



Fraternity of Mary, Queen of Peace Secular Franciscan Order Newsletter

November 2017 Issue

MEETING MINUTES - November 3rd

Attended: Brenda Berry, Mike Bartel, Robin Donner, Jeannie Kratzer, Eugene Krentz, Janet Lukesh, Marty Madansky, Will Moore, Chuck Roach, John Rosensteel, Mike Ross, Helen Rush, Steve Smith, Debbie Watson, Br Pio King

Visitors: Nini Milbrath

*Thank you, active members, for notifying a council member when you are unable to attend.
You are in our prayers.*

Opening: Steve lead us in opening prayer. Chuck shared a summary of **Rules 4 - 19** by Liam McCarthy, OFM (see page 4). John will present a rule next month.

The Minutes and Financial Report from the October meeting were approved.

October Financial Report:

Checking:

Starting Balance:	1286.34
Franciscan Brothers of Peace (3 rd qtr):	-50.00
Spiritual Assistant (3 rd qtr):	-25.00
Queen of Peace Region-Visitation	- 100.00
Meal for Region pre-meeting with Council	- 60.97
Common fund contributions:	+192.00
Birthday party and memorial expenses	- 43.49
Ending Balance:	\$1198.88
Savings Balance	\$424.65

Upcoming expenses:

January Fair Share payment ~ \$500

Pastoral/Fraternal Visitation Report:

The report was reviewed. We received a good report. The use of Mutual Invitation was discussed to ensure each person has an opportunity to share. (See page 2.)

Initial Formation report: This is going well. The next meeting will be Friday, November 24th.

The Brothers report:

Br John Mary began a 6-month **Sabbatical** on October 7th. Br Pio reports that Br John Mary is doing well.

The cat at St Crispin's Friary needs a new home.

Volunteers are needed to **help bag groceries** on Thursday evening, **November 16th, 7-8:30pm** for the **Food Shelf Thanksgiving meals distribution**.

Hospitality:

Brenda gave an update on prayer requests for members who are unable to attend this month.

Brenda read a thank you note from Frank Junghans for the birthday party which we hosted for him at his nursing home on October 13th. Brenda, Debbie, Will, Anne, Br Paschal, and fbp postulants John and Steven were in attendance at the party. Brenda made a blanket for Frank. (See pictures page 5.)

Wake Request forms are available for members to keep with their "last wishes" documents. Please fill out Next of Kin forms to be kept in a confidential file with the Fraternity.

Apostolates:

Homeless Ministry: donations needed (see page 2)

Next Nursing Home visits:

The Estates at Lynnhurst

471 W. Lynnhurst Ave, St Paul, MN 55104
Wednesday, November 15th, 6:30pm

Little Sisters of the Poor

(cancelled for November)

Christmas Caroling at The Estates at Lynnhurst will be planned for December.

Region activities:

Will attended the **Friends of Francis, OFS Retreat** at the Franciscan Retreat House at the end of October.

Ongoing Formation:

Brother Joseph gave a **presentation** regarding his love for the **homeless**:

Br Joseph initially worked with Mary Jo Copeland at Caring and Sharing Hands ministry. In 1993, the first mission house began in North Minneapolis. Br Joseph would look for the homeless along the railroad tracks. After his accident, Janet Lewer (now Clare) invited him to staff a house for the homeless in Minneapolis. The priest at Our Lady of Guadalupe on the West side of Saint Paul gave the brothers a room in the school from which they served the homeless - until a week ago.

Grocery bags were distributed to be filled with items for Br Joseph's ministry. Please return at the next meeting:

Toiletries: Underwear (large sizes)

Shampoo (tube), toothpaste, men's body wash (travel size), laundry soap (small size), dish soap (small size)

Adult Winter Items (Dollar Tree is a good source):

Hats (adult, skull & ski hats), scarves, stretch gloves (two pack), thermal socks

Additional Adult Winter Items:

(Walmart online is a good source)

Men's Thermal Long John Bottoms (L, XL)

Men's winter boots (sizes 8-12, 9-10 best, moon boots)

Wool or polyester thermal socks

Menards ski gloves (M, L best, XL, all \$2.99 if on sale)

Men's polar fleece pants or fleece lined jeans (L, 1X, 2X)

Puffer jackets (x-large size for men)

We discussed the Sunday Mass readings.

Discussion of the assignment in The Perfect Joy of Saint Francis was postponed to the next Fraternity meeting. We will use the "Mutual Invitation" discussion method. It will take some practice to become accustomed to it.

"MUTUAL INVITATION"

CALLED BY NAME TO SHARE

A Fraternity may use a modified form of the Mutual Invitation form of sharing so all its members have a chance to share their thoughts in a safe and non-threatening environment.

1. The Leader begins the reading or a question, and then calls a member by name to share.
 - a. The member called has 3 choices.
 - i. Share
 - ii. Pass for now – not ready to share, but will have a chance to share at the end of all the sharing.
 - iii. Pass—does not care to share.
 - b. The member sharing then calls the next member to share by name.
 - c. This continues until all members have been called and all those members who have "passed for now" have been called on again.
2. No one can share twice until all members have shared.



Mary Marshall – 11/4

Br Seraphim Wirth – 11/12

Mike Ross – 11/17

Helen Rush – 11/18

Anne Keller – 11/19

Br Dominic Michael – 11/20

Mike Gross – 11/21

Will Moore – 11/26

Eugene Krentz – 12/8

Our newsletter is published monthly by the

Fraternity of Mary, Queen of Peace

Secular Franciscan Order

c/o Franciscan Brothers of Peace

Queen of Peace Friary

1289 Lafond Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55104

Minister: Steve Smith, OFS (612-597-5556)

Vice Minister: Eugene Krentz, OFS (952-288-8263)

Formation Director: Jeannie Kratzer, OFS (651-636-8928)

Secretary: Anne Keller, OFS (651-335-8484)

Treasurer: Robin Donner, OFS (651-290-7753)

Councilor: Eileen Moore, OFS (612-721-1198)

Acting Spiritual Assistant: Brother Pio King, fbp (651-442-8165)

Meetings: (located at Queen of Peace Friary)

Initial Formation:

Friday, November 24th, 7:00 – 9:00pm

Chapter 32 of The Franciscan Journey

"Enriching the Franciscan Spirit"

Regular Fraternity Meeting:

Friday, December 1st

Business meeting 6:30pm

Sharing of Rule: John

Franciscan Holy Hour 7:00pm followed by refreshments and social time.

Treats by Eugene and Anne

Ongoing Formation 8:30 – 9:30pm

Mass Readings for Sunday, December 3rd

Chapter 3 of The Perfect Joy of Saint Francis

"The Call of God" pp 45-61

December Council Meeting:

Sunday, December 10th, 1:30 – 3:00pm

All professed members are encouraged to attend

November - the month of Holy Souls and Thanksgiving.

Commemoration of our Faithful Departed Franciscans:

We remembered each one with the sound of the bell:

Br Michael Gawarski, fbp (Founder 1982, died 2003)

Br Paul O'Donnell, fbp (1990, died 2015)

Dan Berry, ofs (1987, died 2000)

Dr Raymond Bonnabeau, ofs (2002, died 2001)

Loretta Boyum, ofs (1997, died 2000)

Audrey Brown, ofs (1997, died 2016)

Jean Cronemiller, ofs (1981, died 2017)

Betty Leedom, candidate (died 2013)

Chloe McNally, ofs (1997, died 2010)

Jeff Proulx, ofs (1997, died 2009)

Marie Strommer, ofs (died 2004)

And I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Write this: Blessed are the dead who from now on dies in the Lord." "Yes," says the Spirit, "They will rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them." (Rev 14:13)

Let us pray . . .

May the angels lead thee into paradise:

May the martyrs receive thee at thy coming

And lead thee into the holy city, Jerusalem.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord,

And let perpetual light shine upon them.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Jeannie shared some background information:

A FRANCISCAN THANKSGIVING

Two years before he died, in the Fall of 1224, St. Francis received the Stigmata on Mount La Verna (100 miles N. of Assisi in the Apennines Mountains). He suffered constantly with great pain in his hands, feet, and side. Yet his soul was overflowing with happiness and serenity. Because in this suffering Francis experienced God's incredible love, and assurance of salvation. He wrote the following Litany to express the fullness of his joy, thanks, and praise, his Magnificat.

The MAGNIFICAT of the stigmatized POVERELLO

You are the Holy one, the Lord.

You alone are God. You alone do wonders.

You are mighty and great.

You are the Most High.

You are King omnipotent, O Holy Father, King of Heaven and earth.

You are three and one, the Lord God, every good.

You are good, every good, the highest good, the Lord God, living and true.

You are charity and love.

You are wisdom, humility, patience, tranquility, happiness and joy.

You are justice, temperance and all-sufficient riches.

You are beauty and mildness.

You are our protector, defender, and guardian.

You are our strength and our refreshment.

You are our faith, hope, charity, and our infinite sweetness.

You are our life eternal, Lord wonderful and great;

God omnipotent, Savior most merciful!

THE CANTICLE OF THE SUN

St. Francis wrote the Cantic of the Sun during the last year of his life during the winter of 1225 at San Damiano.

He was in poor health, blind, had severe physical pain, despair, and was tormented by rats. St. Francis learned by the grace of God that suffering is beautiful, fruitful, and blessed (redemptive) when freely accepted and assures a place in the Kingdom of Heaven. So, in his joy of suffering Francis composed the final song-poem of his life. It was an out pouring of love, praise, and thanksgiving to God and Christ the Savior that he loved so much with his heart and soul. Then, just before he died, in Oct., 1226, he added the final verse about Sister Death.

(From: St. Francis of Assisi, - A Biography, by Omer Englebert)

THE CANTICLE OF THE SUN

Most High Almighty Good Lord,

Yours are praise, glory, honor and all blessing.

To You alone, Most High, do they belong,

And no man is worthy to mention You. (Refrain)

(Refrain)

Praise and bless my Lord

And give Him thanks and serve Him with great humility.

Be praised, my Lord, with all Your creatures,

Especially Sir Brother Sun,

Who is daylight, and by him You shed light on us.

And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendor.

Of You, Most High, he is a symbol. (Refrain)

Be praised, my Lord for Sister Moon and the Stars.

In heaven, You have formed them clear and bright and fair. (Ref)

Be praised, my Lord, for Brother Wind

And for air and cloud and clear and all weather,

By which You give your creatures nourishment. (Refrain)

Be praised, my Lord, for Sister Water,

For she is very useful, humble, precious and pure. (Refrain)

Be praised, my Lord, for Brother Fire,

By whom You light up the night,

For the fair and merry and mighty and strong. (Refrain)

Be praised, my Lord, for our Sister Mother Earth,

Who sustains and rules us

And produces varied fruits with many-colored flowers and plants.

(Refrain)

Be praised, my Lord, for those who grant pardon for love of You, And bear sickness and tribulation.

Blessed are they who shall bear them in peace,

For by You, Most High, they shall be crowned. (Refrain)

Be praised my Lord, for our Sister Bodily Death,

From whom no living man can escape.

Woe to those who die in mortal sin.

Blessed are they whom death will find in Your most holy will,

For the second death shall not harm them. (Refrain)

November Prayer requests:

- *For Br Joseph's father who is recovering from a stroke.
 - *For Br Dominic who is recovering from knee surgery.
 - *For Br John Mary on his sabbatical.
 - *For Norma, Frank, Mike G, Eugene and all those suffering from chronic illness.
 - *That all Veterans will be appreciated for their sacrifices and service to our country.
 - *For peace in the world and in our hearts.
 - *That God will console residents of nursing homes.
 - *For the KaRen community – for an end to persecution in their homeland.
 - *Janie sends her love to all and requests prayers for her chronic pain and ongoing home remodeling which needs to be done by the time her daughter Shannon and family arrive from Australia on 11/22.
 - *Marlene Skavnak requests prayers for her grandson Dawson. He is at the Marines boot camp and a large group of them have Ecoli. Dawson had to be hospitalized.
 - *For the needs of all those unable to attend the meeting.
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PRAY THE RULE by Liam McCarthy, OFM

O Lord, our God, we intend to make present the charism of our Seraphic Father Francis in the life and mission of the Church, in various ways and forms but in life-giving union with one another. By our profession, we pledge ourselves to live the Gospel in the manner of St Francis by means of our Rule approved by the Church (Arts. 1-3). Help us, we pray, so that daily we may:

- * observe the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ by following the example of St Francis, **going from gospel to life and from life to the gospel** (Art 4);
- * seek to **encounter the living and active person of Jesus Christ in our brothers and sisters, in sacred scripture, in the Church and in the Eucharist** (Art 5);
- * go forth as witnesses and instruments of the Church's mission among people, **proclaiming Christ by our life and words** (Art 6);
- * **conform our thoughts and deeds to those of Christ by the radical interior change which the Gospel calls "conversion"**, making use of the **sacrament of reconciliation** on the way to renewal (Art 7);
- * **let prayer and contemplation be the soul of all we are and do** (Art 8);
- * **imitate the Virgin Mary's complete self-giving** in her openness to your every word and call (Art 9);
- * **faithfully fulfill the duties proper to our various circumstances in life** (Art 10);
- * **seek the proper spirit of detachment** and purify our hearts from every tendency and **yearning for possession and power** (Art 11);
- * acquire the purity of heart needed to **set ourselves free to love God and our brothers and sisters** (Art 12);

- * **accept all people as your gift, Lord, and an image of Christ** (Art 13);
 - * exercise our responsibilities competently in the **Christian spirit of service** (Art 14);
 - * be in the forefront of **promoting justice by the testimony of our human lives** and by courageous initiatives (Art 15);
 - * **esteem work both as a gift and as a sharing in the creation, redemption and service of the human community;**
 - * **cultivate the Franciscan spirit of peace, fidelity and respect for life in our families**, striving to make it a sign of a world already renewed in Christ;
 - * **respect all creatures, animate and inanimate** "as bearing the imprint of the Most High". (Art 18);
 - * **be bearers of peace and messengers of perfect joy** in every circumstance, as immersed in the resurrection of Christ, we **serenely tend towards Sister Death** and our ultimate encounter with you, our Father (Art 19).
- All this we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Brother. Amen.

Prayer to St. Francis for Fidelity to the Rule

Holy father, loving and most beloved St. Francis, I beseech you by the holy wounds of our Lord Jesus Christ, which were imprinted on your body, assist me to govern the five senses of my body according to the will and pleasure of almighty God. Intercede for me, so that I may be most faithful in the observance of your Rule of Penance. Obtain for me contrition and devotion, faith, hope, and charity, patience, and purity of body and soul, together with the grace of persevering in the service of our Lord; so that after this life I may merit to come to you, and with you to enjoy eternal happiness, which I hope through your intercession to obtain from Christ our Lord. Amen

from the *Secular Franciscan Companion*

Peace Light

Chuck plans to bring the Peace Light to the next Fraternity meeting. Bring a candle or lantern that you can transport. Chuck is happy to deliver the light to anyone who might want it but doesn't have a safe way to transport it. He'll likely make his delivery trip around the metro that weekend.

Each year, a child from Upper Austria fetches the light from the grotto in Bethlehem where Jesus was born. The light is carried in two blast proof miners' lamps on an Austrian Airlines jet from Tel Aviv Israel to Vienna, Austria from where it is distributed at a Service of Dedication to delegations from across Europe who take it back, with a message of Peace, to their own countries. Austrian Airlines then flies the miners lamps containing the Peace Light from Bethlehem to New York City. The goal of this web site <http://peacelight.org/about/default.html> is to help the light spread like the branches of a huge tree rooted in New York and spreading across the continent.

Birthday Party for Frank Junghans, ofs

Courtesy of Brenda Berry Photography & Anne Keller Photography



Frank with his new blanket



Steven, John, Frank, Debbie, Br Paschal



Frank

Brenda

John

Will



Frank's sister, Charlotte
with St Francis and Creche music box

DECEMBER 3, 2017

First Sunday of Advent

Reading 1 IS 63:16B-17, 19B; 64:2-7

You, LORD, are our father,
our redeemer you are named forever.
Why do you let us wander, O LORD, from your ways,
and harden our hearts so that we fear you not?
Return for the sake of your servants,
the tribes of your heritage.
Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down,
with the mountains quaking before you,
while you wrought awesome deeds we could not hope for,
such as they had not heard of from of old.
No ear has ever heard, no eye ever seen, any God but you
doing such deeds for those who wait for him.
Would that you might meet us doing right,
that we were mindful of you in our ways!
Behold, you are angry, and we are sinful;
all of us have become like unclean people,
all our good deeds are like polluted rags;
we have all withered like leaves,
and our guilt carries us away like the wind.
There is none who calls upon your name,
who rouses himself to cling to you;
for you have hidden your face from us
and have delivered us up to our guilt.
Yet, O LORD, you are our father;
we are the clay and you the potter;
we are all the work of your hands.

Gospel MK 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples:
"Be watchful! Be alert!
You do not know when the time will come.
It is like a man traveling abroad.
He leaves home and places his servants in charge,
each with his own work,
and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch.
Watch, therefore;
you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming,
whether in the evening, or at midnight,
or at cockcrow, or in the morning.
May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping.
What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'"

Franciscan Gospel Sharing

Gaze on Him

look on the words;
read and listen to the Scripture with an open
mind, let the words sink into you

Consider Him

ponder the words;
think about what is being revealed in your heart
and mind and soul

Contemplate Him

weigh the words;
decide which article in the OFS Rule relates to
the words and ponder that article

Imitate Him

outpour the words;
take all of this into the world with a concrete
action which today you state aloud

...in the tradition of St. Clare of Assisi

Study questions for December ongoing formation:
THE PERFECT JOY OF ST. FRANCIS
Chapter 3 THE CALL OF GOD – pg. 45-61.

1. The second half of the chapter continues to show us the struggles and tests that St. Francis has to face and endure in his conversion journey toward living a life totally God-centered and Christ-like. What is the struggle Francis is dealing with? Why and how does he respond to it? Pg.45-47.
2. St. Francis slips into a Spiritual Darkness. Why and how did he pull out of it? Pg. 48-49. Have you experienced Spiritual Darkness?
3. What are the new struggles that St. Francis faces with the townspeople of Assisi, his father, and his mother, as he tries to live his new life of Christ-centered poverty? How did he respond to these? Pg. 50-53
4. What were the struggles you faced when you asked to become a Franciscan?
5. Why was the trial at the Bishop's palace so important in St. Francis' conversion journey, and what did it do for him? Pg. 54-58.
6. What was life like after Francis' trial at the Bishop's palace, and where did it lead him? Pg. 58-61.