

VOL. 71, NO. 6  
JUNE 2011

# THE POWELL

ST. BONAVENTURE SECULAR FRANCISCANS ✦ DETROIT, MICHIGAN



Visit our website: <http://www.sfostbonaventure-detroit.org>

# MINISTER'S LETTER

My dear brothers and sisters,

May God's peace be with you!

**PLEASE NOTE ON YOUR CALENDAR:** Because Fathers Day will be celebrated on the third Sunday of June, our fraternity gathering will be held on **Sunday, June 12** at 1:30 p.m.

Please plan to attend the Mass for our deceased brothers and sisters on **Saturday, June 25** at 10:00 a.m.

If you have not already done so, please send your **Poverello (\$20)** and **Fair Share (\$32)** contributions as soon as possible to: St. Bonaventure Secular Franciscan Fraternity, c/o Gene Snyders, Treasurer, 1780 Mt. Elliott, Detroit, MI 48207.

Volunteers are needed to assist with our fraternity picnic scheduled for **Sunday, July 17** at **1:30** p.m at **BELLE ISLE**. Sign-up sheets for food, beverages and other items will be available at the May and June fraternity gatherings. If you are interested in serving as a volunteer or want to know what items to bring, please call Tony Lienert at 313-867-1144. Additional information, including a map showing the location of our picnic site, will be provided in the July **Poverello**.

I want to remind each one of you of your responsibility as a professed member to attend fraternity gatherings and to contribute financially to our fraternity.

1) Your attendance at monthly fraternity gatherings is essential for the life of our fraternity as a whole and to your own spiritual growth in Franciscan spirituality. Article 24 of our SFO Rule states: "To foster communion among members, the council should organize regular and frequent meetings of the community as well as meeting with other Franciscan groups, especially with youth groups. It should adopt appropriate means for growth in Franciscan and ecclesial life and encourage everyone to a life of fraternity. This communion continues with deceased brothers and sisters through prayer for them."

2) Your monthly financial support is essential to provide us with the funds necessary to purchase supplies and to pay our monthly bills. Article 25 of the SFO Rule states: "Regarding expenses necessary for the life of the fraternity and the needs of worship, of the apostolate, and of charity, all the brothers and sisters should offer a contribution according to their means. Local fraternities should contribute toward the expenses of the higher fraternity councils." My brothers and sisters, your attendance and active participation at fraternity gatherings, as well as your monthly financial contribution are vital to the life of our fraternity.

## REFLECTION

"Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.'" (Jn 20:21-22)

"Jesus said to his disciples, 'All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the world.'" (Mt 28:18-20)

These Scripture passages are some of the final words of Jesus to his disciples. Jesus was sent by the Father to accomplish a specific mission on this earth — to manifest God's love, mercy, compassion to all people, to suffer, die and rise to new life. Now Jesus' mission is coming to an end, but before he leaves he gives his disciples with two gifts: peace and the Holy Spirit.

Just as Jesus commissioned the disciples to go and proclaim God's message of love, peace, mercy, hope and abundant life to all nations, we, too, as modern day disciples of Jesus, are called to do the same.

As followers of Christ, we are called to use our God-given talents and gifts in service to others and to bring about the Kingdom of God in our families, neighborhoods, parishes and places of employment.

My brothers and sisters, as Secular Franciscans, as disciples of Christ, as followers of St. Francis of Assisi, our mission is to go and proclaim the Gospel message not by our words but by the way in which we live our daily ordinary lives. The work of this mission may seem like an impossible task to accomplish because of our human weaknesses and limitations. Yet, God has given us the gift of his peace and the promise that he will be with us always. Every time we participate in the Eucharistic celebration, we are in the presence of the active and living God. Every time we receive the Body and Blood of Christ, the living bread of Christ, we receive nourishment and strength for our journey.

In order to build the Kingdom of God and proclaim God's message of love, we, as Secular Franciscans, have chosen to live our lives in the footsteps of St. Francis of Assisi, by making Christ the center of our lives and seeing Christ in every person we encounter and in all creation. We have also learned the importance of devoting time in our busy, fast-paced daily lives to meditate on the Gospel message and to allow the transformative power of the Word of God to change us into new creations.

My brothers and sisters, as Secular Franciscans, we have another tremendous source of strength, support and encouragement as we work to proclaim the Gospel message - we have the precious gift of each other. We are companions on the journey of building up and making visible the Kingdom of God's peace, mercy, hope and love in our world.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at our Fraternity Gathering on June 12 at 1:30 p.m. Remember to pray daily for vocations to the Secular Franciscan Order. May you experience anew the active and living presence of Christ with you.

Your sister in St. Francis,  
maryann



## **The leper became God's instrument of healing to Francis**

“This is how God inspired me, Brother Francis, to embark upon a life of penance. When I was in sin, the sight of lepers nauseated me beyond measure; but then God himself led me into their company, and I showed them compassion. When I had once become acquainted with them, what had previously nauseated me became a source of spiritual and physical consolation for me. After that I did not wait long before leaving the world....When God gave me some brothers, there was no one to tell me what I should do; but the Most High himself made it clear to me that I must live the life of the Gospel.”

– St. Francis, *Testament*



**Deceased Member:**

Nancy Fanning († March 22, 2011)

**Deceased Relatives:**

Ben Aguilar († May 17, 2011), brother of Lettie and Javier Aguilar

**Members needing prayers:**

- |                           |                             |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Wilhelmina Adkins         | Les and Josie Lafata        |
| Peter Aluzzo              | Frank & Rosalie Liccardello |
| Kay Balas                 | Rose Longo                  |
| Gertrude Beattie          | Joseph Marra                |
| Evelyn Bishop             | Sophie Martin               |
| Rocco Cesaro              | Maria McNally               |
| Clara Falzone             | Mabel Michaels              |
| Wesley Faust              | Genevieve Ochenkowski       |
| Marie Fontanive           | Eleanor Pulido              |
| Mary Gillen               | Rosie Patin                 |
| Natalie Grabowski         | Bob Peckham                 |
| James Heymes              | Theresa Pfaendtner          |
| Caroline Hojna            | Joseph Pierce               |
| Dora Sue Jay              | Eleanore Pulido             |
| Anna May Jezak            | Mary Saber                  |
| Donna Marie Johnston      | Francis Scallion            |
| Denise Joseph             | Gene Snyders                |
| Mary Klein                | Alice Vier                  |
| Lorraine Korte            | Helen Wardowski             |
| Jerry and Helen Koslowski | Joseph Wisk                 |
| Mary Ann Kristensen       | Stephen Yuhase              |
| Mary LaBudie              | Veronica Yuhase             |

**Relatives needing prayers:**

- Theresa Brannigan, daughter-in-law of Marguerite  
 Shannon Ertzbischoff, niece of Julia  
 John Gold, husband of Rose  
 Veronica & Steve Gulock, sister & in-law of Ilene Manning  
 Ted and Judy Hojna  
 William Pierce Hunter, great-grandson of Mary Hebert  
 Fred LaChance, brother of Donna Marie Johnston  
 Esther Mae Kelly, wife of Charles

- Madison, granddaughter of John and Janet Bodell  
 Rosemary Marson, sister of Ralph  
 Sal Militello, great grandnephew of Jo Marie Nardi  
 Cindy Rose Murphy, niece of Dan and Jan Atkinson  
 Marilyn Nichols, daughter of Anthony Brodeur  
 Jean Nozewski, wife of Thomas  
 Teresa Poole, mother of Mary  
 Family of Joanne Schumacher  
 Victoria Snigier, mother of Sylvia  
 Chester Wisk, brother of Joe

**Those serving in the Armed Forces:**

- Andrew Arcznski  
 Christopher Beattie  
 James Anthony Brannigan  
 Thomas Chmielarczyk  
 Thomas Greenia  
 Michael Manning  
 John Marra III  
 Joseph Marra, Jr.

Please help to keep our list up-to-date. Call:

**Jo Marie Nardi at 586-978-2335**



**Brady  
 3 years old  
 Neuroblastoma**

When Brady underwent scans doctors found a large mass in his abdomen and a smaller mass behind his left eye. Cancer was also in his bone marrow. Brady's mother remembers, "It was a nightmare I'll never forget." Brady started chemotherapy. Then there was surgery to remove the tumors and a cell transplant. Then radiation. Brady returned home in Spring 2010, but unfortunately, recent scans revealed that the cancer has returned. Brady is receiving chemotherapy once again. Brady's family is thankful that the costs of Brady's treatments are covered. "I remember feeling a sense of relief when I heard how much St. Jude provides. It's one less thing to worry about."



## Celebrating Theresa and William Haas



**William T. Haas** was born on July 7, 1924 in Germany. Bill came to America with his parents and brother in 1926. Bill has two brothers. Bill attended St. David Grade School, George Trade School and Aero Mechanics School. He graduated from the University of Detroit with a Bachelor's degree in Philosophy in 1957. During World War II, Bill served in the Army from July 1943 to March 1946. He spent six months in Okinawa at the end of the war.

Bill was employed as a die designer and process engineer at Chrysler. After 27 years of service, Bill retired from Chrysler in November, 1989. Before working at Chrysler, Bill worked at a job shop which was an independent company assisting other companies with large projects.

At a St. David Youth Group meeting, **Joe Driessen** told Bill about the Secular Franciscan Order. Bill joined the SFO Intermediates in 1957, and was professed into the St. Bonaventure Secular Franciscan Fraternity in 1959. When Bill was signing up to join the SFO bowling league, he met Terry, the secretary of the bowling league. They were married at St. Thomas the Apostle Church on November 18, 1961. They are looking forward to celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary this year.

**Theresa (Hessler) Haas** was born in Detroit on June 23, 1928, the second youngest of three brothers and four sisters. She attended St. Thomas the Apostle School and graduated from St. Catherine High School. After completing high school, Terry worked as a secretary at various companies.

Terry and Bill live in Eastpointe and are parishioners at St. Veronica Church where they assist with church and office work. They have been blessed with three children and two grandchildren: their daughter, Loretta, lives in Oregon with her husband; their son, Dr. Bill, lives in Florida with his wife and daughter; and their son, Michael, lives in Dearborn with his wife and sons.

**Maurice Greenia**, a friend of the family, told Theresa and her sisters about the Secular Franciscans. Terry and her sisters joined the SFO Juniors. Theresa was professed into the St. Bonaventure Secular Franciscan Fraternity in 1950.

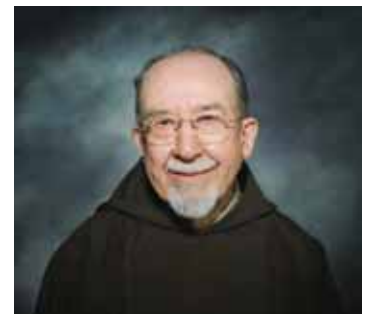
Terry and Bill are proud to be members of the Secular Franciscans. They enjoy attending meetings to socialize with their Franciscan brothers and sisters who are serious about living their faith. They also enjoy serving as volunteers at the Soup Kitchen. In their free time, Bill enjoys woodworking. Theresa makes rosaries and belongs to Right to Life. When they were younger, they enjoyed sailing, fishing and camping with their children.

We love you, Theresa and Bill!



## Congratulations, Br. Leo

We want to congratulate **Br. Leo Wollenweber**, Vice Postulator of the Cause of Ven. Solanus Casey, who recently celebrated 70 years as a Capuchin Franciscan. *Ad multos annos!*



## 2011 Calendar: June thru December (revised)

June 10.....	10:30-1 p.m. ....	Meldrum Kitchen Ministry
June 11.....	9:30 a.m. ....	Formation Education Meeting
June 11.....	1:30 p.m. ....	Leadership team meeting
June 12.....	1:30 p.m. ....	Fraternity Gathering (moved because of Fathers Day)
June 25.....	10:00 a.m. ....	SFO Mass for Deceased
July 15.....	10:30-1 p.m. ....	Meldrum Kitchen Ministry
July 16.....	1:30 p.m. ....	Leadership team meeting
July 17.....	1:30 p.m. ....	<b>Fraternity Picnic at Belle Isle</b> – Welcoming Ceremony
Aug. 12.....	10:30-1 p.m. ....	Meldrum Kitchen Ministry
Aug. 20.....	1:30 p.m. ....	Leadership team meeting
Aug. 21.....	1:30 p.m. ....	Fraternity Gathering – Admissions Ceremony
Sept. 16.....	10:30-1 p.m. ....	Meldrum Kitchen Ministry
Sept. 17.....	1:30 p.m. ....	Leadership team meeting
Sept. 18.....	11:00 a.m. ....	Day of Reflection
Oct. 3.....	7:00 p.m. ....	Transitus
Oct. 4.....	7:00 p.m. ....	Mass in honor of St. Francis of Assisi
Oct. 14.....	10:30-1 p.m. ....	Meldrum Kitchen Ministry
Oct. 15.....	1:30 p.m. ....	Leadership team meeting
Oct. 16.....	1:30 p.m. ....	Fraternity Gathering
Oct. 22.....	10:00 a.m. ....	SFO Mass for Deceased
Nov. 11.....	10:30-1 p.m. ....	Meldrum Kitchen Ministry
Nov. 19.....	9:30 a.m. ....	Formation team meeting
Nov. 19.....	10:00 a.m. ....	Profession Retreat
Nov. 19.....	1:30 p.m. ....	Leadership team meeting
Nov. 20.....	1:30 p.m. ....	Profession Mass
Dec. 9.....	10:30-1 p.m. ....	Meldrum Kitchen Ministry
Dec. 17.....	1:30 p.m. ....	Leadership team meeting
Dec. 18.....	1:30 p.m. ....	Christmas Concert and SFO-hosted Reception



2 ..... Jerrold Marsh  
4 ..... James Cotter and Hugh Montpetit  
5 ..... Joseph Schultes, Marcella Langwerowski,  
and Joe Sapien  
11 ..... Melissa Lindow  
12 ..... Mary Morawa  
14 ..... Elda Scabich

15 ..... Clair Boutain  
20 ..... Patricia Long and Joe Portugal  
23 ..... Theresa Haas  
24 ..... Sandra Sherman  
25 ..... Joe Wisk  
26 ..... Elizabeth Barnowsky  
29 ..... Paul Ivan

## *Your Help is Urgently Needed*

We're trying to keep in better contact with our members, especially those who are temporarily or permanently excused. We also want to insure that all the member information for our 2011 Directory is up-to-date. There are some members with whom the office has lost direct contact. If the person has died, or moved, or if you have contact information about any of the following members, please contact **Maryann Kummer** or **Pat Meldrum**.

**Elnora Allen**  
**Clara Babala**  
**Evelyn Bishop**  
**Mary Burghardt**  
**David Chelsea**  
**James Cotter**  
**Rose Gold**  
**Beverly Hanus**  
**Elizabeth Housey**  
**Rosemarie Kraski**  
**Frank Laramie**  
**Rose Longo**

**Ralph Marson**  
**Mary Ruth Minnick**  
**Genevieve Ochenkowski**  
**Clara O'Keefe**  
**Evelyn Olden**  
**Louis Pepler**  
**Josephine Perry**  
**Thomas Petsuch**  
**Terry Pfaendtner**  
**Ann Marie Russette**  
**Mary Schalm**  
**Barbara Sokol**  
**Helen Wardowski**



## *From the Friars' Choir*

*People see God every day,  
they just don't recognize him.*

*– Pearl Bailey*

## TOWARD A SECULAR SPIRITUALITY

Lay people in the Church, including Secular Franciscans, are called to cultivate an authentic **lay spirituality** by which they are reborn as new men and women, both sanctified and sanctifiers, immersed in the mystery of God and inserted in society.

Such a spirituality will build up the world according to Jesus' Spirit. It will make people capable of looking beyond history without separating themselves from it, of cultivating a passionate love for God without looking away from their brothers and sisters whom they are able to see as the Lord sees them and love as the Lord loves them.

The lay faithful contribute "to the sanctification of the world, as from within like leaven, by fulfilling their own particular duties. Thus, especially by the witness of their own life ... they must manifest Christ to others" [*Lumen Gentium*, 31].

We cannot live two parallel existences: on the one hand, the so-called "spiritual" life, with its values and demands; and on the other, the so-called "secular" life, that is, life in a family, at work, in social relationships, in the responsibilities of public life and in culture" [see *Christifidelis Laici*, 59].

Integrating faith and "real" life means paying attention to these four fundamental elements of Christian living:

- using the Word of God as a reference point;
- having a vibrant Sacramental life;
- personal prayer enhanced by a discerning spiritual guide;
- living the social virtues and being committed to on-going formation in every sphere of one's life: personal, professional, cultural, etc.

## THE 2011 SECULAR FRANCISCAN GENERAL CHAPTER



The XIII SFO General Chapter will take place in São Paulo, Brazil, from October 22 to 29, 2011.

It will be the first time that a General Chapter has been celebrated in South America where one third

of both the SFO and Franciscan Youth [YouFra] are found.

The main theme of the Chapter will be **Evangelized so as to Evangelize.**



Please pray for your Capuchin brothers of the Province of St. Joseph as they celebrate their Chapter of Elections in Chicago, June 6-10.

# The Opposite of a Religious Person is a Loveless Person

by Br. Daniel P. Horan, OFM (*edited*)

The title of this article comes from the renown philosopher-theologian, Prof. John D. Caputo. The line, startling to many at first glance, comes from his book *On Religion* (2001). Drawing on the thought of Augustine, Caputo opens his text with an examination of what it means to be a “religious person” and what it means to be an “irreligious person.” One of his many notions is that the opposite of a “religious person” is *not* a “secular” person. Caputo explains:

“**Religion is for lovers**, for men and women of passion, for real people with a passion for something other than taking profits, people who believe in something, who hope like mad in something, who love something with a love that surpasses understanding. Faith, hope and love, and of these three the best is love, according to a famous apostle (1 Cor 13:13). But what do they love? What do I love when I love my God? That is their question. That is my question.

The question, “what do I love when I love my God?” comes from Augustine’s *Confessions* and serves as central theme in Caputo’s reflection.

Caputo explains what he means by love: “One of the ideas behind ‘love’ is that it represents a giving without holding back, an ‘unconditional’ commitment, which marks love with a certain **excess**.” He goes on, Love is not a bargain, but unconditional giving; it is not an investment, but a commitment come what may. Lovers are people who exceed their duty, who look around for ways to do more than what is required of them. If you love your job, you don’t just do the minimum that is required; you do more. If you love your children, what would you not do for them?

“Love” and “God” belong together! The New Testament says that “God is Love.” To which, Caputo responds that “Love is God.” Love is the first name of God. ”To love God is to love something deeply and unconditionally. But it is also true that to love deeply and unconditionally is to be born of God, to love God, for the name of God is the name of love, the name of what we love.”

Instead of being caught up with various immaterial characteristics of what this or that person or group is concerned about in terms of judging who “is” or “is not” religious, perhaps we need to be more focused on the question that comes from St. Augustine – “who do I love when I love my God?” If, indeed, God is Love, then perhaps those who associate themselves most closely with love, associate themselves most closely with God.

I, like so many, have grown increasingly tired of small-minded “Christians” who misunderstand, misrepresent and mistake Scripture and use the Word of God as a weapon to exclude and marginalize. That a religious person is a loving person is a very Franciscan perspective. St. Bonaventure refers to the Triune God as “overflowing love,” from which creation emerges. Blessed John Duns Scotus hinges his whole metaphysical outlook and theological reflection on the primacy of Love. And St. Francis and St. Clare sought nothing more than to love God by loving others.

**Caputo reminds us that, while most things are indeed best consumed or spent in moderation, love must be excessive and prodigal.**

**Only the spendthrift lovers of this world are the really religious. How about you?**

# JUNE 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 ASCENSION Pss. Proper	6 EASTER VII Pss. Week 3	7	8	9	10 MELDRUM KITCHEN 10:30 AM - 1:00 PM  7:30 pm: Solanus Cell at Boutgeaus'	11 Formation Team meeting at 11 am Council Meeting at 1:30 PM
12 PENTECOST Pss. Proper  FRATERNITY GATHERING Formation: 12 noon All: 1:30pm	13 ORDINARY TIME WEEK 11 Pss. Week 3	14 FLAG DAY	15	16	17	18
19 TRINITY SUNDAY Pss. Proper  FATHERS' DAY	20 ORDINARY TIME WEEK 12 Pss. Week 4	21 SUMMER BEGINS	22	23	24 Bl. Luchesio: 7:30 PM	25 10 AM  SFO MASS FOR DECEASED
26 BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST Pss. Proper	27 ORDINARY TIME WEEK 13 Pss. Week 1	28	29	30		

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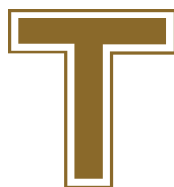
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Daily

## FAX ET PHONUM

### Minister

Maryann Kummer

### Vice Minister

Teresa Westbrook-Lienert

### Treasurer pro tem

Eugene Snyders

### Secretary

Patricia Meldrum

### Initial Formation

John Bodell

### Councillors-at-Large:

Stephen Haycox

Tony Lienert

Beverly Sopian

Chuck Sopian

### Spiritual Assistant:

Br. Patrick McSherry

### APPOINTMENTS

#### Infirmarians:

Jo Marie Nardi

Sylvia Stanik

#### Continuing Formation Commission:

Chuck & Bev Sopian (chairs)

#### Christian Service Commission:

(call for information)

#### Hospitality Commission:

Teresa Westbrook-Lienert

& Tony Lienert (chairs)

#### Vocations Ministry Commission:

To be announced (chair)

#### Eucharistic Mission Band (EMB):

To be announced

### MAKING FRATERNITY HAPPEN

The entire St. Bonaventure Secular Franciscan Fraternity gathers on the Third Sunday of every month. For more information, contact:

Chuck & Bev Sopian

In addition to our monthly Fraternity gathering, some members also gather in small groups:

Fr. Solanus Cell (2<sup>nd</sup> Friday, 7:30 pm):

Mary Ann and Hugh Montpetit

Bl. Luchesio Cell (4<sup>th</sup> Friday, 7:30 pm):

Connie Musial

### FRATERNITY MINISTRY OUTREACH:

Meldrum Soup Kitchen

Usually on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month.

&

Healing Service Social

(call for information)

*The Poverello* is published by the  
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editor: Br. Pat McSherry, OFM Cap.

Deadline for articles and news items is 3:30 PM  
on the Third Sunday of each month.



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