

March, 2022

Volume 3, Issue 3

Il Poverello

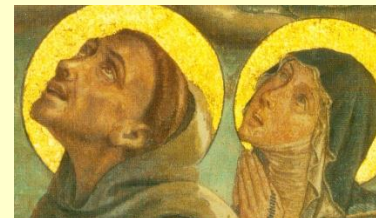
The newsletter of the SS Francis and Clare Fraternity
of the Third Order of St. Francis

*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

On Ash Wednesday, Pope Francis asked Catholics and non-believers to pray and fast for worldwide peace, particularly in Ukraine, and for the safety of its suffering people. He has sent two cardinals to Ukraine to assess the situation and to assist in humanitarian efforts to relieve suffering. As we begin our Lenten season, it may put things into perspective to meditate on the wise words of Pope Francis on Lent:



Do you want to fast this Lent?

- *Fast from hurting words and say kind words.*
- *Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.*
- *Fast from anger and be filled with patience.*
- *Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.*
- *Fast from worries and trust in God.*
- *Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.*
- *Fast from pressures and be prayerful.*
- *Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy.*
- *Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.*
- *Fast from grudges and be reconciled.*
- *Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.*

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 –
Councilor

Chris Devore, TOF –
Councilor

Pepe Ventosa, TOF –
Councilor

Debbie Ventosa, TOF
– Formation Director

Susan Kramer, TOF
– Newsletter

Next Gathering –

Sunday, March 20 @ 1:30 PM

St. Nicholas Byzantine Church

1051 Robinson Ave.

Barberton, OH 44203

Franciscan Quote of the Month



*"If you suffer with Him, you will reign with Him. If you cry with Him, you will find joy
with Him. If you die with Him on the Cross of tribulation,
you will possess the eternal dwelling place in the splendor of the saints.
And your name, written in the Book of Life, will be glorious among men."*

St. Clare of Assisi (1194-1253) – Feast Day August 11

Founder of the Poor Clares, Defender of the Blessed Sacrament

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
Maria Elena Meza, TOF
Roberto Meza, TOF
Carol Perrine, TOF
Cindy Russo, TOF

Wednesday
Mary Dye, TOF
Bill Marshall, TOF
Jim Miller, TOF

Thursday
Joanne Angeletti, 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 25 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.*

March Anniversaries and Birthdays

Profession Anniversaries

None this month!



Birthdays

Joanne Angeletti, TOF – 3/4
LeeAnn Devore, TOF –
3/24
Judith Hoyt, TOF – 3/29

Fraternity By-Laws

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

Stand for Life



Rose Akins, TOF and Therese Harper, TOF are scheduled for the Stand for Life on March 19. 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 always remain on the sidewalk. 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

Fred and Susan Kramer, TOF will provide our luncheon hospitality at our next Gathering on March 20. If you would like to assist, please contact one of these members to see what is needed.

Joanne Angeletti, TOF will prepare the March Little Portion, and Chris and LeeAnn Devore, TOF, will deliver it. For the April Gathering, Mary Cate Roberts, TOF is scheduled for the meal, but will need assistance. Please contact her if you can help. Mary Dye, TOF will prepare the April Little Portion, and Bill Marshall, TOF will deliver it. Thank you for your kindness!



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 Mary Dye, TOF.

Request and Reminder from Council

Please check the Fraternity roster, which was distributed at the December Gathering. Be sure that Council has your correct contact and personal information. There will need to be revisions made shortly, and Council wants to be sure the roster is perfectly accurate.

Also, please take the time to check on your group email lists. A yearly update is recommended, since our membership is fluid. Messages on email concerning our fraternity should **only** be sent to our current fraternity members.

If you have prayer requests that you wish to share with our fraternity, please contact Rick Dunlap, TOF with the request, and he will send out a blanket email to our fraternity members.

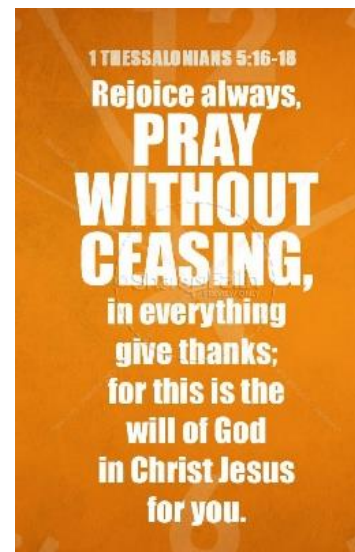
Council very much appreciates your cooperation and assistance with keeping our contact information updated, and with following the guidelines for blanket emails to our fraternity!

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 you 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, SJ** 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 Minister.
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,** a 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 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. Our fraternity has spiritually adopted a seminarian from Stark County (**Arthur Bodenschatz,** Christ the Servant Parish in Canton), from Summit County (**Joseph Rohan,** St. Joseph Parish in Cuyahoga Falls), and from Capuchin Formation (**Christopher Klobuchir**).



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!

A Message from Fr. Gastor Bahati, Diocese of Moshi, Tanzania

From his seminary years to present, our fraternity has spiritually supported Fr. Gastor Bahati, who was joyfully Ordained last year. We continue to offer prayers for him and his vocation daily. This is a message from Father, received by Susan Kramer, TOF:

Dear and Beloved Mama Susan and my dear Friends,

Heartfelt Greetings from the Bottom of me, my Mother and from the Bishop's House - Moshi Tanzania.

It is my believe that, with the Grace of God you are greatly doing well, and enjoying your mission and your daily endeavors. I am also grateful to God for His Love to us and his protection. We continual asking Him to grant us peace especially to our brothers and sisters in Ukraine and Russia who are in most need this time around.

I wish you all the best in this holy season, Lenten season. Let it be a good moment, good time to reflect on our actions, our trueness, so that we may always do better, and our prayers, fasting and almsgiving really bestow on us the fruits of Paschal Mystery.

Wishing you God's Choicest Blessings in this Lenten season, I remain,

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Fr. Gastor Bahati

Lord, It Is Good for Us to Be Together!

We met for the February 20 Gathering at St. Nicholas Byzantine Parish. We had 33 in attendance and were blessed to welcome several visitors: Jess and little Caroline Poletti (7 months old already!), John Gough, Linda Horst, Fred Kramer, Annie Butts, Father Vit, and Brother Max (Joanne Angeletti's Yorkie).

We prayed the Daytime Prayer of the Liturgy of the Hours, led by Kenny Green, TOF, Bill Marshall, TOF, and Debbie Ventosa, TOF.

Debbie Ventosa, TOF led us in Lectio Divina. Debbie read the Gospel of the day from St. Luke ("love your enemies and do good to them" and "be merciful"). As always, we paired up and discussed how God spoke to us in this reading and prayed together.

A delicious luncheon meal was prepared by Bill Marshall, TOF, Nettie Miller, TOF, and Debbie Ventosa, TOF, including chili, cobb salad, vegetable soup, and various other tasty snacks.

Joanne Angeletti, TOF, who regularly volunteers with Embrace, talked to us and spoke about the mothers, fathers and families in need and at-risk pregnant women. Embrace offers counselling, educates about faithful alternatives to abortion, and offers parenting lessons and support for fathers in addition to support for those in dire need. Our members donated items for use in this ministry, including diapers, infant to toddler clothing, food and baby formula, baby wipes, ointments and creams, and money, which Embrace will put to good use.

Maria Elena Meza, TOF then offered the Infirmarian Report. Judith Hoyt, TOF has been in contact with Sandy Pollino, OFS. Sandy is recovering and making progress with her health challenges. Her daughter, Dr. Noelle, is nearly ready to deliver her second child. Judith also spoke to Dorothy Takacs, OFS, who remains cheerful. Both are in need of our prayers. Bob Burtscher, TOF spoke to Elizabeth Francis, TOF, who says her brother is staying with her. She is upbeat, and is volunteering at Robinson Memorial Hospital and attending Mass at her parish. Bob has not heard from Pat and Deanna Hurley, OFS.

Debbie Ventosa, TOF was next with the Formation Report. Our two local Formation students, Jesse Kuhn and Denise Williams, meet for regular meetings twice monthly. They are studying the Catechism of the Third Order Franciscans and the Admonitions of St. Francis. At this point, they are halfway through Formation! Rose Akins, TOF is assisting with Formation, and Debbie very much appreciates Rose's steady and dependable efforts. All fraternity members are welcome to attend Formation.

In news from the Isolated Tertiaries, Pepe Ventosa, TOF reports Tertiaries from California, Washington State, Texas, Florida, and Australia! The steady growth of our Isolated Tertiaries is surely the work of the Holy Spirit and our good St. Francis, and it is very encouraging to us all. After all, St. Francis started with only a few loyal brothers in a small village in Italy, and in a few years the Franciscans spread all over Italy, then Europe, and eventually worldwide!

Roberto Meza, TOF and Pepe Ventosa, TOF stressed to our membership the need to update our email groups on a regular basis. Emails intended for our membership should be for our fraternity

membership and not for friends who are not members of our fraternity.

Roberto then gave us information about our upcoming community pilgrimage, which will take place on May 21. Along with the members of Our Lady of America fraternity and St. Padre Pio fraternity, we will visit at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Windsor, Ohio, which is in Ashtabula County. Together with our Third Order Franciscan brothers and sisters, we will pray the Rosary on the Shrine grounds, and attend Mass in the Shrine Chapel, which Roberto has reserved for Mass. Fr. Ryan Furlong, TOF from St. Padre Pio fraternity will be attending and will offer the Mass. See the flyer included in the newsletter for updated information.

There will be a funeral for our late brother, Richard Russelo, TOF who died during the COVID pandemic. The border was closed to Richard's Canadian family until recently, and Richard's wife, Judy, decided to delay the funeral until they could attend. Please let Council know if you plan to attend by the March Gathering. If it is feasible, we may arrange to carpool to Steubenville for the funeral.

Sixty New Testaments in English were purchased from St. Raphael Bookstore with the assistance of Betty DeMarco, TOF. Pepe Ventosa, TOF will deliver them to an Ohio Corrections facility. The New Testaments are pocket-sized so the prisoners can carry them in their uniforms.

Father Vit then offered us Ongoing Formation. Jesus established His authority over the Prophets (Moses, Abraham, etc.) He did this for the benefit of the Jews, who followed the Torah. Jesus was accepted as a teacher and rabbi. He proved Himself as a teacher and rabbi in the story of the adulteress. The Jews waited to catch her in the act in order to see how He reacted, and if He followed the Judaic Law.

The ritual of the Mass echoes and reenacts the Last Supper. Other rituals of the Church come to us from Jesus's time and are celebrated to this day.

The Torah was written for a nation, while Jesus's teaching was meant for the individual. Never lose sight of God even in the midst of evil. The teaching of Jesus is about self-sacrifice, trust, and faith.

Father said we must *NEVER* name our Guardian Angel. It has become common for individuals to try to discern the name of their Guardian Angel. Our Guardian Angel is not for us to name, it is for God to do so. We must only refer to our Guardian Angel as simply "Guardian Angel".

The pillars of spiritual strength and growth are: 1) the faithful and frequent reception of the Sacraments; 2) prayer; 3) practicing the virtues; and 4) meritorious work for the glory and love of God while in a State of Grace.

Roberto announced our certificate of canonical establishment will be displayed on our website. We thank God for this honor and blessing.

We concluded our Gathering by praying for all those we have promised to pray for, including the Pope, our bishops and beloved parish priests, the friars of the Immaculate Conception Province of the OFM, Fr. Robert Campagna, OFM, Fr. Vit Fiala, OFM, Fr. Dennis Arambasick, OFM, Fr. Daniel Dozier, TOF, Fr. Miron Kerul-Kmec, Fr. Gastor Bahati, all the seminarians of the Cleveland and Youngstown

Dioceses and of the Eparchy of Parma, and of the Diocese of Moshi, and the seminarians we have spiritually adopted – Frater Francis Tumaini, Arthur Bodenschatz of the Youngstown Diocese, and Joseph Rohan of the Cleveland Diocese. We also prayed for our members and our families, our country and its leadership, and all our personal intentions.

Roberto reminded us that we will meet again on Sunday, March 20 at 1:30 PM at St. Nicholas Byzantine Parish. God bless and protect all of us!

Save the Date (March, the Month of St. Joseph)

April 15	Good Friday (Day of Fast & Abstinence)
April 17	Easter Sunday
May 15	May Gathering (St. Nicholas Byzantine Church, 1:30 PM)
May 21	Annual TOF Community Pilgrimage: Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine in Windsor (Servants of Mary Center)
September 5	Annual Franciscan Hike at Cuyahoga Valley National Park (<i>details upcoming!</i>)

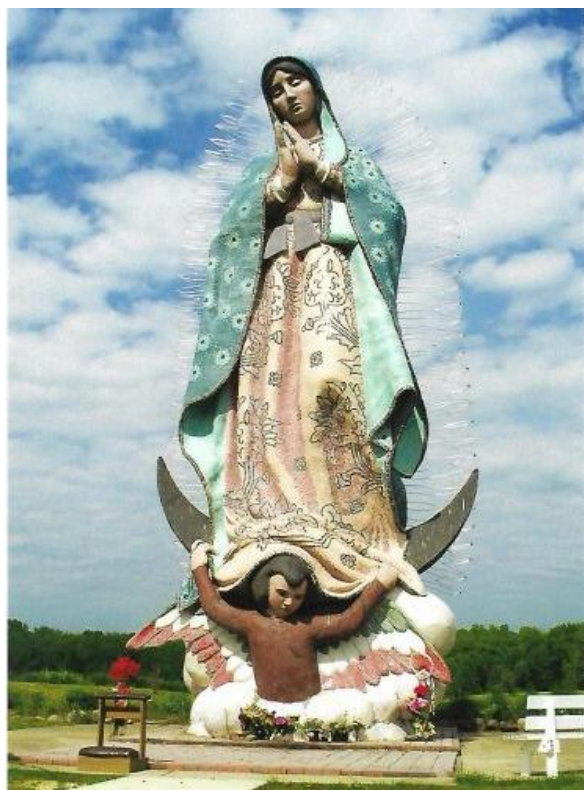
Memorare to St. Joseph

Remember, O most chaste spouse of the Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who implored your help and sought your intercession was left unassisted.

Full of confidence in your power, I fly unto you and beg your protection.

Despise not, O Guardian of the Redeemer, my humble supplication, but in your bounty, hear and answer me. Amen.





1st Annual Pilgrimage

Franciscan Tertiaries
of the
Immaculate Conception
Province

SERVANTS OF MARY CENTER FOR PEACE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Home of the world's largest statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Date: Saturday May 21, 2022

Place: Servants of Mary Center for Peace & Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe
6601 Ireland Rd, Windsor, OH

Time: 10:30 AM to 2:00 PM

Mass Celebrant: Fr. Ryan Furlong, TOF

Lunch: Mary Yoder's Amish Kitchen, Middlefield, OH

Carpooling sites:

- 1- St. Nicholas Byzantine Church, Barberton (1 ½ hrs): departs at 8:30 AM
RSVP: Virgil Daniel, Tel: 440-292-6984
- 2- Hartville Kitchen, Hartville (1 ½ hrs): departs at 8:30am
RSVP: Jim Miller, Tel: 330-353-0579
- 3- Shrine of Our Lady Comforter of the Afflicted (1 hr): departs at 9:00 AM
RSVP: Pat Cuttica, TOF, Tel: 330-720-1546
- 4- St. Joseph Catholic Church, Jefferson, OH (30 mins): departs 9:30 AM
RSVP: Julianne Pertz, TOF, Tel: 219-978-3373

What to bring: a rosary, lunch money (please contact your minister if the cost may be a burden), umbrella if needed, comfortable shoes and your Franciscan joy.