

June, 2023

Volume 4, Issue 6

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 by Debbie Ventosa, TOF

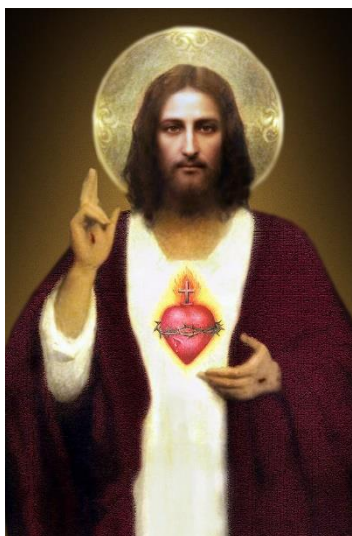
Nineteen days after Pentecost we celebrate the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

The Catechism of the Third Order (#256) asks: **Why is the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus specially mentioned?**

The devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus is closely connected with the devotion to the Passion and the Wounds of Christ. Our Lord himself gave St. Francis to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque as her special patron in the work of propagating this devotion.

Prominent Franciscan saints practiced and promoted the devotion to the Sacred Heart, even before the time of St. Margaret Mary. St. Leonard of Port Maurice founded the first confraternity in honor of the Sacred Heart. During the pontificate of Pope Pius IX, the ministers general of the Franciscan Order consecrated the Third Order to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

At the June Gathering (June 25), we will reconsecrate ourselves to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. If you would like to read the Consecration, it can be found on our website (www.thirdorderfranciscans.com)



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

– DELAYED ONE WEEK

Sunday June 25 @ 1:30 PM

**St. Nicholas Byzantine Parish
1051 Robinson Ave. Barberton**

We are expecting you!

Franciscan Quote of the Month

“I am not afraid. I was born to do this.”



**St. Joan of Arc (1412-1431) Feast Day – May 30 Mystic, Soldier,
Third Order Franciscan, Martyr, Patron Saint of France**

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, 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 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.

June Anniversaries and Birthdays

Profession Anniversaries

Mike Butts, TOF – 6/4

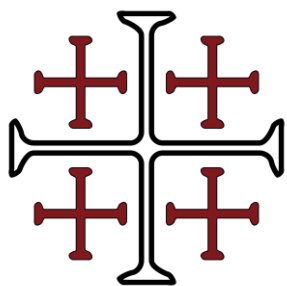
Louise & Virgil Daniel, TOF; Mary Dye, TOF;
Therese Harper, TOF; Jim & Nettie Miller, TOF;
Matt Poletti, TOF – 2 Years



Birthdays

Elizabeth Francis, TOF – 6/13
Susan Kramer, TOF – 6/29

Upcoming CFP Retreat



Plans are already in the works for the upcoming Confraternity of Penitents Retreat! It will once again be held at the St. Felix Retreat Center in Huntington, Indiana, and will take place from October 11 through 15. Several of our members carpooled and enjoyed this spiritual time spent with other Franciscans in beautiful surroundings. No details on the cost currently but it's never too early to start saving up! There are fraternity funds available for members who want to attend but need assistance. Give it some prayerful thought!

Stand for Life



Joanne Angeletti, TOF and Mary Dye, TOF will pray on June 17 at the abortion clinic in Cuyahoga Falls. 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. Do not use 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

For our June Gathering, Virgil and Louise Daniel, TOF and Susan Kramer, TOF will prepare our Hospitality. If you want to help, please contact one of them to see what is needed.

Virgil Daniel, TOF will prepare the Little Portion for June, and Rick Dunlap, TOF will deliver it. 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 two 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 in helping, please contact Mary Dye, TOF.**



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

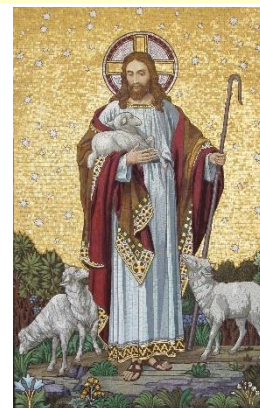
Rest in Peace

We were deeply saddened to learn of two deaths connected to our Franciscan family.

Rose Zaratsian, TOF lost her brother, Freddie Shoeinger, in May.

Pepe Ventosa, TOF was notified his brother-in-law, Ferdinand Rivera, the husband of his sister, Aurora, also died unexpectedly late in May.

Good Jesus, in Your endless mercy, take especially good care of the souls of Freddie and Ferdinand. May their souls be guided to Paradise by your angels, and may you meet them with joy and tenderness. Hold Rose, Pepe, Aurora, and their families close, and help them to suffer well for Your sake. Give them Your comfort, Your protection, and Your peace. We ask this in Your Most Holy Name. Amen.



New Postulants



Marlene Walker and Dennis and Carolyn Gasioch joined three other Inquirers from the St. Padre Pio Fraternity of Youngstown as they moved from Inquirers to Postulants in a ceremony held at the Shrine of Our Lady Comforter of the Afflicted on May 20. Fr. Vit led the Rite of Acceptance at the Shrine. We happily welcome our new Postulants and look forward to Profession Day!



Annual Third Order Franciscan Pilgrimage

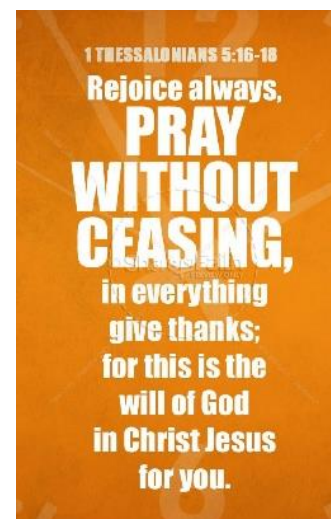
Here are some memories of the Annual Third Order Franciscan Pilgrimage which took place in May and was planned by the St. Padre Pio Fraternity of Youngstown. The pilgrimage led them to St. Philip Neri Parish in Dungannon and the Shrine of Our Lady, Comforter of the Afflicted in Youngstown. Many thanks to Lou Jacquet, TOF and Pepe Ventosa, TOF for the photos!



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 and their intentions : **Bishop David Bonnar** of the Diocese of Youngstown, **Bishop Kurt Burnette** 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, hard-working pastors and parish priests, and our parishes**, including **Fr. Miron Kerul'-Kmec** of St. Nicholas Byzantine Parish (Eparchy of Parma), 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 and St. Irene Byzantine Parish in Portland, Oregon, as well as a professor at SS. Cyril and Methodius Byzantine Seminary. And **Fr. Ryan Furlong, TOF**, who is pastor of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Vienna, (Diocese of Youngstown) and who is a member of the St. Padre Pio Fraternity.
7. **Fr. Gastor Temu Bahati**, of the Diocese of Moshi who is serving on the staff of his bishop, whom we have spiritually supported for several years.
8. **Frater Francis Tumaini** of the Diocese of Moshi, who is the Moshi 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 **Arthur Bodenschatz**, (Christ the Servant Parish in Canton) from the Diocese of Youngstown, **Joseph Rohan**, (St. Joseph Parish in Cuyahoga Falls), **Alex Krukemeyer**, (Our Lady of Victory Parish in Tallmadge), and **John Paul Antalek** (St. Mary Parish in Akron) from the Diocese of Cleveland. These men, and Frater Francis of the Moshi Seminary, are the future leaders of our Church.
10. Please 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. Also, **for the spiritual and physical protection of Catholic priests, religious, and lay people everywhere, particularly in Nigeria, Peru, Nicaragua, and other countries where our Faith is being attacked.**
11. For the **protection of all life**, born and unborn, womb to tomb.
12. For the blessing of **an increase in priestly and religious vocations, and for an increase of faithful Catholic marriages and families.**



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!

We met for our May Gathering on May 21 (the Feast of the Ascension) at St. Nicholas Byzantine Church. There were 28 in attendance, including Joe Zbasnik, Oligario (Jerry) Johnson, Annie Butts, and Fred Kramer. Fr. Vit joined us after the meal.

- Roberto Meza, TOF led us in the Ritual Gathering Opening Prayer.
- Kenny Green, TOF, Debbie Ventosa, TOF and Bill Marshall, TOF led us in Liturgy of the Hours, with Virgil Daniel, TOF leading the hymn.
- Virgil Daniel, TOF read the Gospel of the Feast of the Ascension, (the end of St. Matthew's Gospel – "Make disciples of all nations"). Each table discussed what we heard and how we can bring this message to our faith lives.
- Roberto Meza, TOF led Grace before we enjoyed our delicious lunch. Many thanks to Therese Harper, TOF, Mary Dye, TOF and Bob Burtcher, TOF, who prepared our meal, and all who assisted!
- As we ate and caught up with one another, Roberto Meza, TOF reported on the Franciscan Community Pilgrimage, which was hosted and planned by St. Padre Pio Fraternity of Youngstown. He and all who attended had a great time and learned about the first parish of northeast Ohio, St. Philip Neri of Dungannon, where Mass has been celebrated since 1817. About 20 from our fraternity attended, with an equal number from St. Padre Pio fraternity.
- At the end of the day of the pilgrimage, Fr. Vit led the Rite of Acceptance, in which the Formation students progressed from Inquirers to Postulants. Three from our fraternity and three from St. Padre Pio fraternity participated. Fr. Vit then preached on a reading from the Book of Numbers (God bless and protect you).
- Roberto Meza, TOF led us in the renewal of our Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.
- Roberto led us in our after-meal Grace (which is part of our Rule.)
- Joanne Angeletti, TOF led our Ongoing Formation. The subject was Rule II, #2 and Article 50 of our Constitution, which warns us abstain from dances, public spectacles, shameless plays, and riotous processions, and any public performances which are offensive to good morals – including television presentations of a non-virtuous nature.
 - Dancing with joy and innocence is not a bad thing, for instance, at weddings, cultural dances, or chaperoned high school dances.
 - Sexual dancing (i.e., "dirty dancing") is where the problem presents itself.
 - Remember, John the Baptist lost his head over a dance!
 - Joanne and Carol Perrine, TOF, then gave us an example of a properly wholesome dance when they danced a polka – well done, sisters!
- Fr. Vit then took the floor and addressed us on a properly formed conscience.
 - How many Pentecosts were there? Two – one Divine Pentecost, and one Satanic Pentecost.
 - Spirits of the world and spirits of God that are not compatible.
 - St. Paul, in the Book of II Corinthians, Chapter 11 speaks of false prophets.
 - Verse 4 of that chapter speaks of "Those who receive a spirit that is not of God."
 - There are two inspirations in the world. As you grow closer to God in prayer, you can discern things of God and things of the world.
 - The Church Language helps guide us using these 4 things:
 - Catechism: Teachings of the church principles and doctrines
 - Theology: Study the nature of God and religious truth to ponder
 - Liturgy: What is said in Catechism and Theology, Liturgy expresses in rituals
 - Canon Law: Code of law governing the Church is very precise and well-expressed in "lawyer-like" language
 - "Spiritual language" can be expressed in different ways. To get to the core of the problem, like the

- desert Fathers, they would identify the demon and individual is struggling with for example laziness.
 - Whatever vice there is, a demon is behind it. The desert Fathers used this language for its benefit is that it is not one's flaw but the intelligent demon trying to destroy the individual. This is a precise style of communicating.
 - If we purify our hearts, we can know ourselves. By knowing ourselves, we can know about others and human nature.
 - To develop interior knowledge, one must know oneself
 - Know what NOT to do. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Listen to your conscience and the inspiration of the conscience that is well-formed. Begin by listening to your conscience about the big things.
 - What NOT to do: Do not steal, lie, kill, etc.
 - You will move forward to what TO do:
 - Good things or better things
 - It becomes a discernment of what is the better thing to do. It's a gradual development through our life.
 - We will train ourselves and this becomes a part of our life and discernment. You will see it in your life of penance. You will be knowing things about yourself and reorient your life towards God.
 - You will progress to being able to observe others and discern what they are doing and what they should be doing. We will grow to develop a better vision of ourselves and others.
 - Our joy in life is deeply connected with Christ. Nothing in the world can replace Jesus Christ. The early Christians lived that pure joy, singing and converting others as they were led to their martyrdom. The early Christians were those living in their homes a very deep spiritual life. Be aware that the Trinity is in your heart and that is how close you are to Heaven.
 - Remember to prepare for your own death and your resurrection!
 - Conscience informs us of right and wrong.
 - A well-formed conscience will become a guide in our lives.
 - Religious life came out of a desire to reform and purify a corrupt Church.
- Roberto Meza, TOF reminded us the June Gathering will be one week late in order not to conflict with Father's Day, and will take place on Sunday, June 25 at 1:30 PM at St. Nicholas.
 - Maria Elena Meza, TOF then gave us the Infirmarian Report.
 - Judith Hoyt, TOF told us Sandy Pollino, OFS had to cancel the cancer surgery she had been scheduled for in May. Dorothy Takacs, OFS condition is much the same.
 - Bob Burtscher, TOF let us know that Elizabeth Francis, TOF remains in good spirits and attends Mass and has resumed her volunteer work at Robinson Memorial Hospital.
 - Debbie Ventosa, TOF reported Mary Cate Roberts, TOF continues her recovery and therapy from her recent injuries and surgery. She remains upbeat!
 - Jennifer Kerns, TOF and Julia Tarulli, TOF ask for prayers as they deal with health challenges.
 - Larry and Lucy McNutt, TOF continue to care for their grandchildren, and ask us to pray for them.
 - Therese Harper, TOF and Bob Burtscher, TOF participated in the Stand for Life Saturday, May 20. It was a quiet morning for the most part, and they were able to pray uninterrupted.
 - Judith Hoyt, TOF prepared the Little Portion for May, and Rose Akins, TOF delivered it.
 - Roberto Meza, TOF encouraged members to take one of our relics home for a month and to pray in the presence of a saint. The following relics are available:
 - St. Frances Xavier Cabrini
 - A portrait of Blessed Lucchesio and Belladonna
 - St. Clare of Assisi
 - St. Angela Merici
 - Roberto Meza, TOF then led us in prayer for the intentions of the fraternity, including the seminarians we

have spiritually adopted (**Arthur Bodenschatz, Joseph Rohan, Alex Krukemeyer, John Paul Antalek, and Frater Francis Tumaini**) as well as **all seminarians in the Cleveland and Youngstown Dioceses, Bishop Fernandes of Columbus, Bishop Bonnar of Youngstown, Bishop Burnette of the Eparchy of Parma, and Bishop Malesic, JCL of Cleveland**. We also prayed for **our own members and families, including Jennifer Kerns, TOF, Julia Tarulli, TOF, Sandy Pollino, OFS, and Dorothy Takacs, OFS**. And we prayed for **the soul of Rose Zaratsian, TOF's late brother**.

- We prayed the St. Michael Prayer, and then Roberto led us in the Gathering Closing Prayer.
- Roberto announced we will have the Sacred Heart Consecration at the June Gathering on June 25. It is available on the website.
- The annual fraternity picnic will be in August. More details will be forthcoming.
- Wake service forms are available on the website or contact Roberto. Members are encouraged to give some thought to this and if they would like to have the Wake Service at their funerals.
- The June Ongoing Formation will be on Article 51 of the Constitution, and will be led by Eileen Dunlap, TOF
- The pantry collection went to St. Nicholas Parish. Virgil and Louise Daniel, TOF or Joanne Angeletti, TOF will deliver.

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

June 25	June Gathering (1:30 PM – St. Nicholas Byzantine Church)
July 16	Canonization of St. Francis of Assisi
August 12	Feast of St. Clare of Assisi, Foundress of the Poor Clares
August 15	Assumption of the Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation)
August 20	August Gathering and Annual Picnic (Details TBA)

