

July, 2021

Volume 2, Issue 7

Il Poverello

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

*O holy Father, protect those in Your name (John 17:11) whom You have given to me
in the world; they were Yours and You have given them to me. (John 17:6)
And the words which You gave to me I have given to them...*
St. Francis of Assisi

www.thirdorderfranciscans.com



Something to Consider – Roberto Meza, TOF, Acting Minister

Having experienced the great joy of celebrating the profession of our first tertiary novices in June, I am reminded of the story of the first lay Franciscans, Blessed Luchesio and Buonadonna Modestini.

The Modestinis lived in Poggibonzi, Italy, where Luchesio was a clever and successful merchant, constantly pushing himself to gaining more riches. In the process, he earned the reputation as being particularly greedy and driven to making more money.



Around 1213, Luchesio met St. Francis and was inspired to perform various works of charity with the same zeal he approached his business, and was eventually assisted by Buonadonna. She at first was not so eager to embrace the selfless generosity of St. Francis. An encounter with a poor man begging for bread changed her heart. At Luchesio's request, she went to the cupboard for bread and found far more bread than had been there earlier. She then knew in her heart that she must commit to this new way of life.

Luchesio and Buonadonna were inspired to follow the Franciscan Rule as a married couple who lived in the world. In answer to this, St. Francis wrote a simple Rule for the Modestinis and other lay people, which was reworked by Pope Honorius III in 1221. The Modestinis died within a very short time of one another on April 28, 1260, as they had prayed for. They are worthy examples for modern Third Order Franciscans to emulate!

Ou

Fraternity Council

Roberto Meza, TOF
– Acting Minister
Fr. Vit Fiala, OFM
– Spiritual Director
Larry McNutt, TOF
– Secretary
Pepe Ventosa, TOF –
Councilor
Debbie Ventosa, TOF
– Formation Director
Mary Dye – Council Helper
Susan Kramer, TOF
– Newsletter

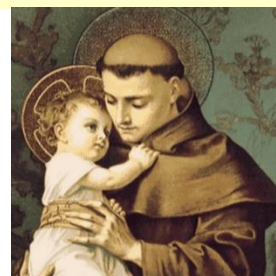
**Next Gathering –
Sunday, July 18
1:30 PM**

**St. Nicholas Byzantine
Catholic Church
1051 E. Robinson Ave.
Barberton, OH 44203**

Franciscan Quote of the Month

***“Actions speak louder than words.
Let your words speak and your actions preach.”***

St. Anthony of Padua, OFM (1195-1231) Feast Day – June 13
**Priest, Hammer of Heretics, Teacher,
Doctor of the Church**



Eucharistic Adoration



Sunday

Betty DeMarco, TOF

Monday

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

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

Bill Marshall, TOF
Jim Miller, TOF

Thursday

Joanne Angeletti, TOF

Friday

Robert Burtscher, TOF
Linda Menser, 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 26 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.

July Anniversaries and Birthdays

Profession Anniversaries

Judith Hoyt, TOF – 21 years
Debbie Ventosa, TOF – 18 years



Birthdays

Fred Kramer (Affiliate) – July 6
Deanna Hurley, OFS – July 15
Therese Harper, TOF – July 20

Stand for Life

Mike Butts, TOF and Bill Marshall, TOF will represent the fraternity July 17 for the Stand for Life. ****If you are able, we need a representative to pray on August 21 with Mary Dye, TOF.*** The following are the guidelines to keep in mind: ***Remember to use the residential parking around the corner, and not business parking or Acme's parking – you will be towed. It may be easier to pray without distractions across the street, rather than in front of the clinic. Also, be sure to remain on the sidewalk at all times. If you are unable to fulfill your commitment, find a substitute. *NEVER* go alone to the clinic – pray from home if your partner will be absent and you cannot find a substitute.***

Little Portion

The July Little Portion will be prepared by newly-professed Jim and Nettie Miller, TOF. Chris Devore, TOF will deliver it to the street people of downtown Canton after the July Gathering. **(Note: We will need someone to deliver the August Little Portion, which will be part of our meal that we share. This person should also bring containers - sandwich bags, etc. - to package the Little Portion.)**



As often as you did it for one of my least brothers, you did it for me.

The Little Portion Apostolate ministers to the street people of Canton and Akron by providing a simple meal of sandwiches, fruit, and anything individually wrapped for our brothers and sisters in Christ – usually at least 2 meals. You may also add small sized toiletries such as Purell, liquid soap, etc. Or you may want to deliver the offering. If you are interested, please see Roberto Meza, TOF.

Third Order Rule and Constitution

Contact any member of Council for hard copies of our Rule and Constitution. Both are available on our website (www.thirdorderfranciscans.com), but if you do not have computer access, Council will be happy to provide you with printed copies.

Special Feast Days for Third Order Franciscans – Pepe Ventosa, TOF

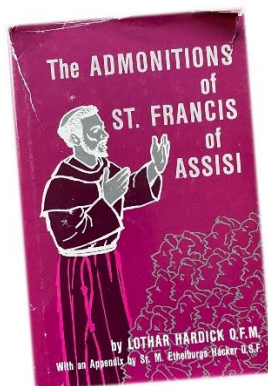
Article 3.9 from the Community of Tertiaries Statutes (found on the website under “From the Province” heading), Chapter 3, has a list of special feast days we should observe. Some of these are coming up from now until the end of the year. The Feast of the Canonization of St. Francis of Assisi, in particular, is mentioned in the Statutes, and we are encouraged to celebrate that feast. There are many ways to do that – extra prayer, lighting a candle with St. Francis’s image, attending Mass, or even creating a home shrine, etc. Please check under “Save the Date” of this newsletter to refer to these Franciscan feast days throughout the year!

If you create your own prayer corner or perhaps a table centerpiece honoring St. Francis and his canonization, please take a picture and email it to Pepe!

Virtual Admonitions

VIRTUAL STUDY

The Admonitions of St. Francis of Assisi



Spiritual classics are those rare treasures that once found, one can continue to learn something new each time we revisit the book.

Perhaps you have had an opportunity during Initial Formation to read Lothar Hardick, OFM “The Admonitions of St. Francis”. A book study of this classic will be available to all of our community members through the generous hosting, virtually, by Sandy Baden, TOF, Isolated Tertiary. Sandy will guide us through the book beginning in July, with monthly meetings of 60-90 minutes. There is no need to own a book as Sandy will provide the chapters as needed.

All interested in signing up or for additional information please contact Pepe Ventosa TOF .

It's Time for Our Annual Picnic!

August is quickly approaching, which means it is almost time for our yearly picnic! As usual, we are grateful to accept the hospitality of Fr. Dave Durkee and Queen of Heaven Parish, where we will meet at the parish pavilion on Sunday, August 15 at 1:30 PM. The parish is located at 1800 Steese Road, Uniontown, OH 44685. Also, if you want to deliver the Little Portion, bring containers for the picnic meal (sandwich bags, etc., and grocery bags to carry it all). ***Please bring your family!!!***

Food assignments are as follows, by last name initial:

A-L - Salads/Sides

M-Z - Desserts/Fruit

Council will provide chicken, drinks, and table settings. If you plan to bring something, please let Council know at the next Gathering in July. If you want to bring anything out of the assigned category, please check with Council as well (we don't want too much of a good thing – after all, we are Franciscans!)

(Note: Our brothers and sisters from Padre Pio Fraternity have graciously invited us to their picnic at the Shrine of Our Lady Comforter of the Afflicted in Youngstown on August 14, starting with Mass at Noon.)

We are having a picnic and want
you to come!

**SS. Francis and Clare
Fraternity**
2nd Annual



Date: Sunday August 15, 2021
Place: Queen of Heaven Parish
1800 Steese Road,
Uniontown, OH
Time: 1:30pm



Fall Franciscan Hike

Annual Franciscan Hike

Come and join your fellow Franciscans for a morning of hiking, prayer, ongoing formation, food and fellowship!

When: Monday September 6, 2021

Where: The Ledges Trail at Cuyahoga Valley National Park

Itinerary:

9:00 am: meet at the parking lot

9:15 am: hiking starts

11:30 am: lunch

What to bring: water bottle, sturdy shoes for hiking, bug spray. Hiking stick optional but helpful. Also optional, small mat to sit on the ground.

Note: The trail is 1.8 miles long with some steep areas. We will only hike a shorter and easier section of the trail. There are some areas with tree roots exposed and steps. It is considered an "easy" hike.

Directions: take 8 north. Take exit #10 and make a left on Seasons Rd. Go $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile and turn right Wyoga Lake Rd and then a quick right on State Rd (Akron Cleveland Rd). At the next light make a left on Truxell Rd (1.2 miles). The entrance to the Ledges is about 1 mile on the right side.

Important Please RSVP to Pepe



Word is Getting Out About the Third Order Franciscans!

Do you ever wonder who visits our website?

The picture on the right shows the number of visitors our website had over the last 4 weeks. It also shows where these visitors live. It is great to see that the Franciscan message is reaching all the way to China!

Data submitted by Pepe Ventosa, TOF

St. Gabriel the Archangel, Patron of Communications, pray for us.

WHERE ARE YOUR USERS VISITING FROM?

Users ▾ by Country



COUNTRY	USERS	
United States	175	-
Canada	8	-
United Kingdom	7	-
Philippines	5	-
India	3	-
Australia	2	-
China	2	-

Last 28 days ▾

[View countries →](#)

Profession Memories

We are so blessed by the June Profession and Investiture fraternity members, who officially became Third Order Franciscans on June 5 - Matt Poletti TOF, Mary Dye, TOF, Therese Harper, TOF, Nettie and Jim Miller, TOF, and Virgil & Louise Daniel, TOF (newly professed) – and Roberto and Maria Elena Meza, TOF, Jennifer Kerns, TOF and Julia Tarulli, TOF, who became invested in the Third Order the same day.

Our Third Order family is growing! Under the direction of Fr. Vit and Fr. Dennis (who is guiding our Isolated Tertiary formation community), our membership will hopefully continue to grow in holiness, faithfulness, and numbers. We thank God and our good St. Francis for sanctifying and interceding for us, and helping us to contend with any challenges.

Here are some memories of that beautiful day:



July Exercise Challenge

Submitted by Pepe Ventosa, TOF

Article 40 of the Constitutions reads, "*Tertiaries shall meditate on and put into practice before all else that well-known two-fold commandment of Christ: 'Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with thy whole heart and thy whole soul and thy whole mind.' This is the greatest of the commandments, and the first. And the second, like it, is this, 'Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself'.*"

In his Letter to the Faithful, St. Francis challenges us to "*love God and worship Him with a pure heart and pure mind*" (#19). In Admonition #16 he further describes what is meant by purity of heart. He tells us that "*a man is really clean of heart when he has no time for the things of this world, but is always searching for the things of heaven, never failing to keep God before his eyes and always adoring Him with a pure heart and soul*".

Would you take the July Exercise of Religion Challenge and work on the first part of the two-fold commandment of Christ, to love the Lord with your whole heart, soul and mind and worship Him with a pure heart?



UPCOMING FRANCISCAN RETREAT



Our Community of Franciscan Tertiaries have been invited to the upcoming annual retreat of the Confraternity Of Penitents (CFP).

The CFP is a canonically established private association of the faithful whose members live their Franciscan vocation by following the Rule of 1221, written for the Brothers and Sisters of Penance. They live this by following their constitutions which adapts this early Rule for living in today's society.

This would be a great opportunity to meet other followers of St. Francis called to live by an earlier Rule.

Topic: Fatima, Penance and the 800th Anniversary of the Rule of 1221 for the Laity: *How Living Our Rule Fulfills the Requests of Our Lady of Fatima*

Retreat Master: Fr. Joseph Tuscan, OFM Cap

Date: October 13-17, 2021

Place: St. Felix Retreat Center, Huntington, IN

Cost: \$195 plus either an additional \$15 or else \$15 worth of food and/or paper goods. Deposit is \$50

For more information please contact: franciscanthirdorderpenitents.com

Lord, It Is Good for Us to Be Together!

Since the Gathering for June was Profession Day, the following are a few notes from the Fraternity Council meeting for June:

1. We are hoping to keep the upcoming Gatherings within the posted time of 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM. To achieve this, we ask the following of our members:
 - a. Be ready to start on time.
 - b. Members should forward their prayer requests to Acting Minister Roberto Meza, TOF so he may present them to the community.
 - c. Continue to have our Ongoing Formation discussions during the Social Time at our tables.
 - d. Displaying Franciscan manners, to respect the wishes of those who want to mask, as well as those who no longer mask, and to provide hand sanitizer at the Gatherings.
 - e. If anyone has any concerns, suggestions, or thoughts about any of this, please see a Council member.
2. Hospitality: Beginning with the July Gathering, we will resume hospitality during the social break as we had pre-COVID. Arrangements to provide a meal for July have been made, but we hope to have volunteers for the upcoming Gatherings for the rest of the year. If you would like to help with providing a meal for our social breaks for September through November, please contact Roberto to sign up. We Franciscans aren't hard to please, and we certainly appreciate your kind contribution to our fellowship!
3. The relic of St. Angela Merici is in the custody of Jim and Nettie Miller, TOF. The St. Frances Xavier Cabrini relic is with Roberto and Maria Elena Meza, TOF. In addition, we are blessed to have been lent a statue of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini by T. O. Bennett for one year.
4. July 16 marks the date of the Canonization of St. Francis of Assisi. A fitting way to celebrate might be to light a candle with St. Francis's image, or to attend Mass, and to remember our seraphic father in prayer.

Save the Date (July, the Month of the Precious Blood of Jesus)

July 15	Feast of St. Bonaventure
July 16	Canonization of St. Francis of Assisi
July 18	Gathering at St. Nicholas Byzantine Church, 1:30 PM
August 2	Feast of Our Lady of the Angels of the Portiuncula
August 11	Feast of St. Clare of Assisi
August 14	Picnic at the Shrine in Youngstown (hosted by Padre Pio Fraternity)
August 15	Picnic at Queen of Heaven (Uniontown) Pavilion
August 25	Feast of St. Louis IX
September 6	Franciscan Hike
October 13-17	Retreat with Confraternity of Penitents (Huntington, Indiana)
November 1	Feast of All Saints (Holy Day of Obligation)
November 13	Day of Recollection

JULY

*is dedicated to the
Most Precious Blood of
Our Savior Jesus Christ*

THROUGH THE HOLY GHOST
HE OFFERED HIMSELF
WITHOUT BLEMISH
TO GOD
TO THE ONE WHO LOVED US
WHO WASHED OUR SINS
THROUGH HIS **BLOOD**
AND MADE US KINGS AND
PRIESTS OF GOD HIS FATHER
TO HIM BE GLORY AND
POWER. AMEN

facebook: Adoremus in Aeternum,
a Catholic Tradition

