

June, 2020

Il Poverello

The newsletter of the SS Francis and Clare Fraternity
of the Third Order of St. Francis

Lord, help me to live this day, quietly, easily. To lean upon Thy great strength, trustfully, restfully. To wait for the unfolding of Thy will, patiently, serenely. To meet others, peacefully, joyously. To face tomorrow, confidently, courageously.
St. Francis of Assisi

www.thirdorderfranciscans.com

Volume 1, Issue 3



A Word from Bob Burtscher, TOF – Minister

I hope you and yours are staying healthy!

It is with great pleasure that I inform you that Fr. Vit Fiala, OFM, appointed the Council for our Fraternity on May 13, 2020 as follows:

Minister: Robert Burtscher, TOF Vice-Minister: Roberto Meza, TOF
Secretary: Larry McNutt, TOF Councilor: Pepe Ventosa, TOF
Master of Formation: Debbie Ventosa, TOF

Looking forward to seeing each other again, a few days later on May 17, 2020 we had our first Council meeting – while following CDC guidelines to prevent Coronavirus infection. We wore masks, sanitized our hands, and observed social distancing.

Some of the topics discussed at this first meeting include:

1. Fraternity Statutes – we voted on some items. If at any time you would like to see a draft, please let me know and I will provide a copy for you.
2. Approval of our website – by now, you should have received a few website cards in the mail. Please visit the website and use the cards to introduce others to the Third Order of St. Francis.
3. Initial and Ongoing Formation
4. Investiture Ceremony, Apostolates, and several other topics.

We look forward to meeting again in June. If at any time you have any questions or are in need of anything, please do not hesitate to contact me or any member of the Council. We are here to serve you.



Roberto Meza, Susan Kramer, Pepe Ventosa, Debbie Ventosa, Bob Burtscher, & Larry McNutt

Fraternity Council

Robert Burtscher, TOF
– Minister
Roberto Meza, TOF
– Vice-Minister
Fr. Vit Fiala, OFM
– Spiritual Director
Larry McNutt, TOF
– Secretary
Pepe Ventosa –
Councilor
Debbie Ventosa, TOF
– Formation Director
Susan Kramer, TOF
– Newsletter

IMPORTANT CHANGE!

**Next Gathering –
Sunday, June 28
1:30 PM
St. Nicholas Byzantine
Catholic Parish
1051 Robinson Ave.
Barberton, OH 44203
Bring a bagged lunch!**

Franciscan Quote of the Month



***“The devil is afraid of us when we pray and make sacrifices.
He is also afraid when we are humble and good.
He is especially afraid when we love Jesus very much.
He runs away when we make the Sign of the Cross.”***

**St. Anthony of Padua, OFM (1195-1231) – Feast Day June 13
– Priest; Doctor of the Church; Patron of: Finding Lost
Belongings, the Elderly, Brazil, Faith in the Blessed**

**Sacrament, Fishermen & Sailors, Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land, Harvests, the
Poor & Oppressed, Portugal, Pregnant & Sterile Women, the Starving, and Travelers**

Eucharistic Adoration



Sunday

Clarice DeJesus
Betty DeMarco, TOF

Monday

Rose Akins, TOF
Louise Daniel
Virgil Daniel
Judith Hoyt, TOF
Richard Russelo, TOF

Tuesday

Michael Butts, TOF
Chris Devore, TOF
LeeAnn Devore, TOF
Eileen Dunlap, TOF
Rick Dunlap, TOF
Therese Harper
Larry McNutt, TOF
Lucy McNutt, TOF
Maria Elena Meza, TOF
Roberto Meza, TOF
Cindy Russo, TOF

Wednesday

Bill Marshall, TOF
Carol Perrine, TOF
Richard Russelo, TOF

Thursday

Joanne Angeletti, TOF
Carol Perrine, TOF

Friday

Robert Burtscher, TOF
Debbie Ventosa, TOF
Pepe Ventosa, TOF

Saturday

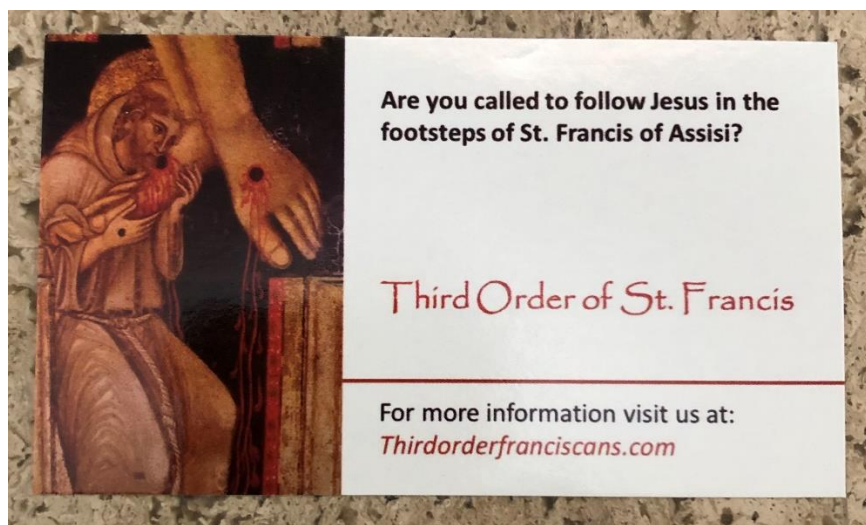
Susan Kramer, TOF

The apostolate of daily Eucharistic Adoration is VITAL to our Fraternity. It does not depend only on the 27 brothers and sisters listed above and is not only limited to one day. If you wish to take a place on the Adoration list, please contact Susan Kramer. When you find yourself at church, say a prayer of adoration to our good Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

Check Out Our New Website and Business Cards!

Our new Fraternity website is up and functioning – www.thirdorderfranciscans.com ! There you will find information about Third Order, our Fraternity, our Rule, the Constitution, Franciscan Devotions, information on the Apostolates of our Fraternity, and many other resources to strengthen your vocation and information on what we are about and how we fulfill our mission. Heartfelt thanks to Pepe Ventosa for doing the dirty work of putting it all together into such an attractive and readable website. Take a look and get acquainted – you will like what you see!

You should also have received a few fraternity business cards in the mail. Please feel free to use these to introduce others to our fraternity who may have a vocation, or who are interested in Franciscanism.



June Gathering

After much prayer, consideration of the COVID-19 restrictions, and consultation with Fr. Vit and Fr. Miron, we will hold our Gathering as on Sunday, June 28. The third Sunday of June is Father's Day, so we have delayed the Gathering a week in order that our men may be with their families on June 21. ***Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we ask that there be no visitors for the time being – and please wear your face masks.***

Council asks that everyone bring a bagged lunch and something to drink, if you wish. We will not be able to have our usual hospitality for the time being in order to abide by the safety and sanitary restrictions in place which protect us from infection. There will be coffee available. If anyone has difficulties with a bagged lunch, please contact Lucy McNutt.

We will be having the food pantry collection, so bring your donations!

Investiture News



Our Investiture will take place on Saturday, July 11 at the Shrine of Our Lady Comforter of the Afflicted in Youngstown! We will be in the company of our brothers and sisters from Our Lady of America Fraternity and St. Padre Pio Fraternity, who will also participate in this ceremony.

Professed members who have transferred from the OFS to the TOF will receive a white cord and scapular at the ceremony. The Investiture of the postulants into the novitiate will also take place at this time. This includes reception of a new habit, brown cord and scapular, the choice of a new name, the reception of a lighted candle, and enrollment in the register of the fraternity.

More details will be available at the Gathering on June 28 at St. Nicholas. If anyone needs a ride to Youngstown for the Investiture on July 11, please contact Bob Burtscher.

Prayers Needed

Richard Russelo, TOF, is recovering from a serious fall and is being cared for in Weirton, WV and Steubenville. It has been especially difficult due to the restrictions and danger of the COVID-19, since his family cannot visit him in the hospital, and extra precautions are in place because of the fear of infection. Please remember him in your prayers.

Please also remember our sister, Carol Perrine, TOF in your prayers. Carol has undergone a procedure and is awaiting the results.

Please continue to pray that Pope Francis may select good and holy bishops for both the Diocese of Cleveland and the Diocese of Youngstown. At the end of May, Bishop Murry of Youngstown asked for permission to retire, due to the recurrence of his leukemia. And this past February, Bishop Perez of Cleveland was named Archbishop of Philadelphia. Both Dioceses are now without a bishop. We await Pope Francis's decision with great hope!

Good Jesus, in Your endless Mercy, take especially good care of Richard, Carol, Bishop Murry, and all those who suffer. If it is Your will, make them healthy and strong again. In the meantime, help them to continue to suffer well for Your sake. Give them Your comfort, Your protection, and Your peace. And please, send us good bishops who love us, but who love You and Your Church even more. We ask this in Your Most Holy Name. Amen.

June Anniversaries and Birthdays

Profession Anniversaries

Michael Butts, TOF – 16 Years



Birthdays

Deacon Fred Browne, TOF – June 3

Elizabeth Francis, TOF – June 13

Susan Kramer, TOF – June 29

Get to Know Mary Dye, Formation Student – by Elizabeth Francis, TOF

Our fraternity is blessed to have Mary Dye in formation. She has been married to Tom for 41 years. They have two adult daughters and four grandchildren. Mary and Tom have moved from their home in West Akron and Fairlawn area after being in that area many years, to Northfield. You have heard that God sometimes laughs at our plans? Well, when their house was sold (much faster than expected), they had to live in a hotel for six months.

She notes that, as a retired project manager in the transportation, service and insurance industries, individuals in these fields are the most controlling type of people. Her husband calls her “the Warden” especially since they have been under the stay at home order! But she will bring her gifts of administrative and organizational skills to the fraternity.



Actually, she “retired” from a job that paid money to various other “jobs” that give love and comfort to others in times of need. Mary is probably busier now than she was then. The rewards will come in heaven. She and her husband volunteer at a Ronald McDonald House in Akron twice a month, doing what needs to be done, such as serving food and others chores. Presently she is forming a Bereavement Group at Our Lady of Fatima Parish. She also has the beautiful gift of playing the piano. Perhaps we will have an opportunity to hear the beautiful music.

Now parishioners at St. Barnabas Parish in Northfield, Mary and Tom participate in Eucharistic Adoration and are greeters. Both are active with the Padre Pio Prayer Group

in the parish that encourages the traditional practices of the Catholic Faith. There are quite a number of activities of the Padre Pio Group, and Mary is keeping busy with the some of the work: greeting people, typing, cooking and organizing. She is the custodian of the Our Lady of Fatima statue and prays the rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy during calling hours, if the family requests it.

Still Mary was seeking something more, but she didn't know what. The Holy Spirit led her through Cindy Russo, TOF, to our fraternity. "To be honest, I didn't know the TOF was an option! People who love the Lord? Wow! Cindy asked if I would be interested in the TOF. I never looked back."

Taking much needed time for themselves, Mary and Tom enjoy hiking and biking in parks. Recently they erected a bird feeder in the yard so they could start bird watching. As to be expected the squirrels and a racoon also avail themselves of the treats. It would not be surprising if there were more wild ones coming to joining the feast. St. Francis must be smiling at them. They are all God's creatures.

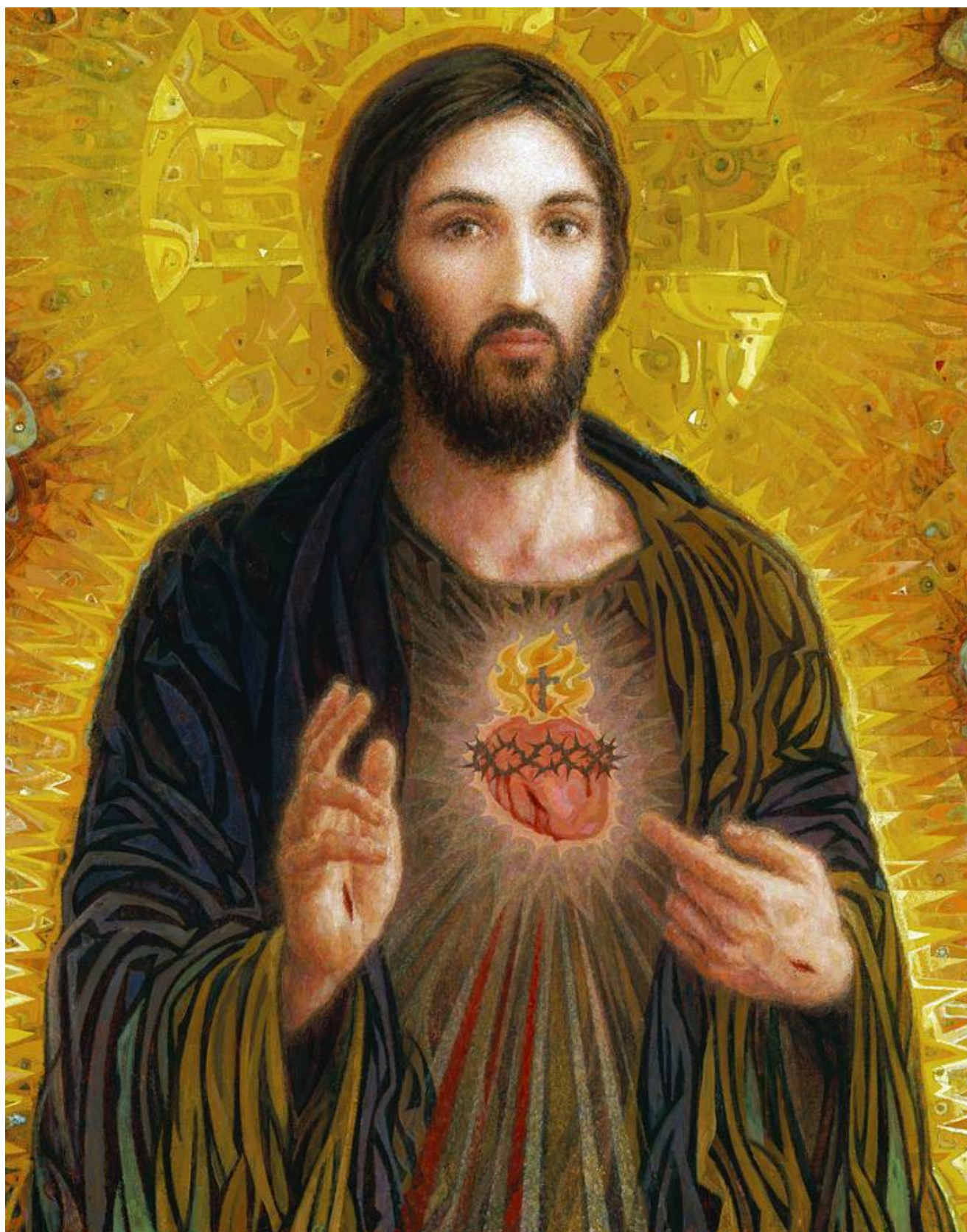
Please take time to get to know Mary when you see here at the Gathering. You will learn to appreciate the gifts she brings to the Fraternity! *(Please note Mary's photo. Her mother is looking over her shoulder, smiling. Mrs. Murphy recently passed away on August 19, and is no doubt happily watching over Mary on her journey to being professed as a Third Order Franciscan.)*

Formation News

Formation Director Debbie Ventosa has been keeping her nose to the grindstone and conducting formation classes with our students via email assignments. The students have been discussing the assignments with her and each other, and so they have been able to continue to move forward in spite of the restrictions placed on us under the COVID-19 quarantine. They are very excited to commence in-person instruction once again the first week of June. Please keep Debbie and our 11 students in your prayers!

Save the Date (June, the Month of the Sacred Heart)

June 28	Gathering at St. Nicholas, 1:30 PM
July 11	Investiture Ceremony at Our Lady Comforter of the Afflicted
August 15	Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady (Holy Day of Obligation)
August 16	Fraternity Picnic at Queen of Heaven Pavilion
September 7	Fall Hike with Fr. Vit (Labor Day Weekend)



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Do not let the past disturb you. Just leave everything in the Sacred Heart of Jesus and begin again in joy. – St. Teresa of Calcutta