

The Poverello

St. Bonaventure Secular Franciscans ☩ Detroit, Michigan

Vol. 82, no. 11 — December 2022



Minister's Letter

**BLESSED ADVENT!!
MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!**

“For blessed Francis held the Nativity of the Lord in greater reverence than any other of the Lord’s solemnities. For, although the Lord may have accomplished our salvation in his other solemnities, nevertheless, once He was born to us, as blessed Francis would say, it was certain that we would be saved. On that day, he wanted every Christian to rejoice in the Lord, and, for love of Him who gave Himself to us, wished everyone to be cheerfully generous not only to the poor but also to the animals and birds.” (St. Francis of Assisi, The Prophet page 230)

Brothers and Sisters,

This month we celebrate the Nativity of our Lord and Our Lady’s Immaculate Conception. The Incarnation, the pillar of our spirituality, God descended from his heavenly glory to take on human flesh and became man out of love for us. God wanted to be in relationship with us! Let’s rejoice in the Lord and prepare our hearts for his coming. We are his beloved and this brings us great joy. The Father’s love permeates all of creation and resonates “Glory To God in the Highest and Peace to People of Good Will!! Merry Christmas!!

Our Profession celebration was a joy filled day. **Betty Zaranek** and **Pat Howard** shared their day with us and their families. I am grateful to all who made this day special for both Betty and Pat.

Our **2023 calendar** is completed and is published in this edition. Please note the time change of our St. Francis Feast Day mass on October 4th to 4:30pm with no hospitality. We moved the hospitality from the Feast Day to after the Transitus in the dining room. These changes were made at the request of the friars.

We are hosting the hospitality after the Wednesday healing service. We offer cookies, coffee, tea and water. The On the Rise Café provides us with cookies at a reduced cost – chocolate chip and oatmeal. We are still in need of volunteers. Please contact **Ron Kessler** at to volunteer your time.

December 3 from 10:30-12:30 Celebrate the Solanus Casey Center 20th Anniversary - The Capuchin Franciscan Brothers invite you to the blessing and rededication of the Solanus Casey Center in honor of the 20th Anniversary of their ministry and the 5th Anniversary of the Beatification of Blessed Solanus! Be sure to wear your fraternity apparel.

Our Christmas Concert is December 18 at 2pm. Please continue to promote the concert in your parish and among your family and friends. We will have hospitality after the concert. **WE NEED YOUR HELP: Please bring cookies, desserts or finger food to share.**

January 8 we are hosting the St. Charles Luncheon. We need volunteers. **Sharon Kessler** will have the menu and signup sheets at our December gathering.

We are continuing **YOUFRA discussions with the Tap Into Life Leadership Council.** The discussions are going well. Brittney Walenzik is leading this effort for us

I appreciate all of you and look forward to 2023. In 2023 we will celebrate the 800th Anniversary of our Franciscan Rule and the Crib of Greccio. It will be a joyful time for our Franciscan Family.

I wish you and your families a joyful and blessed Christmas season.

Peace and Blessings,

Eileen

REFLECTION: 12 Weeks of Franciscan Peace

Week 12, December 19 - 25: The thought for today is Peace.

Peace Activist Claude Thomas writes:

“Peace is not an idea. Peace is not a political movement, not a theory or a dogma. Peace is a way of life: living mindfully in the present moment... We must simply stop the endless wars that rage within... Imagine, if everyone stopped the war in themselves – there would be no seeds from which war could grow.”

Peace is a gift before it becomes a task. It is gift from our Lord Jesus: *“My peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give to you. A peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you”* (John 14:27). We have been gifted with the peace of the Lord; with his own peace. It is a gift that no one else can give to you. Sit and meditate on that rare and precious gift.

It happened, three years prior to his death, that Francis decided to celebrate at the town of Greccio the memory of the birth of the Child Jesus with the greatest possible solemnity, in order to arouse devotion. So that this would not be considered a type of novelty, he petitioned for and obtained permission from the Supreme Pontiff.

He had a manger prepared, hay carried in and an ox and an ass led to the spot. The brethren are summoned, the people arrive, the forest amplifies with their cries, and that venerable night is rendered brilliant and solemn by the multitude of bright lights and by the resonant and harmonious hymns of praise.

The man of God stands before the manger, filled with piety, bathed in tears, and overcome with joy. A solemn Mass is celebrated over the manger, with Francis, a levite of Christ, chanting the holy Gospel. Then he preaches to the people standing around him about the birth of the poor King, whom, whenever he means to call him, he called in his tender love, the Babe from Bethlehem. (St. Bonaventure, *Legenda Major*)

In his Testament, Francis tells us that *“the Lord revealed a greeting to me that we should say: ‘May the Lord give you peace.’”* *Saint Bonaventure recalls, “At the beginning and end of every sermon [Francis] announced peace; in every greeting he wished for peace.”* Both Francis and Clare greeted the people of Assisi with *Pace e Bene!* Peace and Good! As Franciscans, peace must be at the center of all our comings and goings.

Psalm Fragment: “The mountains will bring news of peace to the people, and the hills will announce justice.”
~ Psalm 72:2-4

Reflection Question: When are you not being peace, even if you might be doing peace?

This Week: Greet everyone you meet with “Peace and Good!” Take a sacred pause to meditate on the solemnity of the nativity of Our Lord, the poor King.

Prayer for the Week: “Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God” (Mt 5:8). Lord, grant me true purity of heart that I may look down upon the things of earth and seek the things of heaven, and never cease to adore and behold the Lord God living and true with a pure heart and soul. (cf. Admonitions of Saint Francis)

2023 Fraternity Calendar

January

Friday	6	9:30am -4pm	First Friday Adoration: Noon Benediction
Sunday	8	11:00-3:00pm	St. Charles Luncheon
Saturday	14	10:30am -Noon	Leadership Council Meeting
Sunday	15	1:30pm	Fraternity Gathering
Fri-Sun	27-29	All Day	Couples Retreat - Washington Retreat Center
Wednesday	4,11,18,25	1-4pm	Healing Service Hospitality
Sunday	8,22,29	1-3pm	Healing Service Greeter

February

Friday	3	9:30am -4pm	First Friday Adoration: Noon Benediction
Saturday	11	10:30am-Noon	Leadership Council Meeting
Sunday	19	1:30pm-4pm	Fraternity Gathering
Wednesday	1,8,15,22	1-4pm	Healing Service Hospitality
Sunday	5,12,26	1-3pm	Healing Service Greeter

March

Friday	3	9:30am -4pm	First Friday Adoration: Noon Benediction
Saturday	11	10:30am-Noon	Leadership Council Meeting
Sunday	19	11:00am-4pm	Fraternity Day of Reflection
Wednesday	1,8,15,22,29	1-4pm	Healing Service Hospitality
Sunday	5,12,26	1-3pm	Healing Service Greeter

April

Friday	7	All Day	Good Friday
Sunday	9	All Day	Easter
Saturday	15	10:30am-Noon	Leadership Council Meeting
Sunday	16	1:30pm-4pm	Fraternity Gathering
Fri-Sun	21-23	All Day	Women's Retreat -- Washington Retreat Center
Saturday	29	All Day	Divine Mercy Region Spring Gathering (in person)
Wednesday	5,12,19,26	1-4pm	Healing Service Hospitality
Sunday	2,23,30	1-3pm	Healing Service Greeter

May

Friday	5	9:30am -4pm	First Friday Adoration: Noon Benediction
Saturday	13	10:30am-Noon	Leadership Council Meeting
Sunday	21	1:30-4pm	Fraternity Gathering - Jubilarian Mass
Wednesday	3,10,17,24,31	1-4pm	Healing Service Hospitality
Sunday	7,14,28	1-3pm	Healing Service Greeter

2023 Fraternity Calendar

June

Friday	2	9:30am -4pm	First Friday Adoration: Noon Benediction
Saturday	10	10:30am-Noon	Leadership Council Meeting
Sunday	11	1:30pm-4pm	Fraternity Gathering - 2nd Sunday due to Father's Day;
Wednesday	7,14,21,28	1-4pm	Healing Service Hospitality
Sunday	4,11,25	1-3pm	Healing Service Greeter

July

Friday	7	9:30am -4pm	First Friday Adoration: Noon Benediction
Saturday	8	10:30am-Noon	Leadership Council Meeting
Sunday	16	1:30pm-4pm	Fraternity Gathering Picnic
Wednesday	5,12,19,26	1-4pm	Healing Service Hospitality
Sunday	30	All Day	Solanus Feast Day/Greeters
Sunday	2,9,23	1-3pm	Healing Service Greeter

August

Friday	4	9:30am -4pm	First Friday Adoration: Noon Benediction
Fri-Sun	4-6	All Day	Divine Mercy Region Chapter Meeting (in person)
Saturday	12	10:30am-Noon	Leadership Council Meeting
Sunday	20	1:30-4pm	Fraternity Gathering
Wednesday	2,9,16,23,30	1-4pm	Healing Service Hospitality
Sunday	6,13,27	1-3pm	Healing Service Greeter

September

Friday	1	9:30am -4pm	First Friday Adoration: Noon Benediction
Saturday	9	10:30am-Noon	Leadership Council Meeting
Fri-Sun	15-17	All Day	Mens Retreat
Sunday	17	11:00 - 4:00	Fraternity Gathering Day of Reflection
Wednesday	6,13,20,27	1-4pm	Healing Service Hospitality
Sunday	3,10,24	1-3pm	Healing Service Greeter

October

Tuesday	3	6:30	Transitus Holy Hour followed by hospitality in dining room
Wednesday	4	4:30pm	Friars Feast Day Mass
Friday	6	9:30am -4pm	First Friday Adoration: Noon Benediction
Saturday	14	10:30am-Noon	Leadership Council Meeting
Sunday	15	1:30-4pm	Fraternity Gathering
Saturday	28	All Day	Divine Mercy Region Fall Formation Day (in person)
Wednesday	4,11,18,25	1-4pm	Healing Service Hospitality
Sunday	1,8,22,29	1-3pm	Healing Service Greeter

2023 Fraternity Calendar

November

Friday	3	9:30am -4pm	First Friday Adoration: Noon Benediction
Saturday	11	10:30am-Noon	Leadership Council Meeting
Saturday	18	10am-1pm	Profession Retreat
Sunday	19	1:30-4pm	Fraternity Gathering - Profession Mass
Saturday	25	10am	Mass for Deceased - Friars Chapel
Wednesday	1,8,15,22,29	1-4pm	Healing Service Hospitality
Sunday	5,12,26	1-3pm	Healing Service Greeter

December

Friday	1	9:30am -4pm	First Friday Adoration: Noon Benediction
Saturday	9	10:30am-Noon	Leadership Council Meeting
Sunday	17	1:30pm-4pm	Fraternity Gathering - Christmas Concert
Wednesday	6,13,20,27	1-4pm	Healing Service Hospitality
Sunday	3,10	1-3pm	Healing Service Greeter

Pictures of Profession





December Monthly Prayer Request for Priests

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Rev. J. Vandenakker, C.C.	2 Rev. Dino Vanin, P.I.M.E.	3 Rev. Pieter Vanrooyen
4 Rev. C. Verschaeve	5 Rev. D. Vettese, S.J., Rev. R. Victor	6 Most Rev. Allen Vigneron	7 Rev. Luis Villalobos, L.C.	8 Rev. H. Vogan, Rev. R. Voiland	9 Rev. Roy Wainwright, M.C.	10 Rev. Donald Walker
11 Rev. D. Walsh, S.O.L.T.	12 Rev. Paul Ward	13 Rev. Gary Wegner, O.F.M. Cap	14 Rev. Francis Weingartz	15 Rev. Christopher Welsh	16 Rev. Mark Wendling, S.O.L.T.	17 Rev. S. Wertanen, Rev. A. Wesley
18 Rev. T. Wezner, Rev. T. Whalen	19 Rev. John Wheller, C.S.B.	20 Rev. C. Whitaker, S.J., Rev. C. White IV	21 Rev. Walter Wicks, S.J.	22 Rev. T. Wilisowski, C.S.M.A.	23 Rev. M. Wilkes, Rev. R. Williams	24 Rev. Bernard Witek, SDS
25 Rev. Wojciech Wojcicki	26 Rev. Robert Wojslaw, S.Chr.	27 Rev. Michael Woroniewicz	28 Rev. D. Worthy, Rev. G. Wright, S.J.	29 Rev. John Wynnycky	30 Rev. Richard Yost, O.S.F.S.	31 Rev. Robert Ytsen, S.J.

FRANCISCAN Holy Days

- 2. Bl. Mary Angela Astorch, Poor Clare nun, d. 1665
- 2. Bl. Raphael Chylinski, First Order friar, d. 1741
- 5. Bl. Peter of Siena, Secular Franciscan, d. 1289
- 9. Bl. Clara Isabella Fornari, Poor Clare nun, d. 1744
- 10. Bl. Conrad of Offida, First Order friar, d. 1306
- 11. Bl. Hugolinus Magalotti, Secular Franciscan, d. 1373
- 12. Discovery of the Tomb of St. Francis (1820)
- 14. Bl. Bartholomew Buonpedini of San Gimignano, Secular Franciscan priest, d. 1300
- 15. Bl. Mary Frances Schervier, Third Order religious, d. 1876
- 19. Bl. Jean Discalceat, First Order friar, d. 1349
- 23. Bl. Nicolas Factor, First Order friar, d. 1583
- 24. Bl. Bentivolio Buoni, First Order friar, d. 1231
- 25. The Nativity of the Lord Jesus (first Christmas crèche at Greccio, 1223)
- 28. Bl. Matthia Nazzarei, Poor Clare nun, d. 1319
- 29. Bl. Gerard Cagnoli, First Order friar, d. 1342
- 30. Bl. Margaret Colonna, Poor Clare nun, d. 1284

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 3.....Dorothy Stapel | 17.....Hank Forys |
| 7.....Mary Ann Kristensen | 20.....Chuck Sopian |
| 11.....Ralph Mason | 25.....Gerald Borycz |
| 12.....Irene Mecha | 25.....Patricia Meldrum |
| 14.....Jacqueline Hale | 25.....Maria Goatley |
| 17.....Leticia Aguilar | 31.....Sylvia Snigier |



Please help to keep our prayer list up-to-date.

Call:

Laura Sopian at 734-748-9937

Members of our Fraternity

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Doris Allen | Gary Johnson |
| Dan and Jan Atkinson | Joyce Kaminski |
| Claire Boutain | Esther Kelley |
| Joyce Brouillette | Mary Krempasky |
| Jerry Borycz | Ilene Manning & Family |
| Sophia Cisneros | Mary Poole |
| Norb Chmielarczyk | Barbara Pardington |
| Julia Ertzbischoff-Donahue | Bridget Schultz |
| Daniel Gabriel | Ben Stapel |
| James Hymes | Terry Westbrook-Lienert |

Relatives needing prayers

- Theresa Brannigan, daughter-in-law of Marguerite
 Tiffany Fogg, niece of Daniel Gabriel
 Ron Gray, friend of Melissa Lindow
 Alice Greene, sister of Hank Forys
 Denise Joseph, daughter of Louis
 David Kaminsky, son of Joyce Kaminsky
 Frances Krempasky, daughter of Mary Krempasky
 Luke, grandson of Mary Krempasky
 Patricia McCleary, mother of Therese Joseph
 Thomas McCleary, brother of Therese Joseph
 Jean Nozewski, wife of Thomas Nozewski
 Kathleen Penridge, cousin of Julia Ertzbischoff-Donahue
 Karen Plousse, daughter of Joyce Kaminsky
 Theresa Poole, mother of Mary
 Jim Smith, grandson of Claire Boutain
 Tom Sherfield, son-in-law of Claire Boutain
 Sandra Woods Family
 Students, Faculty, and Staff of Regina High School



DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 BD: Dorothy Stapel
4 ADVENT WEEK 2 <i>Pss Wk 2</i>	5	6	7 BD: Mary Ann Kristensen	8 IMMACULATE CONCEPTION <i>Holy Day of Obligation</i>	9	10 COUNCIL MEETING 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
11 BD: Ralph Mason ADVENT WEEK 3 <i>Pss Wk 3</i>	12 BD: Irene Mecha	13	14 BD: Jacqueline Hale	15	16	17 BD: Lettie Aguilar BD: Hank Forys
18 ADVENT WEEK 4 <i>Pss Wk 4</i>	19	20 BD: Chuck Sopian	21	22	23	24
25 NATIVITY OF THE LORD BD: Gerald Borycz BD: Maria Goatley BD: Patricia Meldrum <i>Pss Prop</i>	26	27	28	29	30 HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, & JOSEPH	31 BD: Sylvia Snigier

Fax et Phonum

Minister

Eileen Smith

Vice Minister

Joe Quesnelle.....

Treasurer

Sue Ayoub.....

Secretary

Bernie Mikowski

Formation Minister

Sylvia Snigier

Councilors:

Doris Allen

Ron Kessler

Sharon Kessler.....

Brittney Walendzik.....

Spiritual Assistant:

Fr. Peter Chinnappan

APPOINTMENTS

Continuing Formation Coordinator:

Joe Quesnelle.....

Gospel Happenings Coordinators:

Ron Kessler

Sharon Kessler.....

Healing Service Social Coordinators:

Ron Kessler

Sharon Kessler.....

Hospitality co-Coordinators:

Julia Ertzbischoff-Donohue

Ona Moore

Infirmarian:

Laura Sopian.....

Caring Hearts

Anna Tyler.....

JPIC Coordinator:

Doris Allen

MAKING FRATERNITY HAPPEN

Our Fraternity gathers on the Third Sunday of every month. For more information, contact:

Eileen Smith.....

FRATERNITY MINISTRY OUTREACH:

HEALING PRAYER SERVICE SOCIAL

Wednesdays at 2 PM

FRANCISCAN MINISTRIES

2nd Saturday of each month

10 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Franciscan Ministries Office next to St. Aloysius

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