

September, 2024

Volume 5, Issue 9

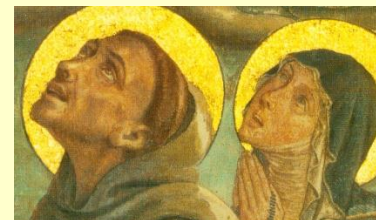
Il Poverello

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

Call to the Triennial Election Chapter, Ss Francis & Clare Fraternity

I am honored to accept the invitation of your Minister Prefect, Roberto Meza, to provide the individual to act as Chair of your upcoming Triennial Election Chapter from within the Council of Padre Pio Fraternity. These elections shall proceed in accordance with Articles 124-126 of the Constitutions of our Third Order, according to the guidance of the Rule of 1883 of Pope Leo XIII, Chapter III, #1.

This letter shall be deemed to fulfil the stated notice to summon the members of Ss Francis & Clare Fraternity to the 2024 Election Chapter, which will take place at your next regular October Monthly Gathering. Since this notice is printed in the fraternity newsletter preceding your September Monthly Gathering, it shall be deemed to more than fulfil the requirements of Article 124 to give at least a 30-day notice.

There will be just two ballots in accord with Article 125. One ballot, consisting of not more than three names, shall be for the office of Minister Prefect. The other, for councilors, shall contain at least nine names, as your local procedure requires that seven others be elected to Council.

Two points are to be emphasized in the election process. First, in accordance with the Rule, Chapter III #1, "Let no one without good reason refuse an office tendered him." The second is that out of all due charity, no member of the fraternity should nominate another member to office without having first consulted with them and obtained their consent to be nominated.

I look forward to this opportunity to be of fraternal assistance to your fraternity.

Sincerely,

/s/ Pat Cuttica

Minister Prefect, Padre Pio Fraternity

Fraternity Council

Fr. Vit Fiala, OFM

– Spiritual Director

Roberto Meza, TOF

– Minister

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

– Master of Formation

Susan Kramer, TOF

– Newsletter

Next Gathering –

Sunday, September 15

St. Nicholas Byzantine Parish

1800 Steese Road

Uniontown, Ohio

We are expecting you!

Franciscan Quote of the Month

*“Let your way of life among the people be such that whoever sees
or hears you will glorify and praise our Heavenly Father.”*

St. Francis of Assisi (1181-1226) – Feast Day October 4

Salesman, Soldier, Deacon, Preacher, Founder of the Franciscan Order, Stigmatist



Eucharistic Adoration



Sunday
Betty DeMarco, TOF

Monday
Rose Akins, TOF
Louise Daniel, TOF
Virgil Daniel, TOF
Chris Devore, TOF
LeeAnn Devore, TOF
Judith Hoyt, TOF

Tuesday
Michael Butts, 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
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.*

September Anniversaries and Birthdays

Profession Anniversaries

None this month!



Birthdays

Rose Zaratsian, TOF – 9/10

Larry McNutt, TOF – 9/17

Virgil Daniel, TOF – 9/22

Stand for Life



Rose Akins, TOF and Therese Harper, TOF will pray at the abortion clinic on State Road in Cuyahoga Falls on September 14. 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

Carol Perrine, TOF will prepare our lunch for the September Gathering. It is a lot of work for one person! If you would like to assist, please contact her to see what you can add to the meal.



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

The Little Portion will be prepared by Jerry Johnson, and Bob Burtscher, TOF and Kenny Green, 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 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 in helping, please contact Mary Dye, TOF.**

Reminder!

Please be sure to contact Vice Minister Jim Miller, TOF if you are unable to make it to the monthly Gathering. Attending the Gathering every month is part of our duties as Third Order Franciscans, and it is something that should be taken seriously. Part of our charism is that we live in community – that we are a family – and we observe that by attending the Gathering and keeping in contact, just as some families come together for Mass and Sunday dinner. If you have a valid reason for not attending, such as illness, family obligations, and so on, please let Jim know via email, text, or phone. **We miss you when you are away!**

Blessed Carlo Acutis Youth Outreach Ministry

Our Fraternity Council has decided to initiate the Blessed (soon to be Saint!) Carlo Acutis Outreach Ministry, which will be funded by the Common Fund. Blessed Carlo, who died of leukemia at the age of 15 in 2006, exhibited Franciscan spirituality with great love for the Eucharist and in his kind nature and concern for the poor, although he was too young to enter the Order.

The body of Blessed Carlo Acutis remains miraculously incorrupt →



This decision comes after much prayer and discernment. The Council decided to start with supporting a FOCUS Missionary with prayers and money donations and has approved sending \$100 per month for the next two years to Jakin Miller, who recently addressed our fraternity on his work evangelizing and offering spiritual support to university students through FOCUS. FOCUS is the Fellowship of Catholic University Students, which was developed by prominent Catholic lay theologians and apologists.



As many as 90% of Catholic students abandon their Faith while attending secular and Catholic universities. FOCUS missionaries, who have already graduated, are trained in apologetics and offer two years to the program. They are sent to universities nationwide to work on campus daily, while also making a commitment to attend daily Mass and daily holy hours. They work in conjunction with the Newman Center and assist the parishes which host the students and the Newman Center as readers, altar servers, and EMHCs. They are truly servants of the Church.

The FOCUS missionaries depend on donations to pay for their rent, food, and other necessities. Jakin, the grandson of Jim and Nettie Miller, TOF has been assigned to MIT in Boston. Jakin also gratefully welcomes prayer support, and we are pleased to add him to our daily holy hours and personal prayers.

Fraternity Elections

Our fraternity will be holding elections this Fall. Please consider offering your time and talents to an office of our fraternity, a three-year commitment. Franciscans are humble – but we also serve the Church and others! This is an opportunity to build up our fraternity and to keep it strong and faithful. **If you would like to nominate a worthy professed member of the fraternity – or if you would like to nominate yourself, please contact Mary Dye, TOF.**

Transitus

The Transitus, which is the prayerful remembrance of the death and passage into eternal life of our good St. Francis, will be celebrated Thursday, October 3 at 7 PM at St. Nicholas Byzantine Church. Please join your Franciscan family for a deeply spiritual and joyful evening!



St. Maximilian Kolbe Charity Fund – Therese Harper, TOF

The Sts. Francis & Clare Fraternity's Maximilian Kolbe Fund has been updated to include "Charity" in the name. The new name is now St. Maximilian Kolbe Charity Fund. This change will facilitate funding of yearly Bibles as originally determined, as well as supporting other charities determined by Council Members. In the past, donations for various charities such as St. Nicholas renovations, seminarians, victims of the war in Ukraine, and Isolated Tertiaries were taken from the Common Fund that normally assists in running of our Fraternity. This change will divide outgoing funds more accurately by type of support.



Ongoing Formation Recording

Our Fraternity Council continues to investigate methods of recording our Ongoing Formation talks from our monthly Gatherings to provide a convenient study reference for our members. They are looking into video recording. They hope to be able to supply this resource on our fraternity website, which is not only open to all TOF members and students, but to the public as well. Stay tuned for more news on this project!

Day of Recollection

The annual Day of Recollection is quickly approaching! This year, it will be held Saturday, November 9 at the Shrine of Our Lady Comforter of the Afflicted. As usual, it will not only be a deeply spiritual day of informational talks, Confession, Adoration, and Mass, but also an opportunity for a family reunion with our beloved extended Third Order Franciscan family. Our generous hosts will be the St. Padre Pio Fraternity of Youngstown. There will be updates coming soon on the cost of the meals and suggestions for food contributions, as well as carpool sign ups for those who wish to travel together.

Men's Prayer Group

Unfortunately, the Men's Prayer Group has been suspended for the time being. Perhaps in future we can give it another try – everything in God's own time!

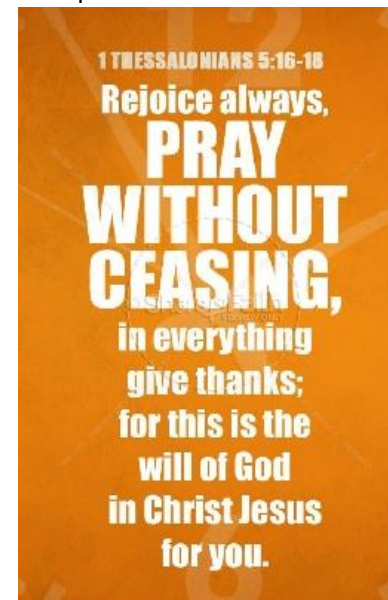
Eucharistic Adoration and Daily Prayer

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 Robert Pipta** 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 being a professor at SS. Cyril and Methodius Byzantine Seminary and contributor to “Catholic Answers” on EWTN radio. And **Fr. Ryan Furlong, TOF**, who is pastor of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Vienna, St. William Parish in Champion, and St. Robert Bellarmine Parish in Cortland (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**, (St. Paul in North Canton) and **William Martzaklis** (St. Paul in North Canton) from the Diocese of Youngstown, **Joseph Rohan**, (St. Joseph Parish in Cuyahoga Falls), **Alex Krukemeyer**, (Our Lady of Victory Parish in Tallmadge), **John Paul Antalek** (St. Mary Parish in Akron), all from the Diocese of Cleveland, and **Andrew Turpin** (University of Akron Newman Center, St. Bernard). These men, and Frater Francis of the Moshi Seminary, are the future leaders and servants 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, the Middle East, the Far East, 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 – including the Third Order Franciscans, and for an increase of faithful Catholic marriages and families.**
13. For the spiritual and physical health and protection of **Jakin Miller and all FOCUS missionaries**, who are working to keep the Faith among university students nationwide.



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 prayerful Franciscans, no priests without our seminarians, no Eucharist without our priests, and no Church without the Eucharist.** We all work together doing the mission God has given us, for His glory. All these individuals on the list sacrifice daily for us. The very least we can do is to pray for them!

Lord, it is Good for Us to be Together!

Our August Gathering was held last month on the beautiful grounds of Queen of Heaven Parish in Green. Although we had some rain and wind, it was a splendid day that also included a bit of sunshine and warm weather!

We were honored to include our generous host, Fr. David Durkee, who is pastor of Queen of Heaven. He led us in prayer before our picnic feast and joined us as we enjoyed our meal. Fr. Durkee has been a friend of the Fraternity and has supported us for many years, and we are very grateful for all he does for us, the Church, and the Kingdom of God!

Bill Marshall, TOF kindly provided his usual contribution of fried chicken, enough to feed everyone and then some! And there were several offerings of salads, pasta, potatoes, vegetables, and various desserts. Needless to say, no one went hungry, and there was plenty to offer the recipients of the Little Portion afterward!

It was a good day to enjoy the company of our brothers and sisters, to laugh and to update our brothers and sisters of the news of what is going on in our lives. After lunch (and during the rainstorm!) we prayed the Franciscan Crown Rosary, led by Bob Burtscher, TOF and John McGough, TOF, with help from various other Franciscans. We remembered our beloved seminarians and parish priests, the OFM Friars of the Immaculate Conception Province, our good Bishops Fernandes, Pipta, Bonnar, and Malesic, and all our friends and families as we said our prayers.

After the rain dried up, several members took advantage of the day to walk the grounds of Queen of Heaven Parish, which includes several grottoes with statues of holy saints – including our own St. Francis of Assisi. God has been very good to us,

and we are grateful for this every day!

Here are some photographic memories taken by Roberto Meza, TOF!



Get a plate, everyone!



John McGough, TOF & Bob Burtscher, TOF enjoy a good meal & good fellowship! ↑

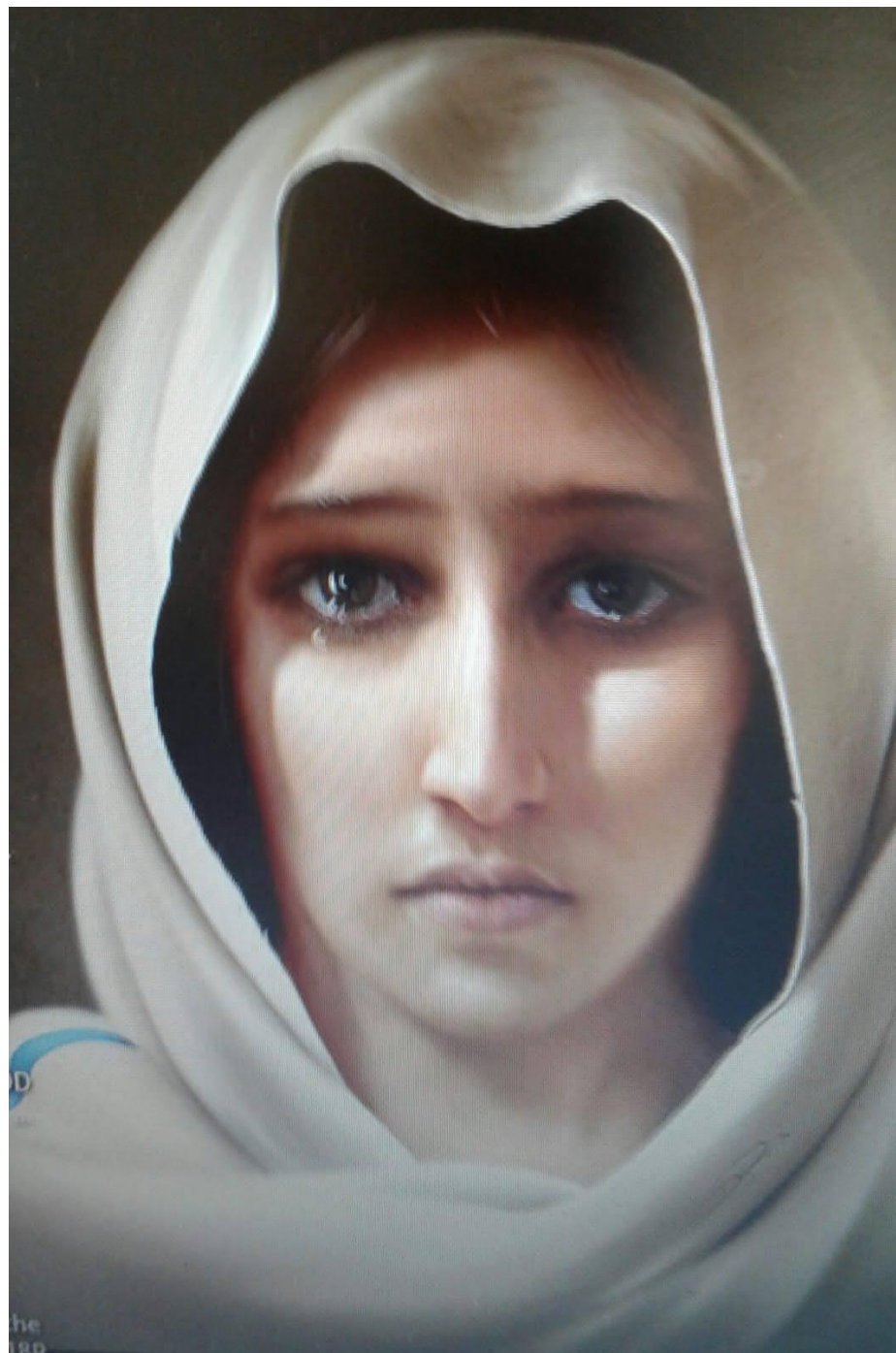


← Mary Dye, TOF, has a chat with Fr. David Durkee, pastor of Queen of Heaven Parish, while John McGough, TOF samples his plate of picnic food.

Don't forget – the September Gathering will be September 15 at St. Nicholas at 1:30 PM!

Save the Date (September, the Month of the Seven Sorrows of Mary)

September 8	The Feast of the Birthday of Mary
September 12	The Feast of the Holy Name of Mary
September 14	The Feast of the Triumph of the Cross
September 15	The Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows (September Gathering – St. Nicholas – 1:30 PM)
September 17	800-Year Anniversary of the Stigmatization of St. Francis
September 22	The Feast of the Queenship of Mary
September 29	The Feast of the Archangels Michael, Raphael, and Gabriel
October 2	The Feast of the Angels
October 3	Transitus (St. Nicholas Byzantine Church – 7 PM)
October 4	The Feast of St. Francis of Assisi



***Remember to comfort our
Sorrowful Mother, whose heart
has been cruelly pierced by a sword.
Pray a Rosary, Memorare,
Hail Holy Queen, and Hail Mary today!***