



# ***Our Lady of the Rosary Fraternity, OFS***

## ***Hampton Roads, Virginia***

***Volume 4 No. 1***

***January, 2016***

***www.olrsfo.weebly.com***

**Minister**

*Chris Wells OFS*

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Happy New Year! May this year be full of blessings and all good for each of you. Thank you to our gracious Lord for the gift of the beautiful spring weather we enjoyed over the Christmas holiday. Looking at the statue of St. Francis in my backyard, I am convinced I saw him smiling!

**Vice Minister**

*Leo Wells OFS*

This wonderful weather gift from God ties in with a letter from St. Paul in First Corinthians (1Corinthians 12:4-11). In this letter St. Paul talks about the gifts from the Spirit that have been given to each one of us. For most of us it is difficult to recognize our own gifts. We can see them in other people but when we look at ourselves we tend to focus on the negative. However, we are so very loved by the Father that He has given each of us many gifts which are unique to only that person. Stop and think... when God lovingly created each person, he gave that person individual gifts to accommodate the life and times in which that person is living. Our gifts are our personal tools for life and while we may think of them in general terms, they are crafted and honed in a distinct way for each person. Every moment we are on this earth, whether or not we are aware, we are using those specially crafted gifts. It's like the movie "It's A Wonderful Life." If one of us were not on earth to bring the gift of self to the world around us then everything would be different. That is how important each of us is with our unique gifts.

**Secretary**

*Deanne Marshall OFS*

**Treasurer**

*Ed Gerhard OFS*

**Formation Director**

*Glen Davis OFS*

**Spiritual Assistant**

*Sister Agnes Narocho LSOFS*

A point for meditation as we begin a new year then, is to be aware of these gifts and to examine how we use them. This is not an exercise in pride but recognition of the bounty of God through His Holy Spirit. St. Francis was very aware of his gifts and spent his life working with the Spirit to bring his gifts as his offering back to God. Our lives, too, are Spirit-filled through the many, many wonderful unique and distinctly personal gifts we bring to this world each day!

Pax et bonum,

Chris Wells

Minister

Meeting- Sunday, January 17

**Please note we will be meeting at the St. Bede Annex 4551 John Tyler Highway Williamsburg (Five Forks)**

1:30 Whole group meets

Opening prayers

Meditation on the Epiphany (Sister Agnes/Glenn)

Epiphany party with diapers for HOPE

3:00 Liturgy of the Hours

3:30 Closing prayers

4:00 Fellowship

**Change in meeting place:**

At our December meeting the fraternity voted to hold our Sunday meetings at the St. Bede Annex (4551 John Tyler Highway). The room is larger and there is more parking. St. Michael's will continue to be our "headquarters" but our Sunday meetings will be at The Annex. Thank you to Sister Agnes for her hospitality and to Monsignor Keeney for graciously allowing us to use this room. Since we are guests of St. Bede please remember we cannot leave anything in the room when the meeting is finished. So if you bring a dish to share, please take extras with you when the meeting is over.

**Diapers for HOPE at the Epiphany Party:**

At our last meeting the fraternity voted to bring a package of diapers to the party instead of doing a gift exchange. Since January is Respect Life month this will help HOPE and other pregnancy centers. **Please do not bring a gift to exchange at the party. Instead please bring a package of diapers up to size 2 or 3.** (Sometimes the older babies are forgotten!)

**2016 Anniversarians:**

This year we do not have anyone celebrating an anniversary of profession based on increments of 5 years. However, every year we each celebrate an anniversary! Please keep our whole fraternity in your prayers.

**Fraternity Ministries:**

Please remember to bring an item to the meeting for either the St. Olaf Food Pantry or the Pineapple Motel. Winter is a time of real need for the people who are at the Pineapple and those who use the food pantries. The baskets will be at the meeting and any fresh items for the children will be delivered to the Pineapple right away. Fruit cups and fresh fruit are popular with the children at the Pineapple. Thank you for your generosity to both these ministries.

**Amazon Project:**

Please remember your change for the Amazon Relief and the Heifer International Project. Thank you, Carol Murphy for heading this up.

## **Peninsula Pet Pantry:**

The Peninsula Pet Pantry is a nonprofit organization providing temporary pet food, supplies, and veterinarian care to pet owners who are facing financial difficulties. Many of these pet owners are elderly or disabled and their pet is an emotional support to them. There is also a Pet Pantry in the Williamsburg area that can use volunteers. If you are interested in donating or volunteering, contact Carol Folsom <carolfolsom@cox.net> or <www.gmhumanesociety> .

## **January Happy Birthdays:**

10 Donna Kendall



## **Prayer List:**

Joan Buehler, OFS  
Daphne Pritchett, OFS  
Carol Murphy, OFS  
Family of Ed Gerhard, OFS  
Family of Deanne Marshall, OFS  
Family of Carol Folsom, OFS  
Family of Ann Pepper, OFS  
Family of Sister Patricia, LSOFS  
Tom Bello, OFS  
Daughter of Mary Lou Coffman, OFS  
Michael Wilson and family  
All travelers  
Youth Ministry at St. Jerome  
Our nation  
Victims of terrorism and for world peace especially in the Middle East  
Families at the Pineapple Inn and St. Olaf Pantry Ministries  
Our Fraternity and our Franciscan Family  
Those who have no one to pray for them

## **Deceased:**

Marlin Massey - husband of Barbara Massey, OFS  
Walter Tucker - father of Bea Sanford, OFS  
Jack Wells - brother of Leo Wells, OFS  
Wyn McPhee - fiancé of Anne Pepper, OFS  
Nancy Ullman - sister of Glenn Davis, OFS  
Frances Warren, OFS  
Geraldine Murphy - mother of Margaret Murphy, OFS  
George Willard - father of Deanne Marshall, OFS

## **Dates To Remember:**

1 Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God  
3 Epiphany Sunday  
Holy Name of Jesus  
7 Bl. Angela of Foligno  
10 Baptism of the Lord  
12 Bl. Bernard of Corleone  
14 Bl Odoric of Pordenone  
16 Bernard, priest  
22 Day of Prayer for the Protection of the Unborn  
30 Hyacinth of Mariscotti

**January 22 - March For Life and Day of Prayer for the Unborn**

*“Unfortunately, what is thrown away is not only food and dispensable objects, but often human beings themselves, who are discarded as ‘unnecessary.’ For example, it is frightful even to think there are children, victims of abortion, who will never see the light of day; children being used as soldiers, abused and killed in armed conflicts; and children being bought and sold in that terrible form of modern slavery which is human trafficking, which is a crime against humanity.”*

*Pope Francis - Jan. 13, 2014*

