



Our Lady of the Rosary  
Secular Franciscan Fraternity  
Williamsburg, Virginia

www.olsrfo.weebly.com

Wednesday, November 29,



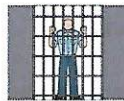
Minister's Reflections — Terry Carlino, OFS

While the secular world prepares for Christmas with an explosion of conspicuous consumption, bright lights and garland, Christians, especially Catholic Christians prepare to celebrate both the Lord's first coming on Christmas in Bethlehem over 2000 years ago, and his coming in the future, at the end of all time. We make these preparations in the Advent season which starts on Dec 3, this year.

There are many traditions that we follow in this season. The advent wreath, the singing of special hymns, most often heard in the Advent seasons. For those of us who pray the Liturgy of the Hours, Dec 17 opens an acrostic, a composition in which certain letters in each line form a word or words. These are the "O" antiphons, said before and after the Magnificat each evening and spelling out in reverse *Ero Cras or Tomorrow I will Come*. These Antiphons are so ancient their exact origin is shrouded in mystery. While they harken back to Isaiah they are not specifically quoted in scripture anywhere. Having most likely come from the early Church. The antiphons are not just recited by Catholics, but are contained in the Anglican Book of Common Prayer and are said in many Lutheran churches. The "O" antiphons run for a week and name Christ as Wisdom of God, Lord and Ruler, Root of Jesse, Key of David, Rising Dawn, King of Gentiles and God Among Us. Even those who do not say the Liturgy of the Hours are familiar with them through the well known hymn *O come O come Emmanuel*.

Joyous Advent - Terry Carlino OSF

Putting Our Spirituality Into Action



For those who might be interested in visiting the imprisoned, Saint Bede Prison Ministry is seeking volunteers who are interested in visiting the Virginia Peninsula Regional Jail to conduct bible studies once a week. Deacon Greg Ballentine who leads the Prison Ministry will provide the necessary training. To learn more, please contact Bea Sandford at [bsanford@cox.net](mailto:bsanford@cox.net) or call 757-208-0234

Important Dates:

- 12/2 Morning of Spirituality 9:00am–Noon
- 12/6 Bea Sanford - Birthday
- 12/15 Marie Stephan–Birthday
- 12/28 Rick Churray–Birthday

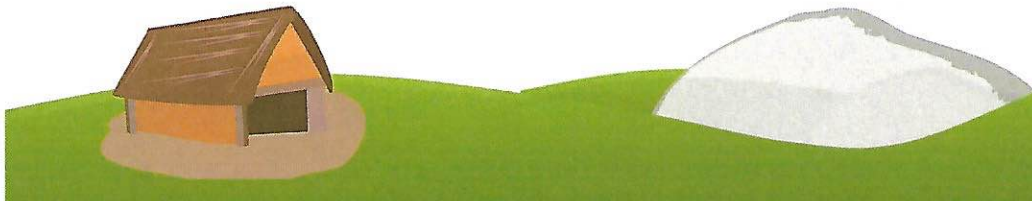
A reminder, the following members offered to bring these food items for the children at the Pineapple Inn on a monthly basis. We also collect diapers for infants to 27 lbs. for the Hope Baby Care Center

- Rick C. 2 cans chicken noodle soup
- Karen C. 2 cans split pea soup
- Paul R. 2 cans vegetable beef soup
- Bea S. 1 bag small tangerines
- Chuck & Marie 1 bag each apples & pears
- Maria F. 1 bunch green bananas
- Chris & Leo 2 microwave single meals
- Carol 2 packs fruit cups
- Eileen 2 packs pudding cups
- Peg 2 packs small individual cereal boxes
- Maria F. & Sandra 4 boxes pasta
- Barbara & Glenda 4 jars pasta sauce
- Eileen 2 juice boxes



Christmas Cards

Two years ago I was given a stack of Christmas/holiday greeting cards. In keeping with the spirit of St. Francis instead of buying Christmas cards I am going to use what I have. So, if you receive a "holiday" greeting card know that it was sent with love and the spirit of Christmas. I just can't bring myself to throw away all of these cards. Thank you! Karen Coulson



Vice Ministers Corner - *Bea Sanford, OFS*



*Morning of Spirituality—Encountering the Magnificat*

Ted Cummings will be the guest speaker for our Morning of Spirituality scheduled for Saturday, December 2 at Saint Bede Catholic Church. Our day will begin with the celebration of the 9:00 a.m. Mass in the church and we will then break for our retreat. Please RSVP to Bea Sanford by Friday, December 1 so we can have the correct number of handouts. Email [bsanford07@cox.net](mailto:bsanford07@cox.net) or call 757-208-0234.

Ted will speak about his personal encounter with the Canticle of Mary in the Holy Land; how Mary helps us to encounter the Lord throughout our lives; a breakout into small groups to discuss how we encounter our Lord in our daily lives, and a final wrap up with some spiritual food for thought and action from our Catholic tradition. Optional lunch at the Bakers Crust 5234 Monticello Avenue #115. Feel free to invite others.

Our Spirituality calls for us to make an annual retreat as a fraternity. The Our Lady of the Rosary Secular Franciscan Fraternity makes available two half day retreats at the beginning of Advent and Lent. Please try to make these important mornings of spirituality to feed the soul.



*Thank you Donna Kendall!*

“Go repair my Church, which as you see is falling completely in ruin” - when the image of Christ in the crucifix at San Damiano miraculously spoke these words to St. Francis, he was awakened to new zeal. He first concentrated on repairing the church buildings of San Damiano and nearby churches. But his great “repair” to the Church was the founding of the Franciscan Order, which began with the followers that Christ began to send to him shortly after the vision.

We are grateful to Donna Kendall who provided an excellent reflection on the Cross of San Damiano as part of our Formation on Sunday, November 19. Donna’s presentation gave an in-depth explanation of the biblical symbols on the Cross of San Damiano and a fabulous opportunity for the fraternity to meditate on this icon that shows connections between the Christian East and the Franciscan tradition.



**Keep Deceased Fraternity Members in your Prayers**

Joan Albrecht, Edna Bartlet, Gladys Branch, Julia Carey, Donald Carpenter, Rose Coleman, Josephine Decori, Esmie Esflavo, Marian Garris, Florence Gorden, Jack Houlahan, Lauren Pallazola, Elma Stanbeck, Marie Torez, Frances Warren, Thomas Warren, Vivian Whelan , Erwin (?) , and Denny Thiel

