in our Fraternity, sister Fraternities, or Region, including yourself, please email or call either Alma (arodriguez@solraccorp.com, 915-873-0021) or Adrian (atmontoya@yahoo.com, 505-440-1203) from the Regional Nomination Committee for the qualifications and nominating form.



Formation Schedule

All sessions held at the San Jose Mission at 2110 Los Luceros Rd. NW.

Candidacy 1



Please note time change.

September 12, 2026 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
(FJ) Chapter 20: **Freedom to Love**

September 26, 2026 11:00 am - 1:00pm
(FJ) Chapter 21: **How to Love People**

October 10, 2026 11:00 am - 1:00pm
(FJ) Chapter 22: **Foundation for the Kingdom**



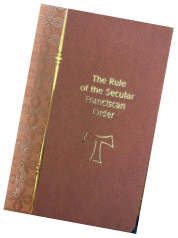
Save the Date for the last NAFRA Centenary Zoom Event!

We will celebrate the 800th anniversary of St. Francis' transitus.

Sunday, September 27, 2026
1:00 p.m. Mountain Time

We will watch together before our 2:00 p.m. September Gathering at A Becoming Place at 1350 Lakeview Rd SW. Those who need to can watch the event from home via Zoom. (Reach out to Gerry or Israela if you need to link to register.)

Reflecting on the OFS Rule



Article Twenty One

On various levels, each fraternity is animated and guided by a council and minister who are elected by the professed according to the constitutions. Their service, which lasts for a definite period, is marked by a ready and willing spirit and is a duty of responsibility to each member and to the community. Within themselves the fraternities are structured in different ways according to the norm of the constitutions, according to the various needs of their members and their regions, and under the guidance of their respective council.

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

21. This fraternity is bound together with the leadership of a president and a council who are ready and willing to serve, and it is expressed in diversified ways according to the needs of the area (#21). Two implications ensue from the first part of this paragraph: the importance of choosing available and competent and willing leaders and, secondly, the responsibility of Secular Franciscans themselves to exercise complete control in administrative and temporal matters. The stress on diversified fraternity styles implies that the structure of the community must be tailored to the needs of those who form it.

Treasurer's Report

	SAINT ANTHONY FRATERNITY #101, OFS TWO MONTH FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR	2026 July	2026 August	Comments
	MONTHLY NUMBER OF DONORS	17	8	*Thank you!*
#	**INCOME**			
1	**Fair Share / Regular Contributions:**	516.00	425.00	
2	**Endowment Interest:**	87.32	87.55	
	Exception Income:			
3.1	**Donations for Pre Profession Retreat**	140.00	0.00	
3.2	**Pre Profession Overnight Lodging at Abbey**	270.00	250.00	
3.3	**Ritual Book Purchase**	0.00	0.00	
4	**Memorial Donations for Mary Lou Navarez**	0.00	0.00	
5	**Subtotal Exception Income (Item 3+4)**	410.00	250.00	
6	**TOTAL INCOME (Items 1+2+5)**	1,013.32	762.55	
7	**Transfer from Savings:**	2,000.00	0.00	*transfer from savings for Pre Profession Retreat*
8	**TOTAL DEPOSITED (Checking Acct.) (Items 6+7)**	3,013.32	762.55	
	EXPENSES			
	RECURRING:			
	Spiritual Assistant Stipend	100.00	100.00	
	Council Administration Supplies	0.00	0.00	
	Infirmarian Team (Misc. Expenses)	0.00	78.00	*Postage and Supplies*
	Formation Expenses	45.95	0.00	*Printing and Supplies*
	Newsletter Admin. Supplies/Printing	23.90	0.00	*Printing*
	Newsletter Postage	82.00	0.00	*Postage*
	Website Fee:	0.00	0.00	
	Apostolate: Poor Clares (Donation)	100.00	100.00	
	Apostolate: Franciscan Friars (Donation)	100.00	100.00	
	Apostolate: Francis House Catholic Worker (Donation	0.00	0.00	
	Fair Share to Regional:	0.00	0.00	
	Contingency Fund (Transfer to Savings)	50.00	50.00	
9	**Subtotal Recurring Expenses:**	501.85	428.00	
	EXCEPTIONAL EXPENSES			
	Pre Profession Retreat Norbertine Spirituality Center	2,258.00	0.00	*Venue fee: rooms, conference rooms, breakfast*
	Pre Profession Retreat Food	301.08	0.00	*Food, Snacks and Drinks*
	Pre Profession Retreat Prinitng	87.06	0.00	*Printing*
	Franciscan Friars Stipend Pre Profession Retreat	0.00	200.00	*Stipend for Retreat by Fr Art Anderson OFM*
10	**Subtotal Exception Expenses:**	2,646.14	200.00	
11	**TOTAL EXPENSES (Items 9+10)**	3,147.99	628.00	
12	**BEGINNING BALANCE (Checking Acct.)**	2,644.15	2,509.48	
	ENDING BALANCE (Checking Acct.) (Items 8-11+12)	2,509.48	2,644.03	
	CONTINGENCY FUND: (Available Savings Funds)			
	Beginning Balance	5,682.12	3,732.94	
	Transfer from Expenses	50.00	50.00	
	Earned Dividend	0.82	0.80	
	Transfer from Savings to Income	-2,000.00	0.00	*transfer to checking for Pre Profession Retreat*
	TOTAL CONTINGENCY FUND	3,732.94	3,783.74	

Thank you to everyone who contributes to our Fraternity's Fair Share – your support helps keep our fraternity living out our charism together. Peace and All Good.



Fraternity Contacts:

Minister Israela Garcia	**505-450-5267**	**director@bailabaila.com**
Vice-Minister Nancy Singh	**865-389-4353**	**singh_nancy@yahoo.com**
Secretary Gerry Rohrkemper	**505-873-2657**	**gmrsfo@aol.com**
Treasurer Adrian Montoya	**505-440-1203**	**atmontoya@yahoo.com**
Formation Dir. Frances Lucero	**505-321-6077**	**franceslucero@yahoo.com**
Councilor 1 Vacant		
Councilor 2 Tommie Page	**505-452-0915**	**pagetomasita@gmail.com**
Infirmarian Linda Williams	**951-776-7486**	**WLINDAE1950@aol.com**
Spiritual Assistant Br. Gordon Boykin OFM	**505-249-5774**	**gboykin@friars.us**

St. Anthony Fraternity
P.O. Box 6881
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87197-6881
https://franciscansalbuquerque.sfousa.org/

Find us on Facebook: Secular Franciscan Order—OFS-St. Anthony Fraternity, Albuquerque NM

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.