



Our Lady of the Rosary Secular Franciscan Fraternity Williamsburg, Virginia

Minister's Reflections — Terry Carlino, OFS

As the Liturgical year winds to a close November is the time that the Church prompts us to consider the Four Last Things, or as Francis would have known it, *quattuor novissima*. Death, Judgment, Heaven and Hell.

As Franciscans our views on these universals should be different than that of our non-Franciscan neighbors. Even the most devout and faithful Christian tends to look at death as a fearsome thing which, though no one escapes, might best be avoided as long as possible and using every means. For those who do not admit to a metaphysical reality beyond this world death plays an even more fearful and final note.

For Francis, though Death was not something to be avoided, shunned and feared. She was, and is, our dear sister, through whom we are ushered into eternal life with God. Not to be avoided, dreaded or feared, but to be accepted, when in God's good time she reached out to embrace us and carry us into the presence of the one who loves us the most.

After death we face judgement, but it is evident that neither our father Francis, nor our sister Clare feared to face God. Rather they embraced it, trusting to the God who is Love to carry them through.

And after Judgement what? Eternity in the presence of the Beatific Vision, God Himself, a state of profound and eternal communion with God. At least for those who keep to their promises and trust in God to fill inevitable human lapses so that we do not have to face the horror of Hell, which is embodied in the worst of all possible states, eternal separation from God.

None of us can escape the touch of death. When she comes for us, will we meet her as the sister she is or treat her as the enemy the present culture has made her out to be?

Tuesday, October 30, 2018

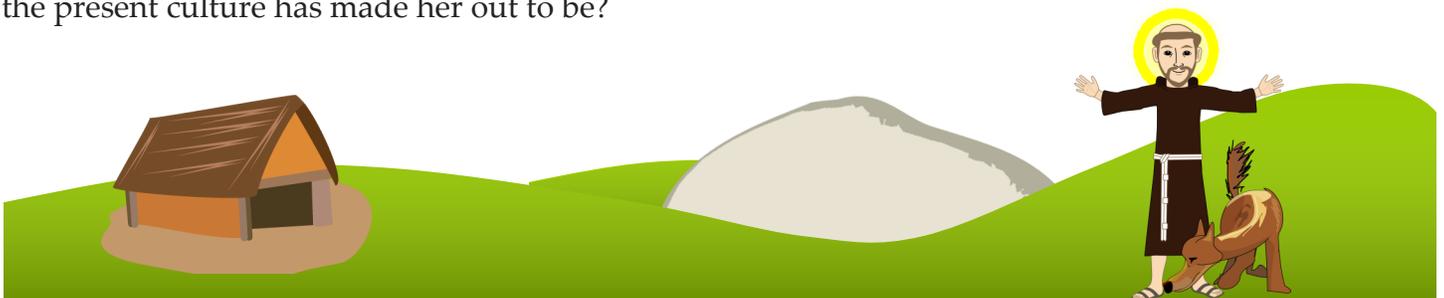
Important Dates:

- 11/3 Eileen Murray—Birthday
- 11/4 Deanne Marshall—Birthday
- 11/5 Peg Crews—Birthday
- 11/18 Meeting — Fr. Walsh Room
1:00 Members gather
1:30 Opening Prayer
- 11/19 Glenda Hines—Birthday
- 11/21 Glenn Davis—Birthday
- 11/24 Sr. Agnes—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

Food for Pineapple Inn

- 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
- Donna K. Rice and Beans
- Chuck & Marie S. 1 bag each apples & pears
- Maria F. 1 bunch green bananas
- Chris & Leo W. 2 microwave single meals
- Carol M. 2 packs fruit cups
- Eileen M. 2 packs pudding cups and 2 juice boxes
- Peg C. 2 packs small individual cereal boxes
- Sandra L. 2 boxes pasta
- Barbara M. & Glenda H. 4 jars pasta sauce
- Ani K. Raman Noodles



Reflections from the Vice Minister/Acting Secretary – Vice Minister Bea Sanford

The Little Sisters of Saint Francis joined us for the Transitus that was held on October 3 in the Father Walsh Conference Room. We were able to meet Sister Julien and Sister Pamela, who recently joined the Franciscan Brethren of Saint Philip aka Little Sisters of Saint Francis to assist Sister Agnes and her team in their outreach to the marginalized adults with special needs, particularly those with profound intellectual challenges and physical disabilities from six group homes in the Historic Triangle, Charles City County, and New Kent County. Those in attendance broke their fast with a wide variety of delicious food to celebrate the life of our founder, Saint Francis of Assisi.

Donna Kendall has never had a vanity plate until now. How perfect is this? To learn more about the PEACE license plate visit the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles website <https://www.dmv.virginia.gov/vehicles/#splates/alpha.asp?alpha=p>



Praying for our Deceased Brothers and Sisters

As we commemorate the Month of All Souls, please keep our deceased brothers and sisters 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, Daphne Pritchett, Elma Stanbeck, Denny Thiel, Maria Torres, Frances Warren, Thomas Warren, Vivian Whelan.



Please be sure to mark your calendar for our Morning of Spirituality on Saturday, December 1 from 9:00 a.m. to Noon in the Father Walsh Room at Saint Bede Catholic Church. Janet Hassan, Adult Faith Formation Coordinator for Saint Bede, will give us an opportunity to pause and reflect on the Advent season. Our Advent and Lenten Mornings of Spirituality give us the opportunity to fulfill our requirement for an Annual Retreat.



Franciscan Brethren of St. Philip Ministering to the Least of our Brethren by Donna Kendall, OFS

A darkened room in the corner of the house is kept locked; no one enters the room, no one leaves. The solitary window is covered by a wooden panel so that natural light may not enter. Life inside this small dwelling is unnatural. There is a tattered mat on the floor, no pillow, and a thread-bare blanket. Next to the door is a metal pan for human waste which is emptied once a day when someone brings a plate of food and leaves it just inside the door. A naked young man named Matthew (not his real name) lies on the mat most of the day. He rises only to relieve himself in the metal pan and to eat when the plate of food is brought to him.

At first glance one reading this story might suspect that Matthew were living in more ancient times when the developmentally disabled were locked away from society and treated as less than animals, for in ancient times even animals had some value. But the heartbreaking truth is that Matthew was living this existence in 2018, until four months ago when a caseworker referred him to Sister Agnes Narocho and the Franciscan Brethren of St. Philip also known as the Little Sisters of Saint Francis.

The Franciscan sisters and brothers provide homes, day training services, personal and health care for the developmentally disabled in the greater Williamsburg area as far west as Quinton, Virginia. Matthew was brought into a home run by the Franciscan Brethren in June, 2018. He was given new clothing and a well-lit room with a comfortable bed and pillow. He eats with the other residents of the home and participates in the daily activities facilitated by the sisters. Matthew has been restored to a life of human dignity and respect because of the efforts of the Franciscan Brethren. Matthew is loved; he has been given the gifts of self-worth, hope, joy, and consolation.

The Franciscan Brethren of Saint Philip take the work of the gospels to heart.

Where there is neglect, they provide care,

Where there is loneliness, they bring friendship,

Where there is fear, they inspire trust,

Where there is heartache, they bring comfort,

Where there is depression, they bring gladness,

Where there is frustration, they provide encouragement,

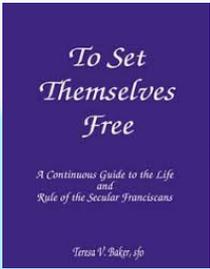
Where there is weakness, they inspire confidence,

Where there is indifference, they create awareness,

Where there is cruelty and rejection, they embrace God's people with His love.

In the early hours of the morning on October 10, 2018, one of the homes run by the Franciscan Brethren caught fire and burnt to the ground. All the residents were evacuated by Sister Agnes and no one suffered any injuries. The residents had to be placed in various other facilities and given clothing and personal hygiene supplies. The need to help these marginalized children of God is great. The Franciscan Brethren work night and day to give these individuals a place they can call home and a community they can call family.





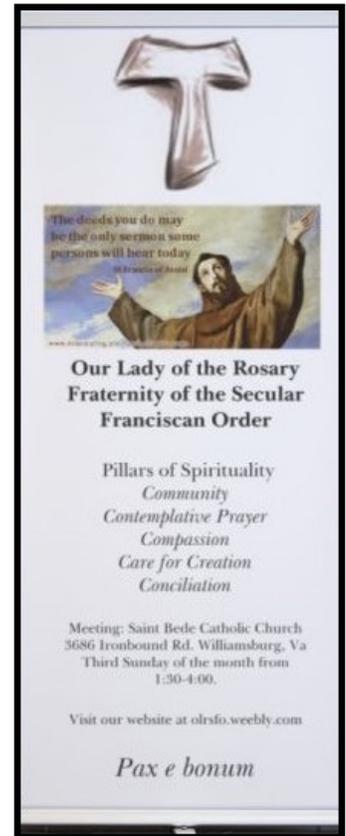
Our Fraternal Visit has been postponed until next year. Ed Gerhard will lead our Formation on Article 8 from our book *To Set Themselves Free* by Theresa Baker, OFS



Chuck and Marie Stefan presented Terry Carlino with our own San Damiano Cross which was blessed by Monsignor Keeney during our October 21 meeting.



Chuck and Marie Stefan present the San Damiano Cross on October 21 to Terry Carlino, Vice Minister of our Fraternity.



Check out the retractable banner that Donna Kendall, Carol Murphy and Bea Sanford created for our fraternity.



National Franciscan Youth and Young Adult Commission Chair—Kathleen Molaro, OFS

Dear Regional Ministers,

The Franciscan Youth and Young Adult Commission is partially sponsoring five young people who will travel in January to Panama for the Youfra International Gathering and World Youth Day. All five have been actively seeking and living the Franciscan charism, and we are pleased they will represent the Franciscan youth of the United States. We have conference called and sent many emails back and forth in preparation. Their scholarships will pay for their registration (for YIG) and a good portion of their transportation. We will be featuring their pictures and bios in the next TAU USA. Our International folks have also sent out a plea for financial help for young people who live in underprivileged areas of the world (CIOFS letter attached). They have invited five youth from each country to participate in the Franciscan youth gathering, but many countries can't even afford to send one. The National Executive Council agreed to donate \$2,000., and several regions, fraternities, and individuals have also contributed to this fund. Please read the attached letter and consider donating to this cause.

Working together at the Youfra International Gathering is known for forging strong bonds, making crucial decisions regarding Franciscan Youth, and especially for deepening their faith and their understanding of Franciscan spirituality. What a beautiful goal to include youth from all over the world, not just from the countries who can afford what to some is an impossible extravagance. Young people all over the world are searching for holy purpose, and trying to connect their daily lives to their faith. *Life to Gospel and Gospel to Life* isn't just a nice catch phrase. It is who we are and what we do. In striving to live Gospel lives, they need the prayer and support of their big brothers and sisters! Thank you for considering. Below is the official Pilgrim Prayer for Panama, January 2019.

Merciful Father,

You call us to live our lives as a way of salvation. Help us to recall the past with gratitude, to embrace the present with courage and to build the future with hope.

Lord Jesus, our friend and brother, thank you for looking upon us with love. Let us listen to your voice as it resonates in the hearts of each one with the strength and light of the Holy Spirit.

Grant us the grace of being a Church that goes forth with vibrant faith and a youthful face to communicate the joy of the Gospel. May we help to build up the kind of society we long for, one where there is fairness and fellowship.

We pray for the Pope and the bishops; for young people; for all those who will take part in World Youth Day in Panama and for those who are preparing to welcome them.

Our Lady of Antigua, Patroness of Panama, help us to pray and live with generosity like yours: "I am the servant of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word" (Lk 1:38).

Amen



Franciscan Saints for November – Month of the Holy Souls in Purgatory

1. Feast of All Saints – Holy day of Obligation
2. Commemoration of all of the Faithfully Departed – Plenary Indulgence for the holy souls when one visits a church or chapel and recites a Pater and a Credo
3. Bl. Helen Enselmini, Virgin, the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1231
4. St. Charles Borromeo, Bishop, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1584
5. Feast of the Saints Relics
6. Bl. Margaret of Lorraine, Virgin, the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1521
7. Bl. Raynier of Arezzo, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1304
8. Bl. John Duns Scotus, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1308
9. Bl. Gabriel Ferritti, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1456
10. Bl. Louis Guanella, Priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1915
11. Bl. Mary Crucifixa, Virgin, the Franciscan 3rd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1826
12. Bl. John of Peace, Confessor, religious of the Third-Order Regular, d. 1340
13. St. Didacus of Alcalá, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1463
14. St. Nicholas Tavelich and Companions, Martyrs, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1391
15. Bl. Sebastien de Jesus, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1734
16. St. Agnes of Assisi, Virgin, the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1253
17. Bl. Jane of Signa, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1307
18. Bl. Salome of Cracow, Virgin, the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1268
19. St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Virgin Patroness of Franciscan Third Order Secular, Plenary Indulgence, d. 1231
20. Bl. Migagos Ortells, Virgin, Capuchin religious, Martyr 1936
21. Feast of the Presentation of the Holy Virgin Mary
22. Bl. Salvator Lilli, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, martyr 1895
23. Bl. Marie de Jesus Bon Pasteur, Virgin, religious of the Third-Order Regular, d. 1902
24. Bl. Timothy Trajonowski, lay brother, Conventual religious, martyr 1942
25. Bl. Humilis of Bisignano, lay brother, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1637
26. St. Leonard of Port Maurice, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1751
27. St. Francis Anthony Fasani, Priest, Conventual religious, d. 1742
28. St. James of the March, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1476
29. Saints of the Seraphic Order
30. Bl. Anthony Bonfadini, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1482

