

November, 2021

Volume 2, Issue 11

# Il Poverello

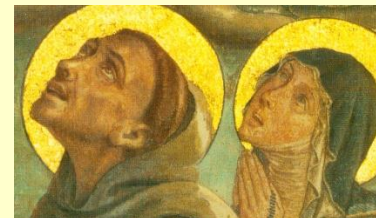
The newsletter of the SS Francis and Clare Fraternity  
of the Third Order of St. Francis

*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](http://www.thirdorderfranciscans.com)



## Something to Consider

November is the month we are reminded to study the example of the holy saints of our Church, who come from all over the world and are every kind of personality and trade – patient, testy, kind, cranky, soldiers, peacemakers, teachers, students, those in Holy Orders, and the laity – and so many more. The one thing we all have in common with them and they with each other is love for Jesus and obedience to His Church – at least, eventually!

The Patroness of the Third Order of St. Francis is St. Elizabeth of Hungary. Elizabeth was betrothed in infancy to King Louis IV, at whose court she was brought up.

St. Elizabeth joined the Third Order of St. Francis following the death of her husband, King Louis IV, who succumbed to the plague. Elizabeth, no longer caring for her position or wealth, took refuge with her uncle. She built a hospital for the poor and sick and served them the rest of her life.



For the TOF, a Plenary Indulgence on November 17, St. Elizabeth's Feast Day, is available for the TOF who receives the Sacrament of the Eucharist, and conditions outlined in our Constitutions.

All of the saints had their own story. Some were martyrs, some were lay people, some were Popes, religious, priests or sisters. Some just got through the day doing the best they could right where God planted them, while maintaining heroic virtue, like St. Therese of Lisieux and Sts. Jacinta and Francisco Marto.

There is the potential and expectation for all of us to become saints. Habitual, regular Confession and daily Mass are excellent habits to attain holiness. We may not be put in dangerous situations, like war or persecution, or live in dramatic times that call for us to defend Jesus and our Faith, but we, too, can become saints with persistence in virtue, the grace of God, and the determination to serve Jesus and avoid sin – every day.

*St. Elizabeth of Hungary, pray for us!*

## Fraternity Council

Roberto Meza, TOF  
– Minister

Fr. Vit Fiala, OFM  
– Spiritual Director

James Miller, TOF –  
Vice-Minister

Mary Dye, TOF – Secretary  
Therese Harper, TOF –  
Treasurer

Virgil Daniel, TOF –  
Councillor

Chris Devore, TOF –  
Councillor

Pepe Ventosa, TOF –  
Councillor

Debbie Ventosa, TOF  
– Formation Director  
Susan Kramer, TOF  
– Newsletter

**Next Gathering –**

**Saturday, November 13 @ 8:30 AM**

**Our Lady Comforter of the  
Afflicted Shrine**

**517 S. Belle Vista Ave.  
Youngstown, OH 44509**

## Franciscan Quote of the Month

*"God wants you to be in the world, but so different  
from the world that you will change it. Get cracking."*

**Mother Angelica, PCPA (Rita Rizzo) (1923-2016)**

**Poor Clare of Perpetual Adoration, Founder of EWTN,  
Television and Radio Personality, Writer, Publisher, Broadcaster**



## Eucharistic Adoration



### Sunday

Betty DeMarco, TOF

### Monday

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

Mary Dye, TOF  
Judith Inglesby, TOF  
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 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.*

## November Anniversaries and Birthdays

### Profession Anniversaries

Jennifer Kerns, TOF – 4 Years  
Mary Cate Roberts, TOF – 32 Years

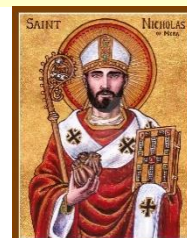


### Birthdays

Carol Perrine, TOF – 11/9

## St. Nicholas Day of Appreciation

St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Parish, our fraternity home for many years, will celebrate a Day of Appreciation for Fr. Miron Kerul-Kmec, their beloved pastor. Fr. Miron and the parish have been very welcoming to our fraternity, and Father takes a pastoral interest in our activities. Our fraternity includes 3 of his parishioners – Joanne Angeletti, TOF, and Virgil and Louise Daniel, TOF. We plan to present Father with a card on behalf of the fraternity to thank him for his support and kindness. God bless Fr. Kerul-Kmec!



## Stand for Life



We have no one scheduled for the Stand for Life in November and December, since the weather is usually cold and bitter. If you feel called to represent the fraternity the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month, please contact Roberto Meza. 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.**

## Hospitality and Little Portion

Since our November Gathering will be held in Youngstown for the Day of Recollection on November 13, the Hospitality will be handled by our brothers and sisters of the Padre Pio Fraternity. If you plan to attend, please contact Mary Dye, TOF as soon as possible. We ask for a \$10 donation to go toward food.



There will be no Little Portion in November because we will be in Youngstown.

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

The Little Portion Apostolate ministers to the homeless and 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, religious articles, disposable razors, etc. As the weather cools, tube socks are very useful. Or you may want to deliver the offering. If you are interested, please see Roberto Meza, TOF.

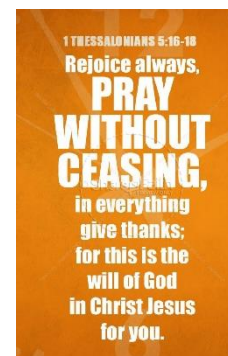
## Fraternity Statutes

Council continues to work on our fraternity statutes. Anyone interested to see what we have done so far can ask a Council member for a copy of the draft.

## Eucharistic Adoration and Daily Prayer

Council asks those of us who participate in Eucharistic Adoration – and the rest of our fraternity – to remember the following intentions every day when we pray:

1. The spiritual protection of our fraternity and of all our members.
2. Those in our fraternity who are sick, and their families.
3. Pope Francis and his intentions.
4. Our bishops: Bishop David Bonnar of the Diocese of Youngstown, Bishop Milan Lach of the Eparchy of Parma, and Bishop Edward Malesic, JCL of the Diocese of Cleveland.
5. The Friars of the Immaculate Conception Province of the OFM, particularly Fr. Vit Fiala, OFM, Fr. Dennis Arambasick, OFM, and Fr. Robert Campagna, OFM, who is the Provincial Friar.
6. Our beloved pastors and parish priests, and our parishes, including Fr. Miron Kerul-Kmec, who hosts our fraternity every month. We also pray for Fr. Daniel Dozier, TOF, an Isolated Tertiary



who is the pastor of St. George Byzantine Parish in Olympia, Washington, as well as a professor at SS. Cyril and Methodius Byzantine Seminary.

7. Fr. Gastor Temu Bahati, the newly-ordained priest of the Diocese of Moshi, whom we have spiritually supported for several years.
8. Frater Francis Tumaini of the Diocese of Moshi, who is the new seminarian we have adopted.
9. All the seminarians of St. Mary Seminary and Borromeo Seminary in Cleveland, which serves the Youngstown and Cleveland Dioceses, as well as the seminarians of SS. Cyril and Methodius Byzantine Seminary, which serves the Eparchy of Parma. Council has also decided to spiritually adopt a seminarian from Stark County (Arthur Bodenschatz, Christ the Servant Parish in Canton), from Summit County (Jonathan Green, Holy Family Parish in Stow), and from Capuchin Formation (Christopher Klobuchir). Many thanks to Chris Devore, TOF and Fr. Michael McCandless from the Cleveland Diocese Vocations Office for seminarian nominations!

That's a lot! But it is part of our holy Franciscan vocation to prayerfully support our fellow Franciscans, the Pope, our bishops, our priests, and seminarians. We have no Order without faithful Franciscans, no priests without our seminarians, no Eucharist without our priests, and no Church without the Eucharist. All these individuals on the list sacrifice daily for us, and the very least we can do is to pray for them!

### ***Day of Recollection***

Our annual Day of Recollection will take place Saturday, November 13 at Our Lady Comforter of the Afflicted Shrine in Youngstown. Our day will include lessons from Fr. Vit, the opportunity for Confession, Adoration, Mass, and fellowship with our Franciscan brothers and sisters from Padre Pio and Our Lady of America fraternities. Three of our postulants will also enter the novitiate – Kathy McCausland, Jesse Kuhn, and Denise Williams, and they will be officially greeted to the novitiate by Fr. Vit. They will receive their new habits at this time, which will consist of a brown cord, scapular, and candle.

We will feature something new this year! We have engaged a student from Walsh University to videorecord Fr. Vit's talks, Mass homily, and the Investiture. If you cannot attend in person, or if you want to review teachings of the day, the recording will be available on our website, [www.thirdorderfranciscans.com](http://www.thirdorderfranciscans.com), shortly after November 13.

If you plan to attend, please let Mary Dye, TOF know as soon as possible so we can have a headcount. We are asking for a \$10 donation to cover the cost of food. If you would like to carpool and cannot connect with anyone, please let someone on Council know and we will find a ride for you. Or, if you can offer a ride to a fellow Franciscan, let Council know, and God bless you for your generosity!





## Monastic Principles in the Spiritual Life of the Franciscan Tertiary

### Day of Recollection

#### Franciscan Tertiaries of the Province of the Immaculate Conception

Talk #1: The Monk: *Monasticism as a way to Perfection*

Talk #2: The Franciscan Tertiary: *Interior Monasticism as a way to Perfection*

**When:** November 13, 2021

**Speaker:** Fr. Vit Fiala, OFM

**Place:** Shrine of Our Lady Comforter of the Afflicted  
Youngstown, OH

**Time:** 8:45 AM

### ***Lord, It Is Good for Us to Be Together!***

We met for our Gathering on October 17 at St. Nicholas Byzantine Church. We had 30 in attendance, including Formation Students Jesse Kuhn, Kathy McCausland and her family, and Denise Williams, as well as Fred Kramer and Fr. Vit. We were also blessed to welcome Ms. T. O. Bennett of WILB Radio, who is also the coordinator of vocations in the USA for the Diocese of Moshi, Tanzania. Nettie Miller, TOF, Larry McNutt, TOF, and Debbie Ventosa, TOF were present virtually as well.

Our Minister, Roberto Meza, TOF, asks for us to let Mary Dye, TOF, know as soon as possible if you plan to attend the Day of Recollection, which will take place on Saturday, November 13 at the Shrine in Youngstown. This will also serve as our November Gathering.

Roberto then led us in the Ritual Prayer to start the Gathering.

Kenny Green, TOF led the Liturgy of the Hours, assisted by Eileen Dunlap, TOF and Bill Marshall, TOF.

We then moved on to Lectio Divina, which was proclaimed by Pepe Ventosa, TOF. The Gospel of the day was from St. Mark, Chapter 10. We paired off and discussed what message Jesus spoke to us, and prayed with our partners.

Ongoing Formation was next, led by Susan Kramer, TOF. The topic was Article 39 of the Constitution, which addressed Franciscans not being perfect, but how we can change our lives to please God, and how He offers us help and encouragement. The discussion questions were: How has your life changed

since you became a Franciscan? And, What can you do to change the world by your decisions and actions in accord with Catholic and Franciscan teaching?

Then it was time for our lunch break, which was prepared by Bob Burtscher, TOF, with the help of other fraternity members. We discussed the Ongoing Formation questions while we got caught up with one another.

Infirmarian Maria Elena Meza, TOF updated us on various fraternity members who have been ill and housebound. Annie Butts is recovering at home from pneumonia, while her husband, Mike, TOF is recovering from complications of emergency kidney stone surgery. He was hospitalized in Cleveland, but has been released. Both are slowly recovering. Sandy Pollino, OFS had a fall and would very much appreciate our prayers. Elizabeth Francis, TOF is managing well under the circumstances and thanks us for keeping her in prayer. Pat and Deanna Hurley, OFS are coping. Pat's cancer is in remission, thankfully. Bill Marshall, TOF, asks us to pray for his health concerns, which include severe headaches.

Roberto mentioned that Council needs to appoint a Formation Director and Assistant Formation Director, since our community is steadily growing locally and among the Isolated Tertiaries, thanks be to God! If anyone wants to be considered for either position, or to nominate another professed Third Order Franciscan, please notify Roberto or anyone on Council.

We then discussed the Day of Recollection a bit, and encouraged everyone in the fraternity to attend, which will include the ceremony of establishing the fraternity and of welcoming postulants into the novitiate. The Certificate of Canonical Approval has already been signed by Bishop David Bonnar of the Diocese of Youngstown, but still needs the signature of Bishop Edward Malesic of Cleveland. Fr. Vit will arrange for an appointment with His Excellency for that purpose.

Our fraternity will sponsor Frater Francis Tumaini of the Diocese of Moshi, Tanzania. Frater Francis's last name means "hope" in Swahili, and of course, his first name honors our good St. Francis. He is 21, and with the grace of God, will be Ordained in 2029. Many thanks to T. O. Bennett for selecting Frater Francis for us!

There will be no Little Portion in November because we will be in Youngstown for the Day of Recollection.

Mary Dye, TOF is scheduling the Stand for Life and Little Portion for 2022. If you are willing to assist in these apostolates, please contact her.

There will be no Hospitality for November since we will be in Youngstown. Our December Gathering will celebrate Christmas. As usual, Council will arrange for chicken and soft drinks. Those whose last names begin with A through L are assigned to bring salads or side dishes. Those whose last names begin with M through Z are asked to bring fruit or a dessert.

The fraternity relics will be on loan for 2 months. If you are interested in taking custody of a relic, please see Roberto. Currently, Bob Burtscher, TOF has custody of the relic of St. Angela Merici. We have also been loaned a statue of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini.

The food pantry collection went to St. Barnabas, Northfield, with Mary Dye, TOF delivering it.

We then prayed as a community. We asked God to bless our country and prayed that it embraces the right to life, born and unborn, womb to tomb. We prayed for vocations to the priesthood and religious life, and specifically for our parish priests, the priests of the Immaculate Conception Province of the OFM and their Provincial Minister, Fr Robert Campagna, OFM, Bishop Bonnar of Youngstown, Bishop Malesic of Cleveland, and Bishop Lach of the Eparchy of Parma. We included Frater Francis Tumaini, and the seminarians of the Dioceses of Cleveland and Youngstown, as well as the seminarians of the Eparchy of Parma.

We prayed also for our fraternity, and for God to bless us with more vocations, the physical and spiritual protection of our fraternity members, for our new Council, for those in discernment, Pope Francis, Fr. Gastor Bahati, a return to public morality, Fr. Miron Kerul-Kmec and family, and for a good and holy bishop for the Diocese of Columbus, since Bishop Brennan has been transferred to the Diocese of Brooklyn, NY.

Fr. Vit spoke on the wisdom of God, which comes from the Holy Spirit. Wisdom of the world comes from rulers. They almost always do not consider the spirit of God, or there would be no issues in defiance of God, i.e., abortion, war, etc. We must distinguish between the spirit and wisdom of God and that of the world. Discern God's truth. Our reason is darkened by Original Sin. Which is why we need the wisdom offered by God. We must never use Scripture to support worldly ideas. Freedom and free will can be the cause of sin.

Ms. T. O. Bennett then favored us with a video of Fr. Gastor Bahati's very beautiful Ordination and the celebration that followed in Moshi, Tanzania. The cathedral was ringing with joyful music and thanks to God from every pew, which was packed with priests, seminarians, families, choir members, and other members of the Catholic community. The party afterward was also a blessing to watch, and we saw Fr. Gastor tasting the roasted goat, and the dancing of the guests. The video included warm greetings from our new adopted seminarian, Frater Francis Tumaini, who generously promises to pray for us daily!

We ended our Gathering with a blessing from Fr. Vit, and the reminder that our next Gathering is Saturday, November 13 at the Shrine in Youngstown, starting at 8:45 AM.

### **Save the Date (November, the Month of the Poor Souls in Purgatory)**

November 13	Day of Recollection ( <i>Our Lady Comforter of the Afflicted Shrine, Youngstown, 8:45 AM</i> )
November 25	Thanksgiving
December 8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, Patroness of the United States
December 12	Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of North and South America, and Mexico
December 19	December Gathering, St. Nicholas Byzantine Church, 1:30 PM
December 25	Christmas Day, the Feast of the Birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ
December 30	Feast of the Holy Family
January 1	Feast of Mary, Mother of God (Theotokos)



"I believe in the sun even  
when it is not shining. I  
believe in love even when  
I cannot feel it. I believe  
in God even when He is  
silent."  
(written on a wall during the Holocaust)