



K A N S A S T M I S S O U R I T O K L A H O M A

Minister's Message

WHAT CAN WE DO?

In the recent months we, the Catholic Church, have been deeply affected by the devastating news of the Pennsylvania Grand Jury report and news articles on the sex abuse scandal. I know. We talk about it a lot. But all the talk doesn't make the hurt, the disappointment and sincere sense of betrayal go away. Like all of you these are times when words can clearly fail us. And words we do find are not comforting - lies, deceit, and unfaithfulness. But we must find a way to make sense of it all.

In a letter from the Trinity Missions, Rev. Michael Barth, Superior General/President asks, "what to do now?" Even as his order and the Church at large struggles to understand "this horrific failing" of our men of faith, he reminds us of times past and how the Church struggled then.

"About 800 year ago, in a dusty church on the edge of Assisi, St. Francis heard the command to 'rebuild my Church, which is in ruins.' I don't know that the Church is in ruins, but the present situation feels more like it than anything I have experienced," he stated.

Over and over in the past month the comment that Jesus did not come for the righteous but for the sinner has returned to me over and over - in readings, in sermons, in other talks. Jesus forgave readily. He went out of his way to look for the lost and forsaken. Forgiveness, yes it will be hard. God never promised us an easy road to heaven. But He did direct us to love and pray for our enemies and in this case, sinners within our own walls.

As you may already know, the National Fraternity of the OFS-USA at its Election Chapter

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- Minister's Message
- Francis & You
- New National Treasurer
- National Visioning Workshop

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Regional Executive Council

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in St. Louis in October, published a statement to the Bishops of the USA and to the public on how we, as Secular Franciscans, stand on this issue and what we plan to do. Please read this carefully and with an open heart and mind.

We, the members of the National Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order – USA, gathered for our annual Chapter at the Renaissance St. Louis Airport Hotel in Missouri, October 9-14, 2018. Approximately 90 leaders and observers were present, representing over 12,000 members throughout the United States, including Guam.

The recent Grand Jury report in Pennsylvania is a cause of sorrow, pain and agonizing self-scrutiny for the Catholic Church in the United States. We recognize the tragic reality of sinful abuse perpetrated on the most vulnerable. It deeply saddens all of us. We stand firm and make no excuses. The brothers and sisters of the Secular Franciscan Order extend mercy and compassion to the victims of abuse and to their abusers. Trusting in God who allows the good seed and the weeds to grow together (Mt. 13: 24-30), we pray for healing, forgiveness, reconciliation and peace.

More than 800 years ago, our Lord asked St. Francis of Assisi to “rebuild my Church which is falling into ruin.” Francis accomplished this by living a life of penance and sacrifice according to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As followers of St. Francis, we commit ourselves to do the same. We call the members of our Order and invite all people of faith to be vigilant for the sake of the vulnerable and to foster strong relationships throughout the Body of Christ. We support the clergy and religious who serve Christ Jesus and His Church. Let us go forth in the Light of Christ to rebuild our Church, that it may be renewed as a beacon of hope and safe refuge, grace and truth.

As we were crafting the final edition of the statement, Fr. Francis Dor, OFM Cap, our CIOFS Pastoral Visitor from Cameroon, Africa, quoted Matthew 13: 24-30 to us. He cautioned us not to stand as judges, for that is the job of God. Our job is to help all people to get to heaven. He was also very insistent that sin requires reparation. We are called on to sacrifice for the sins of others, just as Jesus did on the cross. We were and continue to be first and foremost Brothers and Sisters of Penance. This is our call.

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(Continued from page 2)

In today's email from Bishop Barron on his Eighth Principle of Word on Fire Ministries, Grounded on the Eucharist, spokesperson Jared Zimmerer reminded us that in a world gone wrong, there is no communion with God without sacrifice. In the Old Testament, God's people were called to make sacrifices of the best they had to offer to atone for their sins. By releasing ownership of what they were sacrificing to God by burning it on the altar, the intention was to remind the Israelite people that "it should be me on the altar" to atone for our sins against God.

Today we too seek communion with God, and we seek it for all people. But just as in the past, this communion comes only at a cost. God sacrificed his Son for us. It is our turn to offer the best we have to God. What in my life could possibly equal a temple sacrifice of this magnitude? That is what we need to ask God in prayer.

Bishop Barron says, "Poverty and Simplicity are prerequisites to effective proclamation of the Gospel." If that is true, then we as Franciscans should be the most effective evangelists on earth by just living out the charism of our profession. And this is what the Church needs for evangelism today, radically faithful liverers of the Gospel.

I call on all of you to consider the part you can play in the reparation of these sins. Pray, yes, and pray deeply and often. But consider our Christian call to sacrifice through fasting and giving alms too. Talk to God. I know He has a plan for you. Listen and act according to His will. This is the Franciscan answer for "what can we do?"



In the Peace of St. Francis,

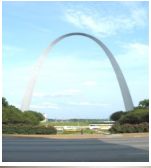
Judith

Regional Minister

DID YOU KNOW?

...that you can download the new **Handbook for Animators of Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation** (JPIC) from the Juan de Padilla regional website? Look under RESOURCE, then follow the link to GOVERNANCE.

<https://sfojuandepadilla.org>



NATIONAL CHAPTER OF ELECTIONS HELD IN ST. LOUIS



After reflecting together on the needs of the Order, after spending time in prayer and formation, and after invoking the help of the Holy Spirit, the National Fraternity has chosen the team that will guide and animate the Fraternity for the next three years. The following servant leaders were elected to NEC positions: Jan Parker, OFS — Minister, Mary Bittner, OFS — Vice Minister, Jane DeRose-Bamman — Secretary, Claudia Kauzlarich, OFS — Treasurer, Awilda Guadalupe, OFS — International Councilor, Josh Molidor, OFS — Councilor 1, Dennis Ross, OFS — Councilor 2, Donna Hollis, OFS — Councilor 3, Jane DeRose-Bamman was also elected Alternate International Councilor, Please keep all of these brothers and sisters in your prayers.



Juan de Padilla Regional Treasurer Claudia Kauzlarich Elected National Treasurer

On the feast of Our Lady of Fatima, the National Fraternity elected Claudia Kauzlarich to the office of National Treasurer. She is the first Juan de Padilla member to be elected to serve at the national level.

Since Claudia retired from her career as a certified public accountant, commercial business auditor and tax consultant, she has served her parish, her fraternity and the Juan de Padilla region using her accounting skills. Her service has been so much more than “keeping our books and budget” in line. She creates publications such as programs, newsletters and event flyers. She manages local and regional registrations and sales of books and materials. Those of you who attended the 2018 Franciscan Formation Workshops, received a beautiful Franciscan Family Chaplet hand made by Claudia.



Now that Claudia is on National Executive Council, she is required to resign her positions at the local fraternity and regional levels because her workload will increase a great deal. Leila Safavi OFS has agreed to finish Claudia’s term on the regional council. (see more about Leila on p.11).

We are proud of Claudia for her new accomplishments and know that many more Franciscans will be blessed by her servant leadership and talents as she assumes her new position as the National Treasurer.

Brother Jacoba Fraternity is Awarded Grant for First Nation People

Outreach to First Nation People, a non-profit which provides clothing, bedding, blankets, furniture, toys, etc., to remote Native American reservations, has been awarded a contribution of \$1000 by the National Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order as part of the Charitable Giving Program for the year 2018.



The program was created by several fraternity members in March, 2016, and is one of the ministries of the Brother Jacob Fraternity. The money will cover transportation costs (rental of a moving truck, vehicle insurance,



gas, etc.) for a trip to a reservation. Our tentative plan is to make a trip in December to a reservation in southern Arizona which was severely devastated by recent heavy rains from a hurricane. The name of the reservation is Tohono O'Odham Nation.

On November 17, fraternity members will be joining a small group of students from Bishop Seabury Episcopal High School who will be spending the day assisting in sorting and boxing donated clothing at our storage site. The high school students will also be donating winter coats, sweaters, and additional clothing.

If we are able to make the trip, we will have pictures for future newsletters.

By Daniel Lonnquist OFS

JPIC Annual Award Winner Is Advocate for Elderly

JPIC National Animator, Carolyn Townes OFS presented the 2018 Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Award to Kathleen Carsten, OFS at the National Chapter of Elections in St. Louis.

Kathy, as she is affectionately known, is a parish nurse and an advocate for the seniors and the plights of senior housing.

The Peace (now JPIC) Award was begun in 1950 by the North American Federation of the Third Order of St. Francis, now the National Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order (NAFRA).



Carolyn Townes, OFS (left) and Kathleen Carsten, OFS (right) just after JPIC Award presentation. *Photo: Bob Stronach, OFS.*

FEATURED JPIC QUOTE:

"Everything is related, and we human beings are united as brothers and sisters on a wonderful pilgrimage, woven together by the love God has for each of his creatures and which also unites us in fond affection with brother sun, sister moon, brother river and mother earth."

~ Pope Francis, Laudo Si, para 92





From the Regional Spiritual Assistant

THE FRANCISCAN WHO SHOULD NOT BE A FRANCISCAN

REFERENCES:

St. Francis of Assisi, Omer Englebort

Despite all the research that has been made about him, Brother Elias remains a mysterious figure... He doubtless had his virtuous moments, since Francis and Hugolin had placed him at the head of the Brotherhood, and he always had a goodly number of partisans.

...Evidently, it was only gradually that Elias was able to reveal his characteristic role and to carry out his plans. In the first years of his generalship he was still restrained by filial piety and prudence. But with Francis dead, he threw off all reserve. He never went anywhere save on horseback, dined at a separate table, ate choice viands, kept a special cook for his own use, and a dozen servants, dismissed and replaced provincials according to his good pleasure, scattered and persecuted those religious faithful to the spirit of the Portiuncula. [chapter 14]

Prey, Michael Crichton

They let it. *They didn't understand what they were doing.* I'm afraid that will be on the tombstone of the human race. I hope it's not. We might get lucky.

The Christian Spiritual Journey, Robert F. Morneau

Asceticism is a process which makes room for God in our lives by emptying, purging and cleansing our minds, hearts and bodies....

Tourists are on constant watch for the neon signs hanging outside motels indicating whether or not there is a vacancy. Motel owners can, with a flip of a switch, flash the message No Vacancy to the dismay of travelers. This image draws attention to a key concept in a theology of asceticism: occupation or, rather, preoccupation. When life is cluttered by excessive activity, material possessions, spiritual gifts or even abundant relationships, it can well happen that the consumption of time and energy is so great that a personal relationship with the Lord is rendered unlikely, if not impossible. There is simply no inner space left and the divine guest remains at the door.

[Review For Religious, 1985]

The Constitutions of the Capuchin Friars Minor

In all circumstances of our life, let us follow the Gospel as the supreme law, assiduously read the words of salvation, and like the Blessed Virgin Mary, carry them in our heart. Thus, as the Gospel increasingly fashions our life, we may grow in Christ in all things. [1,6]

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THE FORMATION CORNER



Janice Keeley
Formation Director
In the Sea of Galilee



Fr, Dave Pivonka TOR

Thoughts from the Formation Director

Recently, Dona Gibbons, OFS; Susan Tabor, OFS and I attended a national Formation Directors and Spiritual Assistants training. It was called a "Visioning Workshop." We were asked to prepare with assigned readings. One of the readings is an excellent topic for ongoing formation within your fraternities: How Should an Order like the OFS Be Managed at All Its Levels? by Beneditto Lino, OFS, http://www.nafra-sfo.org/ciofs/EN_managingOFS.pdf

Also, in conjunction with this document is another that delves deeper into 3 of the sections and gives more ideas for carrying out Mr. Lino's ideas. This document is by our General (international) Minister, Tibor Kaiser, OFS: http://www.nafra-sfo.org/ciofs/EN_3-4-5Tibor.pdf

In preparation for the September Regional Chapter meeting, which included a visitation by the national minister and spiritual assistant, the regional ministers and representatives were asked to read the first document. From that, in groups by state, small group discussions came up with ideas ways that we can actively build up the Franciscan Order. The following are some of the "visions" along with ideas to accomplish those visions:



Janice Keeley OFS

1. Build Relationship. Local fraternities are the building blocks of the Order. To build relationship within our fraternities, there is a need for more than one gathering a month. At the gatherings, there must be give and take dialogue. There must be social time. Relationships among members will also be fostered as members pray together and perform service projects together. Each member needs to do what is theirs to do for the fraternity, no matter how simple or complex, to build and to contribute to the "family." Practice silent prayer in fraternity to listen to the Holy Spirit as a fraternity. Continue relationship with those unable to attend gatherings by making phone calls, sending cards and e-mails and having "electronic" meetings.



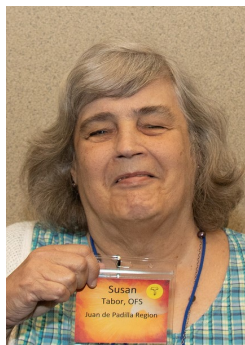
Dona Gibbons OFS

Members, from their first association with a fraternity must come to understand that profession means a life of commitment to the fraternity and the Order. There must be more focus on the founding documents of the order, on the writings of St. Francis and other Franciscan saints, and upon the words of Jesus Christ in the Gospels to *really* understand what it means to be Franciscan. All must understand that profession is just the beginning of the Franciscan life.

Build relationship with other Franciscans within the region by feeling free to visit other fraternities whenever possible. Attend regional and national gatherings as often as possible.

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Susan Tabor OFS

2. Make ourselves more visible in our parishes and in the world. Always wear your Tau. Wear fraternity shirts when carrying out apostolates and sometimes at mass. For your own holiness and as an example in your parish, assist at mass and the sacraments daily, if possible. Perform service activities as a fraternity as well as individually. For ongoing formation, study and meditate on Vatican documents such as the "Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity," http://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_decree_19651118_apostolicam-actuositatem_en.html.

Meditate on these recent Apostolic Exhortations of Pope Francis which give much practical advice to consider: *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel) and *Gaudete et Exsultate* (Rejoice and Be Glad). (The Word among us Press has a study guide in the back of each of their books.) Pray in your fraternities for guidance; then, let your actions be a prayer. Get up. Get out. The sky is the limit. Communicate with all levels of the hierarchy of the Church. Our entire diocese (of which there are 7 in our Region) must recognize our fraternities and the legitimacy of our Order.

3. Help our Order grow with prayer, fraternity and service. As others see how we live, there will be no need for "recruitment." More will be called by the Holy Spirit to follow Jesus in the spirit of St. Francis.

Janice



Two Happy Birthdays Celebrated

Oklahoma Spiritual Assistants Mary Mead and Ann Marie Neuok have the same birthday, October 26th! They celebrated together this year. We love you both!



Ann Marie Neuok OFS and Mary Mead OFS were among the first to accept the challenge to be lay spiritual assistants in region. They had to have references, take the Franciscan Family Connection course under the direction of the Regional Spiritual Assistant and agree to serve both their own fraternity and another before they were finally appointed.



Pilgrimage to Assisi & Rome



Have you always wanted to go to Assisi? Never been to Rome. Well maybe this is your chance. The Juan de Padilla Region is beginning plans for a regional Pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi, retracing the steps of St. Francis in his homeland of Italy.

We are working with Franciscan Pilgrimage Project, a pilgrimage group out of Wisconsin. This is the group that I used when my husband and I went to Rome and Assisi last year. Let me give you a quick outline of how their pilgrimages usually work. When we first mentioned this, we had also included an option to go to the Holy Land, but for our first trip, it will be best if we start with mainland Europe.



It is a 13 day trip. Two of those days are flight days to and from Italy. We will spend 3 days in Rome and then move to Assisi for the remainder of the pilgrimage, using our pensione in Assisi as our home base and traveling to other places from there.



We stay in simple, but clean and safe, hotels called "pensiones." They provide us 2 meals a day at your pensione. Other meals are on your own during free time in the cities. When I went we stayed at the Cas Tra Noi in Rome and the Casa Papa Giovanni in Assisi (where Pope John XXIII stayed when he was in Assisi!). You can look them up on the internet and see what they are about.

You have tour guides from Franciscan Pilgrimages with you all the time. We had an OFM priest and a nun, and they were wonderful. They present lectures on Francis and Clare, and about the places you visit. They also orchestrate and assist in conducting rituals at many of the sites in which we all participate. It is holy and spiritual and beautiful.

There is a lot of walking as are most trips to European cities. Both Rome and Assisi are built on hills, so the terrain can be up and down a lot of hills. All of the brochures from this pilgrimage group mentions that you must be able to walk a lot each day. There are some car/van options available for some of the trips, but you still need to be able to do a lot of walking.

In Rome there is Mass at one of the side altars in St. Peter's Basilica. When I was there we had Mass at the St. Jerome altar which is also the resting place for Pope John XXIII. If we are in Rome on a Wednesday, we will attend the Pope's public audience in St. Peter's Square. There is a bus tour of Rome and additional visits to St. John Lateran, Trastevere and more.

On the way to Assisi there is a stop and Mass at Greccio, where St. Francis reenacted the first Christmas. Once in Assisi you visit all the churches, basilicas and other attractions. There are day trips to San Damiano, St. Mary of the Angels, Carceri, and La Verne. There is free time to investigate the city on your own, and have good times with the other fellow pilgrims.

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Estimated costs:

Land travel and entrance fees, room and partial board only, no flight (this is if you have less expensive flight options on your own)-\$3,500

Land travel and entrance fees, flight, room and partial board - \$4,500 - \$4,650

In speaking with Fr. John Cello, OFM, Director of Franciscan Pilgrimages he suggests the following months of the year to travel to Italy and to look at for our trip.

November 2019 – February 2020 -March 2020

We need a minimum of 20 people before they will put a private pilgrimage together. Being that we are all Franciscans, the focus of the pilgrimage may be a bit more intense than for the average group. We can always ask for more in-depth information. I know they will understand.

If you are interested, I will need to hear from you by **Jan 10, 2019**. I will need to know when you want to travel either Nov, Feb, or March. Think about it. Pray about it. It was an experience that I will never forget. If you need any other information, contact me at judyklynn@gmail.com or 405-269-1229.



LEILA SAFAVI OFS, APPOINTED REGIONAL TREASURER



This October, Regional Treasurer , Claudia Kauzlarich OFS, was elected as National Treasurer. This requires her to vacate her current positions on local and regional levels. There was a search for an appropriate replacement to serve the region 's finances. Finally, Leila Safavi agreed to serve the last year of Claudia' tenure. The Regional Council unanimously voted to approve her appointment.

Leila Safavi OFS is the current minister of the newly re-established Holy Family Fraternity in Tulsa, OK . She has accounting skills and will work with Claudia in transitioning the region's financial records. Let us pray for Leila and Claudia as they begin their new work.

PRAYER REQUEST REMINDER



When sending a prayer request, please make sure that you have the correct address. Prayer Requests should be sent to

prayer@sfojuandepadilla.org



St Elizabeth of Hungary Elections



The newly elected council of St. Elizabeth of Hungary is (l-r front row: Regina Ozbun – councilor, Linda Mayer – secretary, Julie Oswald – vice minister, Dona Gibbons – election presider, and Sister Doris Engeman – spiritual assistant. Back row: Linus Drouhard – minister, Diane Drouhard – formation director, Deanna Perry – treasurer, Tom Bauer – councilor, and Father Mike Scully OFM Cap – pastoral visitor.



Happy Birthday Elizabeth!

Elizabeth Dietrich OFS, of Holy Eucharist Fraternity in Independence, MO celebrated her 95th birthday on September 25th with family and friends.

Elizabeth was in the second group to profess in the Holy Eucharist Fraternity. She made her permanent profession to the Order on July 8, 2007. She served on the Executive Fraternity Council and continues to contribute much time and effort to enliven this large fraternity. She is a source of comfort and welcome - from homemade casseroles for the 'snack' table to providing beautiful Nativities for our table decorations at the Christmas pot luck.

Always close to her faith, Elizabeth has been a good friend and supporter of all of the Kansas City-St. Joseph bishops and priests. She is well known as the loving force who got things done while leading groups such as the Blue Army, The Tabernacle Society, KC Deanery and others. An avid traveler, Elizabeth has lead Catholic pilgrimages to Fatima, Lourdes, Ireland, and China as well as to sites in the USA.

She is a loving and gracious friend and welcomes all to join in her work for the Church. Her one desire is that all should love Jesus more today than you did yesterday





St. Anthony's Visitation

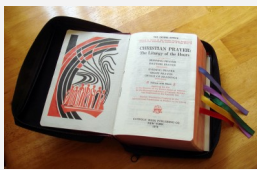


St. Anthony Fraternity in Wichita welcomed Larry Dougherty to formal inquiry into the Secular Franciscan Order Sunday, Nov. 4, in St. Anthony Church's St. Clare Hall.

The ceremony was part of the fraternity's regular monthly meeting during which special guests were in attendance for the fraternity's triennial regional visitation. Judith Cronk and Ann Marie Neuok were assisted by Janice and Mark Keeley for the visit.

The visitors reviewed records, observed the meeting, and visited with the council afterward.

"The council appreciates the kindness and generosity of our visitors," Chris Riggs, St. Anthony's minister said. "They made several excellent suggestions that the council will take to heart." by Chris Riggs OFS



Now is the time to order your 2019 Liturgy of the Hours Guide.

A good place to get the **St. Joseph Guide for the Roman-Franciscan Prayer**, 1 Vol. The 4-volume is at the Holy Angels Gift Shop for the cost of \$4.50 each.

The web address is <https://cfpholyangels.com/2019-saint-joseph-guide-for-the-roman-franciscan-christian-prayer-one-volume-liturgy-of-the-hours-edition/>





Queen of the Angels, Buckner MO



Four newly professed members are; (l-r) Janice Cox OFS, Jo Keller OFS, Kelli McSwain OFS and Margaret Madsen OFS. Monsignor Ralph Kaiser OFS, is the fraternity's Spiritual Assistant as well as the pastor of the Church of the Santa fe in Buckner, MO.

Queen of the Angels Fraternity in Buckner, MO emerged from Holy Eucharist Fraternity and was fully established in 2015. Since this time, there have been two professions in 2015 and four more in 2018. The fraternity continues to be blessed with new members. Currently, there are four more in initial formation classes.



Kathy Johnson OFS, minister, created and displayed a *Come & See* back-board at the profession.

A historical video of the fraternity is displayed on the fraternity website. <https://juandepadilla.org>



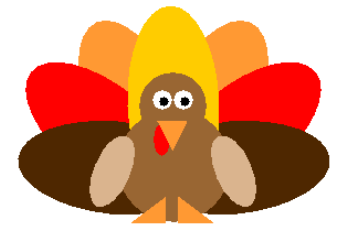
Jo Keller, Kelli McSwain (hidden beside), Janice Cox and Margaret Madsen make profession.



Keeping Catholic Traditions Alive



Helen Boos OFS, Queen of the Angles fraternity, is known for her artistic talents, especially in restoring religious statues. Priests, churches and others call Helen when they have a special statue(s) that were once beautiful but is now in desperate need of a loving touch. Many statues that come to Helen are pitted, faded, broken or have just lost their luster. Helen is able to repair most, making them beautiful and inspirational again. *Helen says her angel guides her hands* when she restores these religious statues. The before and after pictures of many are incredible. Above, Helen poses with statues she repaired in her garage, awaiting pick up for St. Bernadette, Our Lady of Lourdes in Kansas City, MO.



St. Joseph Secular Franciscans in Hays, KS Join Parish Thanksgiving Bazaar for Charity



St. Joseph Catholic Church in Hays, KS serves a Thanksgiving meal every year on the Sunday before Thanksgiving. It is called the Thanksgiving Bazaar complete with various booths from the church and community. St. Joseph Secular Franciscan fraternity set up their own booth offering second hand books, sacramentals, statues or pictures for no cost, or a free will offering. After this event, the fraternity donates these offerings to charity. This year, the charity they choose to donate the money to was the Franciscan Missions. What a great way to evangelize the community.

THE TRANSITUS OF ST. FRANCIS



Holy Eucharist and Queen of the Angels fraternities joined the Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Eucharist in a Transitus service at the Franciscan Prayer Center in Independence, MO.

The **Transitus of St. Francis** is an ancient prayer service celebrated by Franciscans around the world on the night of October 3rd. It is a moment of remembrance of the life of **St. Francis** of Assisi as well as a celebration of his passing into eternal life.

Following the service, almond cookies were passed out to attendees. *St. Francis, pray for us.*



In Victoria, KS, Father Curtis Carlson OFM Cap gave a refectio during a Transitus service at the Capuchin Center for Spiritual Life. Members of St. Joseph's Fraternity had a good turnout which included 9 fraternity members, 2 community members, 1 person who reported that she belongs to our fraternity from years ago and wants to start coming again! **They were also blessed with the attendance of four Capuchin priests.** The pictures below are from the reception following the service.





Secular Franciscan Youth and Young Adults

My name is Sue Swayngim. I am the new Regional Franciscan Youth/Young Adult Animator for the Juan de Padilla region. I was professed in San Antonio, Texas, in 1994 where I belonged to St. Anthony fraternity in the Origins of Los Tres Campaneros Region. I started working with teens and young adults in 1990. I helped organize and oversee youth retreats that were offered through the Youth 2000 movement in the Catholic Church. I founded my own ministry with a small group of youth and young adults - the LIFE ministry - and travelled throughout the state of Texas bringing Christ to these groups via a fun and Franciscan community-sharing retreat. I had a great team including musicians, my own teenaged daughters and a lot of young volunteers.

I have not worked in this ministry for many years as being a full-time grandmother has been my recent priority. I now feel I am recalled to enter into the youth ministry again, hopefully planting some 'seeds' in our young people. I am still gathering information as to how to help our fraternities work with young people, initially to introduce them to Francis and Clare. Ultimately, I want to broaden their interests in helping to "rebuild our church" via the Franciscan spirituality.

I am looking for people in youth and young adults to join me on a regional youth team. It is important to find people from all over the region for input and to help with organizing local projects.

I want to begin our work by focusing on young adults ages 18 – 26. Once we have established one age group we can then build out to include high school groups, junior high and elementary ages.

The first project I am hoping to introduce is a regional young adult retreat for people 18-26, in the spring or early summer of 2019. I am in the early stages of planning and organizing this event. If this is something you or your fraternity would be interested in working on, please contact me.

If any of you wish to contact me about anything to do with a Franciscan youth program, please do. My email is sswayngim@gmail.com. I am open to suggestions and am eager to get the Youth and Young Adult Regional Team started. I am looking forward to serving you and our region.

Blessings,

Sue Swayngim OFS, Franciscan Youth/Young Adult Animator



SISTER DEATH

| NAME | FRATERNITY | CITY, STATE | DATE |
|----------------------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Esther Corzatt OFS | St Joseph | Hays, KS | April 1, 2018 |
| Carol Eker OFS | St. Elizabeth | Leawood, KS | May 31, 2018 |
| Arnold Dean Chavez OFS | Holy Family | Tulsa, OK | August 15, 2018 |
| Lance B. Reichenberger OFS | St. Anthony | Wichita, KS | October 3, 2018 |

Please notify Judith or www.juandepadillasfo.com of the death in your fraternity.



CALENDAR EVENTS 2018 - 2019

| DATE | EVENT | Location |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| December 1, 2018 | Sacred Heart – Visitation | Emporia, KS |
| December 2, 2018 | Brother Jacoba – Visitation | Lawrence, KS |
| December 15, 2018 | St. Frances Cabrini – Visitation | Liberal, KS |
| December 25 | Christmas Day ~ Incarnation of Christ | World wide |
| January 12 2019 | Visitation – Our Lady of Sorrows @ 8 am | Prince of Peace – Olathe, KS |
| February 22-23 | Regional Council – Strategic Planning, Nomination Committee | Haskell Catholic Center, Lawrence, KS |
| April TBA 2019 | Visitation – Little Portion | St. Bridget Church – Tahlequah, OK |
| April 12, 2019 | Regional Formation Committee | Haskell Catholic Center, Lawrence, KS |
| April 13, 2019 | Regional Executive Council Meeting | Haskell Catholic Center, Lawrence, KS |
| June 7-9, 2019 | Annual Summer Gathering – Fr. Charles Smiech, OFM | Spiritual Life Center- Oklahoma City, OK |
| June 22, 2019 | Elections – Queen of the Angels | Church of the Santa Fe – Buckner, MO |
| July 12, 2019 | Regional Formation Committee | Haskell Catholic Center, Lawrence, KS |
| July 13, 2019 | Regional Executive Council Meeting | Haskell Catholic Center, Lawrence, KS |
| September 6-8, 2019 | Regional Chapter of Elections | Spiritual Life Center, Wichita, KS |



From The Bookshelf

By Susan Tabor, OFS

Waiting has always been hard for me, as I imagine it has been for others of you in my Franciscan family. I get so excited with anticipation that I can hardly wait...

But wait we must. I’ve just started a new book that holds promise for helping those of us for whom waiting is a challenge and I’m finding the book to be encouraging and refreshing! The book is called WAITING IN MINDFUL HOPE. Here is more information about the book:

The traffic jam, the long line at the drive-through, the spinning ball on the computer – in our hectic and busy lives, these times of waiting, waiting, waiting can leave us frustrated and even angry. But they don’t need to. In fact, if we look at them differently, says Martina Lehane Sheehan, these times can be daily opportunities to practice a sense of balance and self-possession.

In this wise and eloquent book, Lehane Sheehan shows us that by focusing on wakefulness, listening, discernment, heartfulness, acceptance, choosing newness, and joy, we can put frustration aside and find peace and serenity and a new sense of life. Although perfect for Advent reading, *Waiting in Mindful Hope* speaks to every season and every time. It will help deepen your connection to the Spirit who guides us all.

This book is available for purchase on Amazon.

