

November, 2022

Volume 3, 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



Something to Consider

What a wonderful example and powerful intercessors we have in our heavenly family,, the Church Triumphant! The saints who have gone before us and who have been rewarded with eternal life are not only inspirational examples, but also a link to Heaven.

Since God promises His faithful children eternal life, why shouldn't we ask those who go before us to pray for us, just as we would ask a friend here on earth to do the same? And some saints eagerly asked God to permit them to continue their ministry to others and serve Him even as they entered heaven. St. Therese of Lisieux, the beloved Carmelite of the Little Way, was a powerful intercessor for people she never met in her cloistered convent life, and she continues to intercede for us as she requested of Jesus, leaving encouragement and hope in her path.

We look to the Saints and Blesseds as examples of lives well-lived. They also give hope to those who think they have made a mess of their lives. For example, could anyone who knew St. Paul or St. Augustine as young men ever have imagined them to be among the greatest saints of the Church?!

When we were Baptized, we were given carefully selected names, to guide us in life. At Confirmation, we took the name of a saint who inspired us. And when we professed our Franciscan vocations, we selected a Franciscan to emulate, and to guard and guide us. And of course, our good St. Francis loves and includes us in his worldwide Franciscan family. We are fortunate, indeed!

So, remember to thank and honor the holy family who loves us in heaven! By the grace of God, may we join them someday!

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 12 @ 8:45 AM

**Our Lady Comforter of the
Afflicted**

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

Catholic Quote of the Month

***"Let go of your plans. The first hour of your morning belongs to God.
Tackle the day's work that He charges you with and
He will give you the power to accomplish it."***

**St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (1891-1942) Feast Day August 9
Scholar, Educator, Convert to Catholicism, Discalced Carmelite Sister, Martyr,
and One of the Six Patron Saints of Europe**



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
Denise Williams

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 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.*

November Anniversaries and Birthdays

Profession Anniversaries

Jennifer Kerns, TOF – 5 Years

Mary Cate Roberts, TOF – 31 Years



Birthdays

Jesse Kuhn – November 2

Carol Perrine, TOF –
November 9

Stand for Life



There is no one scheduled for the Stand for Life for the months of November, December and January due to the bitter weather. If you choose to witness to the Church's teaching on life by praying at the abortion clinic, don't forget our rules for your own safety. **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. Be sure to always remain on the sidewalk. If you cannot 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

We will be enjoying the hospitality of the St. Padre Pio Fraternity in Youngstown since the Day of Recollection will serve as our November Gathering. If you have not made reservations, please contact Mary Dye, TOF ASAP so we can keep a headcount, and bring \$12 to Therese Harper, TOF to cover the cost. There will be no Little Portion for November, since we will be in Youngstown that day.



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. Tube socks are always very useful. Or you may want to deliver the offering. If you are interested, please see Mary Dye, TOF.

Roster Updates

We are updating our fraternity roster so that it is ready to release to everyone by the turn of the year. Please check your email soon for a copy of the current roster, and carefully check the information we have for you. If anything has changed or is incorrect, contact Susan Kramer with the correct information.

There will be hard copies of the current roster available for those who do not have computer access.

Any time your contact information changes, please remember to let Council know. Thank you for your help!!!

Profession Day is Almost Here! – Submitted by Debbie Ventosa, TOF

What a joyous day we will have on Saturday the 12th as we celebrate the Holy Profession into the Third Order of St. Francis of Denise Williams and Jesse Kuhn! They have been studious and prayerful in their discernment of this way of life and will be a blessing to our community. You will find Jessie as a humble and prayerful young man with a heart for Eucharistic Adoration. Jesse taught us that learns everything he needs at Eucharistic Adoration. Jesse chose St. Joseph Cupertino as his patron.

Denise is a studious student of the Franciscan path to holiness. She is a kind and engaging woman with a love of Holy Mother Church and Our Lord and Our Lady. Denise is a blessing with her gentle and charitable presence. Let's keep them and their sponsors, Virgil Daniel, TOF and Joanne Angeletti, TOF in prayer as they prepare for this sacred event.

Day of Recollection – Submitted by Pepe Ventosa, TOF

Our annual Day of Recollection will take place Saturday, November 12, 2022. The topic this year will be, "Answering Your Questions on Spiritual Life". We will have a question-and-answer format, with Fr. Vit answering our questions on the spiritual life.

We are collecting questions to present to Fr. Vit. If you have any questions, please send them to Pepe at TOF@thirdorderfranciscans.com. The questions will be selected from those received. See the flyer for more information.

Hope you can join us!



Answering Your Questions on Spiritual Life With Fr. Vit Fiala, OFM

Day of Recollection

Franciscan Tertiaries of the Province of the Immaculate Conception

When: November 12, 2022

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

Speaker: Fr. Vit Fiala, OFM

Time: 8:45 AM

Franciscan Retreat, October 26-30 – Submitted by Virgil Daniel, TOF



Eight members of our Fraternity traveled to Huntington, Indiana, for a Franciscan Retreat hosted by the Confraternity of Penitents, a lay Franciscan group that seeks to live in their homes by the original Third Order Rule of 1221. We were also joined by members of Tau-Maria, another lay Franciscan group that follows a Rule devoted to consecration to the Blessed Mother. There was much to share and to learn. **(Pictured above: Jim Miller, Margaret Sartor, Joanne Angeletti, Carol Perrine, Mike Butts, and Pepe Ventosa, all TOF)**

The Retreat took place at the St Felix Catholic Center, a repurposed Capuchin monastery. Its most notable resident was Blessed Solanus Casey for some ten years. There were seven talks altogether, which are now on YouTube, and three excellent homilies, two by our own Fr. Vit. (links to each talk can be found in your November Mat Posts.) The Retreat featured praying all of the Hours except Compline, a daily Mass, two nights of Adoration, and 18 hours of silence. **(Pictured right: Virgil Daniel, TOF, Louise Daniel, TOF, and Jesse Kuhn)**

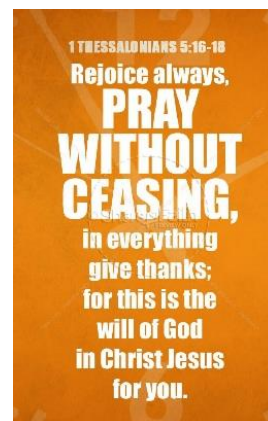


Eucharistic Adoration and Daily Prayer

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, **Bishop Earl Fernandes** of the Diocese of Columbus, 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. And **Fr. Ryan Furlong, TOF** of the Padre Pio Fraternity.
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**). We have also recently added **Alex Krukemeyer** from Summit County.
10. **Our beloved and hard-working parish priests.**
11. Finally, you may want to add prayers **for the safety and protection of our Ukrainian brothers and sisters, and for the conversion of Russia** as Pope Francis has done in his Consecration of Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary on March 25. Also, **for the protection of Catholic priests, religious, and lay people everywhere, particularly in Nigeria, Nicaragua, and other countries where our Faith is being attacked.**



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 and anyone in distress and danger. 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!

Lord, It Is Good for Us to Be Together!

Vice Minister Jim Miller, TOF called the group to order at 1:30 PM on Sunday, October 16 at St. Nicholas Byzantine Parish. We had 21 in attendance, in addition to Annie Butts, Fred Kramer, and Fr. Vit. Roberto and Maria Elena Meza, TOF were excused from the Gathering so they could attend a Mass of Thanksgiving at the Basilica of St. John in Canton for couples in the Diocese celebrating milestone anniversaries. Bishop Bonnar presided at the Mass, where the Mezas were honored for their marriage of 40 years along with others. **Congratulations, Roberto and Maria Elena, and many more years!** We were also *delighted* to welcome back Jennifer Kerns, TOF, who has been away for some time due to health concerns. Her smiling face was a beautiful addition to our Gathering!

Jim Miller, TOF led us in the opening Ritual Prayers. Kenny Green, TOF and Bill Marshall, TOF led us in Midday Liturgy of the Hours

Lectio Divina was led by Virgil Daniel, TOF. The reading was from the Sunday's Gospel, St. Luke, Chapter 18, the parable of the judge and the persistent widow. We discussed what spoke to our hearts at our tables and prayed together.

Jim Miller, TOF led us in prayer, and we enjoyed lunch prepared by Fred and Susan Kramer, TOF, Mary Dye, TOF, and Annie Butts.

During lunch, Jim Miller, TOF went over the plans for the Day of Recollection, which will serve as our November Gathering and will take place on Saturday, November 12. We should plan to arrive in Youngstown around 8:45 AM, since Mass will start at 9 AM. There will be no breakfast this year, so be sure to get a bite to eat at home before leaving. The day will also include Confession and Adoration, as well as question and answer sessions with Fr. Vit, and a catered lunch at noon. Our day will conclude around 3:15. Virgil Daniel, TOF pointed out that there will be a 5 PM Divine Liturgy at the beautiful Byzantine parish opposite the Shrine for anyone who wants to attend that in order to fulfill the Sunday duty.

After lunch, Joanne Angeletti, TOF led us in Ongoing Formation on Article 47 of the Constitution:

1. **Spiritual Poverty:** Improve on the quality of prayer and understanding. Memorize ejaculations (such as "Jesus, Son of the Living God, have mercy on me, a sinner) for quick prayers during the day.
2. **Ask for help from the Guardian Angels and Patron Saints:** God gave us our guardian angels to help of in times of trouble, when we might be placed in potentially dangerous situations. And patron saints and blessed know first-hand the troubles life sometimes hands us. We can always call on them for help.
3. **Be in God's presence at all times:** Ways to accomplish this include daily Mass, Liturgy of the Hours, monthly Confession, the Rosary, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, reading Scripture, and so many other ways we can bring God into every day of our lives.
4. **Temporal poverty:** Share with the needy and pray for others. Give until it hurts! We don't have far to look for those who need our help. Follow the example of St. Francis, who gave up his luxurious life to live in discomfort and often hunger. We don't have to give everything up, but sometimes a little help goes a long way for those in trouble. And we can all afford a few extra prayers for those we love and for those who don't love us.

Jim Miller, TOF discussed the upcoming retreat in Indiana, which will include teaching from Fr. Vit and Fr. Daniel Dozier, TOF of Olympia, Washington, who is part of our Isolated Tertiary community and Formation team. At this point, there are eight members committed to attending. Jim urged those considering the trip to contact him or Roberto ASAP. There will be arrangements for carpooling, and funds are available for those who need assistance (please contact Therese Harper, TOF or anyone on Council for this).

Jim updated us on the Day of Recollection at the Shrine of Our Lady, Comforter of the Afflicted in Youngstown on Saturday, November 12. Mary Dye, TOF is keeping a headcount, and Council asks that anyone who plans to attend to RSVP to her very soon. The cost of the catered lunch is \$12 per person, and we should pay ahead of time. The day will start with Mass at 9 AM, and will include Confession, Adoration, question and answer sessions with Fr. Vit, lunch, and the prayerful remembrance of our deceased members. The day will end at approximately 3:15 PM.

The Infirmarian Report included the happy news that Jennifer Kerns, TOF is back with us! We have prayed for Jennifer for the last several months and will continue to do so for the duration. Rick Dunlap, TOF asked for prayers for Eileen, who is under the weather and could not attend, as well as for Eileen's dear mother, Gertie. We were reminded to pray for our absent members who have been on our ongoing list for some time.

Virgil Daniel, TOF gave us the Formation Report. Jesse Kuhn and Denise Williams only have one more class before their Profession, which will take place on the Day of Recollection. They are ready! The incoming class currently has eight members. They will meet Tuesdays at St. Nicholas twice monthly. Virgil asked for new helpers to assist with the Formation classes, which are planned out by Debbie Ventosa, TOF. Think about it!

Virgil and Louise Daniel, TOF shared an icon of St. Francis of Assisi, and Brother Donald Thielsen, OFM Conv. blessed it. Brother Donald led our Transitus last month. The icon is a third-class relic, and very beautiful.

We discussed ideas for Ongoing Formation, besides studying the Constitution, which we have been doing for some time. Some of the ideas were to go into the Admonitions of St. Francis, to explore the lives of Franciscan saints such as St. Padre Pio and St. Maximilian Kolbe, and to learn how to live our Franciscan vocation in modern life.

Bill Marshall, TOF, Joanne Angeletti, TOF, and Mary Dye, TOF gave a public witness and prayer at the Stand for Live in October, which is much appreciated. There is no one scheduled for this apostolate for the months of November, December, and January due to the severe weather we often experience in those months.

The Little Portion for October was prepared by Mary Cate Roberts, TOF and delivered by Kenny Green, TOF. There will be no Little Portion in November since our Gathering will be held on November 12 in Youngstown at the Shrine of Our Lady Comforter of the Afflicted.

As noted above, the November Gathering will be at the Shrine in Youngstown on Saturday, November 12.

The relics of St. Angela Merici are in the custody of Larry and Lucy McNutt, TOF currently. Carol Perrine, TOF is caring for the relic of St. Frances Cabrini. The statue of St. Clare and the portrait of Blessed Luchessio and Belladonna are both available for anyone who wants to venerate them in their home.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish was selected for the food pantry donation, which Cindy Russo, TOF will deliver.

We then prayed for our usual intentions and others:

1. Frater Francis Tumaini of the Moshi Diocese, Arthur Bodenschatz of the Youngstown Diocese, and Joseph Rohan and Alex Krukemeyer of the Cleveland Diocese, and all the seminarians of Borromeo Seminary, which educates and trains the seminarians of both the Cleveland and Youngstown Dioceses.
2. Our families and friends, as well as all in our Franciscan family worldwide.
3. Those who were absent from the Gathering.
4. The United States of America and for an end to our offenses against God's Will.
5. To bless our fraternity and to give us new vocations.
6. For an end of the persecution of the Church both here and abroad, especially in Ukraine, Nigeria, and other nations where Catholics suffer and are in danger.
7. Pope Francis.
8. Against secularism.
9. An end to the Ukraine War.
10. Our Bishops (Bishop Bonnar of Youngstown, Bishop Lach, SJ of the Eparchy of Parma, Bishop Earl Fernandes of Columbus, and Bishop Malesic, JCL of Cleveland) and the priests connected to our community (Fr. Daniel Dozier, TOF, Fr. Ryan Furlong, TOF, Fr. Vit Fiala, OFM, Fr. Dennis Arambasick, OFM, and Fr. Miron Kerul-Kmec).
11. Our beloved parish priests.
12. Prayer of St. Michael

Fr. Vit then offered his Ongoing Formation. He spoke on Spiritual and Temporal Poverty.

1. **Prayer:** When we pray, ask for something in particular (healing, blessing, etc.) This is beneficial for salvation and will deepen our Faith. It also promotes growth in virtue.
2. **We must be more preoccupied with God than with things.** We must focus on God and be in His presence. One idea is to live in "constant Lent" in preparation for the coming of God.
3. **How do I do this?**
 - a. **Avoid quick change.** Make gradual changes for the good that are lasting.
 - b. **Avoid entertainment that is scandalous and separates us from God.**
 - c. **Avoid accumulating possessions that are unnecessary.**

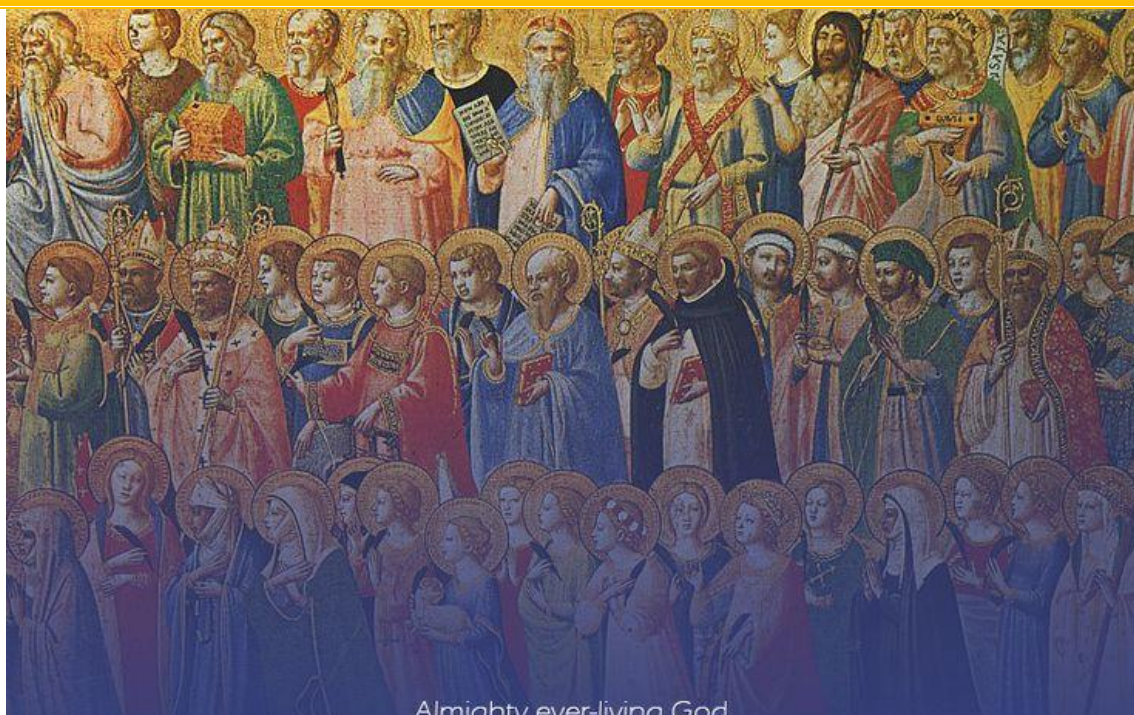
4. **Authentic prayer brings peace and joy.**
5. **Jesus didn't care what others thought of Him.** He wanted only to please God. This is the example we should follow. It's okay not to be liked. It liberates us from worldliness.
6. **If you have a good Confessor, he will not only absolve you, but also give you spiritual direction.**
7. **The first principal of spiritual life:** Mind your business, and the second is to be empathetic.

Fr. Vit led us in the concluding prayers and gave us his blessing.

**Reminder! Treasurer Therese Harper, TOF will bring the collection envelopes to the Day of Reflection.
Please be on time – Mass starts at 9 AM!**

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

November 12	Day of Reflection, Shrine of Our Lady Comforter of the Afflicted, Youngstown
November 17	Feast of St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Patroness of the Third Order of St. Francis
December 7	Day of Fasting per our Rule, since this is prior to the Feast of the Immaculate Conception
December 8	Third Year Anniversary of the Franciscan Tertiaries of the OFM Friars of the Immaculate Conception Province
December 8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception – HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION



Almighty ever-living God,
by whose gift we venerate in one celebration the merits of all the Saints,
bestow on us, we pray,
through the prayers of so many intercessors,
an abundance of the reconciliation with you for which we earnestly long.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

ALL SAINTS DAY

NOVEMBER 1

www.archtoronto.org
Prayer from catholicculture.org