

The Poverello

St. Bonaventure Secular Franciscans ☩ Detroit, Michigan

Vol. 83, no. 9 — October 2023



HAPPY ST. FRANCIS FEAST DAY!!!

October 15 1:30pm Gathering

September 14 Exaltation of the Holy Cross *“When the man of God, Francis, saw that many were being inspired by his example to carry the cross of Christ with fervent spirit, he himself, like a good leader of Christ’s army, was encouraged to reach the palm of victory through the height of heroic virtue. He directed his attention to this text of the Apostle: Those who belong to Christ have crucified their flesh with his passions and desires. To carry in his own body the armor of the cross, he held in check his sensual appetites with such a rigid discipline that he scarcely took what was necessary for the sustenance of nature.” (Francis of Assisi - The Founder page 560)*

Sisters and Brothers,

Welcome Fall!! I appreciate your attendance and participation at our Fraternal and Pastoral Visitation with **Jim Graczyk, Regional Minister and Br. George Kooran OFM Cap., Regional Spiritual Assistant**. The visitation went well, both listened to our comments and provided good feedback.

In August our Region had its Visitation with **National Councilor, Cherryle Fruge and National Spiritual Assistant, Fr. Christopher Penagopolis**. This visitation went well too.

I am pleased to announce the **Tap Into Life Young Adults** will transition into the **Solanus Casey YouFra** fraternity under the sponsorship of our fraternity. Presently, we have 5 young adults pursuing this initiative and will make their annual promise during our Profession Mass in November. With God’s help we will develop a strong relationship with young adults and carry on our long tradition of spreading our Gospel to Life and Life to Gospel values.

I attended the **National Black Catholic Congress** in July 2023. I went to the event with the Archdiocese of Detroit. I attended as an ally and what an experience. “An ally is someone who stands against oppression and stands for the liberation of oppressed communities whose concerns are usually ignored or dismissed. Allies support the ideas and directions presented by oppressed groups rather than making decisions on behalf of the group.” (‘Leveling the Praying Field’ by Ansel Augustine)

Black Catholic Spirituality is so rich in music, preaching, worship and praising. I was able to experience it all during the Congress. The most dramatic homily I experienced was given by Bishop Jacques Fabre-Jeune CS. It was on the feast day of Mary Magdelene. In the gospel, Mary Magdelene couldn’t touch Jesus until he went to the Father. Mary Magdelene was seeking the humanity of Jesus, but Jesus knew Mary and us need to touch his divinity. The divinity of Christ changes hearts. We are all a child of God. Bishop Fabre said, “Never do things to give someone your freedom. Never allow them to enchain your mind and spirit. You are the only one who can control your mind and spirit besides God. Jesus freed us! Never forget that!” Strong words to live by.

If you are interested in taking a Black Catholic Spirituality Class (Zoom) with Professor Howard from Loyola Marymount University, please contact Eileen Smith. There are classes beginning in October.

Our **Orientation Class** began on September 17 at Noon. We cannot do what we do without a strong formation program that attracts people wanting to grow deeper in their spiritual life and have a willingness to serve. The sustainability of our Fraternity is important to us all. Take the time to invite and be sure to witness our Rule of Life in all that you do. It always begins with us.

Celebrate the Transitus --Tuesday OCTOBER 3 at 6:30pm -- Hospitality following in the Dining Room. The Transitus will begin promptly at 6:30pm in the St. Bonaventure Chapel. We will celebrate the traditional Transitus with music and readings read aloud with no eucharistic adoration. **Br. Peter** is coordinating this effort. **Susan and Al Ayoub** will provide the music. Please arrive before 6:30pm. We will have our social after the Transitus and NOT after the Feast Day mass as in years past. I am grateful for all our Bakers who volunteered to make scones.

St. Francis Feast Day Mass --Wednesday OCTOBER 4 at 4:30pm -- NO Hospitality After Mass: The mass will be celebrated with the friars in the St. Bonaventure Chapel. During the celebration the Capuchins will welcome **Paula Medina Zarate of Panama**, as an Affiliate within their Order. Paula's healing was approved by Rome for the Beatification of Blessed Solanus.

October 6 -- First Friday Adoration from 9:30am to 4:00pm. Join us in prayer.

October 15 -- Noon -- Formation; 1:30 Gathering

November 19 -- Profession Mass at 1:30pm with Dinner following.

December 17 -- Christmas Concert at 1:30pm

Help support the Capuchin Shower Program by donating white towels and socks.

Help keep our Fraternity Prayer List updated. Please review the list of names for both members and relatives needing prayers. Send you changes to me at 313.574.4682 or by email esaint6@yahoo.com

This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Peace and Blessings,
Eileen

REFLECTION

Opening Your Eyes (Tau Talk Nov-Dec 2002)

When the people of Israel crossed through the Red Sea, they witnessed what some say was the greatest miracle that ever happened. On that day they saw a sight more awesome than all the visions of the prophets combined. The sea split and the waters stood like great walls, while Israel escaped to freedom on the distant shore. Awesome. But not for everyone.

According to ancient rabbinic legend, two people, Reuven and Shimon, hurried along among the crowd crossing through the sea. But they never once looked up. They noticed only that the ground beneath their feet was still a little muddy – like a beach at low tide.

“This is terrible!” said Reuven. “There’s mud all over the place!”

“Disgusting! Said Shimon. “I’m in muck up to my ankles!”

“You know what?” Replied Reuven. “When we were slaves in Egypt, we had to make our bricks out of mud, just like this!”

“Yeah,” said Shimon. “There’s no difference between being a slave in Egypt and being free here.”

And so it went, Reuven and Shimon whining and complaining all the way across the bottom of the sea. For them there was no miracle, only mud. Their eyes were closed. Even though they walked right through it, they might as well have been asleep.

People see only what they’re looking for and what they understand, not necessarily what lies in front of them. For example, if you see a TV, you know what it is and how it works. But imagine someone who has never seen a TV. To such a person it would only be a strange and useless box. Imagine being in a store filled with movies, stories and music, and not even knowing it. How sad when something is right before your eyes, but you are asleep to it. It’s like that in our world too.

Something like this once happened to Jacob. He dreamed of a ladder joining heaven and earth. Angels were climbing up and down on it, and God appeared and spoke to Jacob. When he awoke the next morning, he was shaken and said to himself, *“Surely God was in this very place all along, and I didn’t even know it!”* (Genesis 28:16)

The medieval French commentator, Rabbi Shelomo Yitzchaki, known as Rashi (after the initials of his name), explained that Jacob meant: *“If I had known God would be here, then I wouldn’t have gone to sleep.”*

Jewish spirituality invites us to wake up and open our eyes to the myriad beautiful, mysterious, and holy things happening around us every day. Many of them are little miracles; when we wake up and see the morning light, when we taste food and are nourished, when we learn from others and grow wise, when we embrace people we love and receive their affection in return, when we help those around us and feel good. All these and more are there for us every day. But we must open our eyes to see them; otherwise we only wind up being like Reuven and Shimon, only able to see mud.

Suppose, right now, your eyes are closed. How do you wake up? What happens in your life when you see only the “mud” and miss the “miracles” of every day life?

Jewish Spirituality – Rabbi Lawrence Kushner – Page 19-21



September Birthdays

Mary Gabler September 3
Joyce Brouillette September 4
Sidney Davis II Septebmer 5
Ray Mylenek September 15
Edmund Bechard September 20
Kathy Murphy September 21
Sheryl Nordstrom September 24
Joseph Gentile Septamber 25

October Birthdays

Eileen Smith October 8
Elaine Masbouth October 10
Ona Moore October 10
Eugene Snyders October 11
Judy Vickerman October 15
Mary Krempasky October 19
Patricia Howard October 22
Therese Joseph October 30



*Please help to keep our prayer list up-to-date. Call:
Laura Sapien*

Our Deceased Members

Claire Boutain

Our Deceased Relatives

Relatives needing prayers

Theresa Brannigan, daughter-in-law of Marguerite
Uvon Cisneros, relative of Sophia Cisneros
Tiffany Fogg, niece of Daniel Gabriel
Ron Gray, friend of Melissa Lindow
Alice Greene, sister of Hank Forsy
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

Members of our Fraternity

Dan and Jan Atkinson	Esther Kelley
Joyce Brouillette	Mary Krempasky
Jerry Borycz	Ilene Manning & Family
Daniel Gabriel	Mary Poole
James Heymes	Barbara Pardington
Gary Johnson	Bridget Schultz
Joyce Kaminski	Ben Stapel
	Terry Westbrook-Lienert

FRANCISCAN Holy Days

October 1 – Franciscan Crown Rosary

October 3 – Transitus

October 4 – Our Holy Father St. Francis

October 6 – St. Mary Frances of the Five Wounds

October 10 – Sts. Daniel and Companions

October 11 – St. John XXIII

October 12 – St. Seraphin of Montegrano

October 19 – Bl James of Stepar

October 20 – Bl Contardo Ferrini

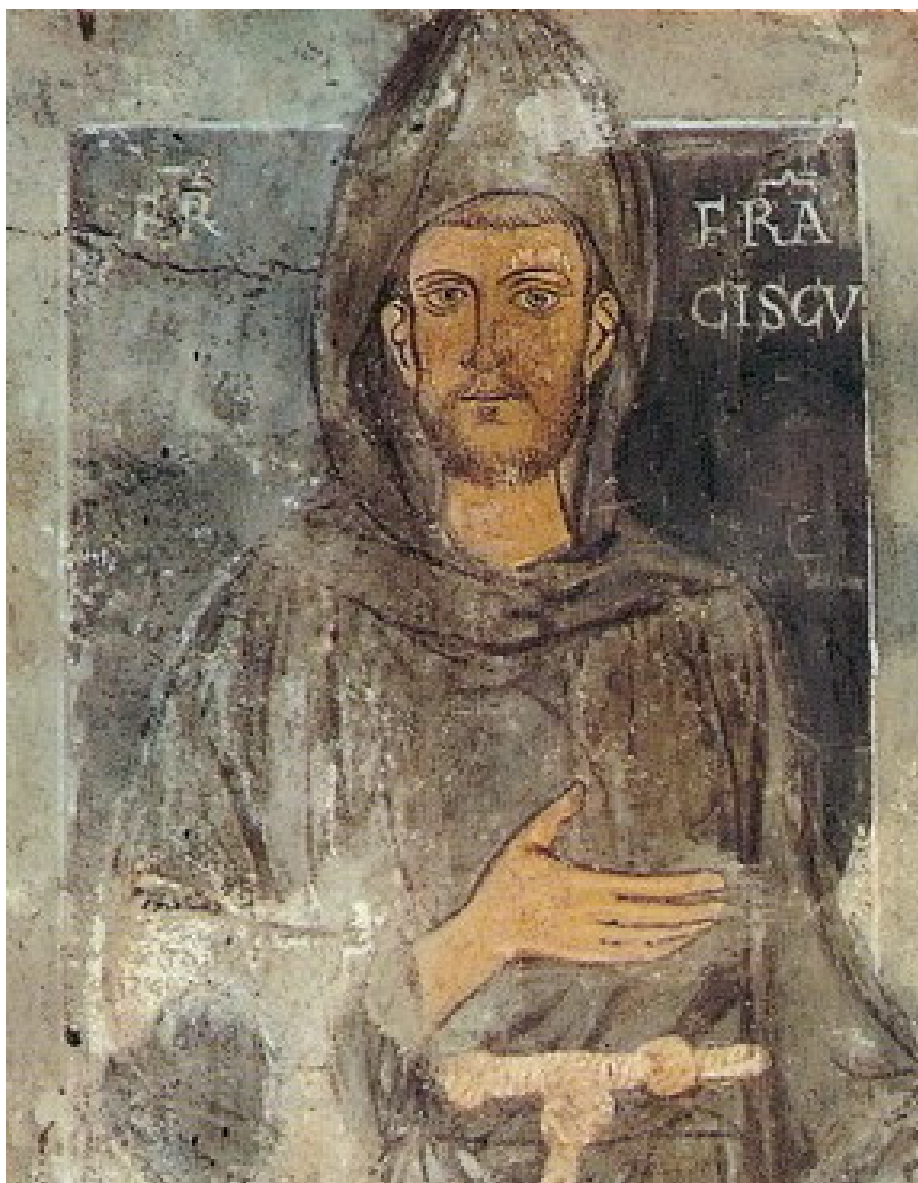
October 21 – Bl Josephine Leroux

October 22 – St. Peter of Alcantara

October 23 – St. John of Capistrano

October 26 – Bl Bonaventure of Potenza

October 31 – Anniversary of Dedication in Consecrated Franciscan Churches





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 TRANSITUS 6:30 PM CELEBRATION	4 FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS MASS AT 7:00 PM	5	6	7 10:30 am - 12:00 pm Council Meeting
8 BD: Eileen Smith	9	10 BD: Elaine Masbouth BD: Ona Moore	11 BD: Eugene Snyders	12	13	14
15 FRATERNITY GATHERING 1:30 PM BD: Judith Vickerman	16	17	18	19 BD: Mary Krepasky	20	21
22 BD: Patricia Howard BD: Ben Stapel	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 BD: Therese Josphe	31				

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 Sapien.....

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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