



# *Fraternity of Mary, Queen of Peace Secular Franciscan Order Newsletter*

February 2018 Issue

## MEETING MINUTES - February 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Attended:** Brenda Berry, Robin Donner, Anne Keller, Jeannie Kratzer, Marty Madansky, Mary Marshall, Eileen Moore, Will Moore, Chuck Roach, John Rosensteel, Mike Ross, Helen Rush, Marlene Skavnak, Steve Smith, Debbie Watson.

**Visitors:** Karen Nelson

*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. Steve shared a reflection on **Rule 12** (See page 3). Jeannie will present a rule next month.

The Minutes from the January meeting were approved with the following correction: "Br Conrad and another brother plan to attend the March for Life in Washington DC on January 18<sup>th</sup>." (not the 22<sup>nd</sup>)

### **January Financial Report (Robin):**

Checking Starting Balance:	\$1532.13
January Common fund contributions:	+176.00
Franciscan Brothers of Peace – first qtr:	-50.00
Brother Pio King – first quarter:	-25.00
Queen of Peace Region – first half	-434.50
Sacred Heart Church – Mass stipend	-10.00
Checking Ending Balance:	\$1188.63
Savings Balance:	\$451.49

**Member news:** Welcome to *Marlene Skavnak* who has officially transferred to our Fraternity. As with any member who transfers, she will have voting privileges in one year. We have updated copies of the roster and prayer calendar that include Marlene. Brenda shared greetings and prayer requests from those unable to attend.

There will be a Mass in memory of *Jean Cronemiller* on Monday, Feb 26<sup>th</sup> at 8am at Sacred Heart Church, 840 6<sup>th</sup> St East in Saint Paul. Brenda sent a card to Jean's family to let them know.

### **Initial Formation report (Jeannie):**

Target date for Mike Bartel's profession – possibly May. Planning for a new initial formation group is in process.

### **The Brothers' report (message from Br Conrad):**

"In addition to brothers and postulants attending the local March for Life, Br. Paschal and I attended the National March for Life in Washington D.C. with perhaps a record breaking number of people, with the majority of them begin youth and young adults.

"Brs. John Mary, Pio and Dominic Michael are all doing well on their times of sabbatical as they journey towards reinvigoration.

"Brs. Seraphim and James continue with seminary studies and Br. Seraphim is nearing the completion of his Theology III studies this semester with the expectation that he will be ordained to the transitional diaconate on May 12, 2018 at the Basilica of St. Mary in Minneapolis. Mark your calendars!

"The brothers and postulants on the home front are looking forward to a time of retreat at New Melleray Abbey in Peosta, Iowa with the Cistercian Trappists from February 5th through the 9th."

### **Apostolates:**

#### **Nursing Home Ministry:**

##### **The Estates at Lynnhurst**

471 W. Lynnhurst Ave, St Paul, MN 55104  
Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, 6:30pm

##### **Little Sisters of the Poor**

330 Exchange St. South, St Paul, MN 55102  
Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 6:30pm

The Little Sisters of the Poor always appreciate sacramentals, i.e. rosaries, medals, scapulars, etc., for their residents. Donations are gratefully accepted at the reception desk.

**Ongoing Formation:** After the Holy Hour, we gathered downstairs and watched an inspiring 90-minute movie about the life of Solanus Casey, who was recently beatified.

We **closed** with an “Our Father” for all our intentions.

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**THE PERFECT JOY OF ST. FRANCIS – Chapter 4, LADY POVERTY, pg. 79-87 Study Questions for Mar. 2, 2018**

In the first half of Chapter 4, St. Francis struggles to understand the message of the San Damiano Cross to “Rebuild My Church”. He believes God wants him to physically rebuild the ruined San Damiano church, and other churches such as the Chapel of St. Peter, and Chapel of our Lady of the Angels in the Portiuncula. During this process, his faith and total trust in God strengthens. He learns to accept, and be comfortable, even joyful, with poverty and all that comes with it. He is becoming more humble. Family, friends, and towns-people notice this change and some stopped laughing, jeering, and started to admire, help and support Francis in his new way of life. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of Chapter 4, Francis’ life is redirected to a new mission, which bears many spiritual fruits.

1. The Holy Spirit spoke through the little priest and the gospel giving St. Francis a new understanding of “Rebuild My Church”. What was the new message and the new mission? Pg. 78-80. Has the Holy Spirit ever given you a message or a mission?
2. How was St. Francis able to do his first preaching? What were the themes and what affect did it have on the people of Assisi? Pg. 80-82.
3. How did the preaching and actions of St. Francis affect Bernard of Quintavalle? Pg. 82-84.
4. How did Fr. Peter, Vicar of the Church of St. Nicholas, help St. Francis and Bernard know what to do and how do it? What affect did this have on Fr. Peter? Pg.84 – 87. How has St. Francis and the Bible affected you and your life?

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**“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.



Br John Mary Kaspari, fbp – 2/11

Clare Lewer – 2/16

Janet Lukesh – 2/24

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)

**February Council Meeting:**

Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 1:30 – 3:00pm

*All professed members are encouraged to attend*

**Initial Formation:**

Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> (at Jeannie’s)

**Regular Fraternity Meeting:**

**Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Business meeting 6:30pm

*Sharing of Rule: Jeannie*

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

*Treats by Eugene and Chuck*

**Ongoing Formation 8:30 – 9:30pm**

Mass Readings for Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>  
Chapter 4 of The Perfect Joy of Saint Francis  
“Lady Poverty” pp 79 - 87

**March Council Meeting:**

Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 1:30 – 3:00pm

*All professed members are encouraged to attend*

## Region Events:

- The Region invites professed members to consider enrolling in the 2018 – 2020 Spiritual Assistant class. The application process must be complete by 3/31/18.
- Regional Formation Workshop – Saturday, May 19, 2018 at Assisi Heights in Rochester
  - for all on the Formation team
  - and anyone else who is interested
  - registration deadline is 3/31/18
- Annual Regional Ministers Gathering – June 1-3 at Christ the King Retreat Center in Buffalo

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## February Prayer requests:

*Blessed Solanus Casey, pray for us!*

### Apostolates:

- For God's blessings on the apostolates of the Franciscan Brothers of Peace and of the Fraternity.
- For the future of Listening House in Saint Paul.
- For God's guidance and blessings on Clare Lewer's ministry of Majella House for pregnant women. That it will come to fruition.
- For provision for the KaRen refugee children to be able to attend Catholic schools.
- For the protection of the homeless in this cold weather.

### For the needs of members of the Fraternity and the Brothers:

- For all those with acute or chronic health conditions, that they will experience consolation and healing - including Eugene, Mike Gross, Mike Bartel, Janie, Janet, Debbie, Norma, Frank.
- For the needs of all those unable to attend the meeting.
- For Mary Makowski's studies – she is back in school.
- For all those struggling with car problems – Andrena, Janie.
- For Candidates Mike Bartel and John Rosensteel as they continue in initial formation.
- In Thanksgiving for Jeannie's safe and inspirational pilgrimage to the Holy Land in January.
- For reinvigoration for Brothers John Mary, Pio and Dominic Michael on their various sabbaticals.
- For spiritual growth and wisdom for Brothers James and Seraphim in their seminary studies.
- For the brothers and postulants who are going on retreat to New Malleray Abbey in Iowa, Feb 5-9.

### For all our family members and friends who are dear to our heart and in need of our prayers.

- For the soul of Brenda's uncle, Roland Taylor, whose funeral was January 30<sup>th</sup>.
- For continued healing of high blood pressure issues for Janie's daughter, Shannon, who is now home in Australia.
- For a special intention for Will and Eileen's family.
- For our regional spiritual assistant - Kathy Taormina's recovery from knee surgery complicated by infection.
- For healing and recovery for Ross, son of our friend Dale Oden, on life support due to an auto-immune disease.

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## Reflections on Rule 12:

"Witnessing to the good yet to come and obligated to acquire purity of heart because of the vocation they have embraced, they should set themselves free to love God and their brothers and sisters."

This is the Law and the Prophets.

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them [a scholar of the law] tested him by asking, "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments."

Mathew 22:34-40

From the Rule of 1221, Chapter 11: The friars must love one another; detraction or speaking injuriously of one another is forbidden.

Far from indulging in detraction or disputing in words (2 Timothy:14) the friars should do their best to avoid talking, according as God gives them the opportunity. There must be no quarreling among themselves or with others and they should be content to answer everyone humbly saying "we are unprofitable servants". (Luke 17:10) They must not give way to anger because the Gospel says: "But I say to you, whoever is angry with his brother will be liable to judgement and whoever says to his brother, 'Raqa,' will be answerable to the Sanhedrin, and whoever says, 'You fool,' will be liable to fiery Gehenna." (Mathew 5:22)

The friars are bound to love one another because our Lord says: "This is my commandment: love one another as I love you." (John 15:12) And they must prove their love by deeds as Saint John says, "Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth." (John 3:18)

They are to speak evil of none. There must be no complaining; no slander; it is written, "Whisperers and detractors are people hateful to God." (cf Romans 1:29) and "let them be moderate, showing all mildness to all men" (Titus 3:2) without a word of criticism or condemnation; as our Lord says they must give no thought even to the slightest faults of others (cf Mathew 7:3; "Why do you notice the splinter in your brother's eye, but do not perceive the wooden beam in your own eye?") but rather count over their own in the bitterness of their soul (cf Isaiah 38:15) "What am I to say or tell him? He is the one who has done it! All my sleep has fled, because of the bitterness of my soul." They must strive to enter by the narrow gate (Luke 13:24) because in the words of the Gospel, "How narrow the gate and constricted the road that leads to life. And those who find it are few." (Mathew 7:14)

**Third Sunday of Lent**

**Reading 1**

**EX 20:1-17**

In those days, God delivered all these commandments:

"I, the LORD, am your God,  
who brought you out of the land of Egypt,  
that place of slavery.  
You shall not have other gods besides me.  
You shall not carve idols for yourselves  
in the shape of anything in the sky above or on the  
earth below or in the waters beneath the earth;  
you shall not bow down before them or worship them.  
For I, the LORD, your God, am a jealous God,  
inflicting punishment for their fathers' wickedness  
on the children of those who hate me,  
down to the third and fourth generation;  
but bestowing mercy down to the thousandth  
generation on the children of those who love me and  
keep my commandments.

"You shall not take the name of the LORD, your God,  
in vain. For the LORD will not leave unpunished  
the one who takes his name in vain.

"Remember to keep holy the sabbath day. Six days you  
may labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is  
the sabbath of the LORD, your God.  
No work may be done then either by you, or your son  
or daughter, or your male or female slave, or your  
beast, or by the alien who lives with you.  
In six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth,  
the sea and all that is in them;  
but on the seventh day he rested.  
That is why the LORD has blessed the sabbath day and  
made it holy.

"Honor your father and your mother,  
that you may have a long life in the land  
which the LORD, your God, is giving you.  
You shall not kill.  
You shall not commit adultery.  
You shall not steal.  
You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.  
You shall not covet your neighbor's house.  
You shall not covet your neighbor's wife,  
nor his male or female slave, nor his ox or ass,  
nor anything else that belongs to him."

**Gospel**

**JN 2:13-25**

Since the Passover of the Jews was near,  
Jesus went up to Jerusalem.  
He found in the temple area those who sold oxen,  
sheep, and doves,  
as well as the money changers seated there.

He made a whip out of cords  
and drove them all out of the temple area,  
with the sheep and oxen,  
and spilled the coins of the money changers  
and overturned their tables,  
and to those who sold doves he said,  
"Take these out of here, and stop making my Father's  
house a marketplace."  
His disciples recalled the words of Scripture,  
Zeal for your house will consume me.

At this the Jews answered and said to him,  
"What sign can you show us for doing this?"  
Jesus answered and said to them,  
"Destroy this temple  
and in three days I will raise it up."  
The Jews said,  
"This temple has been under construction for forty-six  
years, and you will raise it up in three days?"

But he was speaking about the temple of his body.  
Therefore, when he was raised from the dead,  
his disciples remembered that he had said this,  
and they came to believe the Scripture  
and the word Jesus had spoken.

While he was in Jerusalem for the feast of Passover,  
many began to believe in his name  
when they saw the signs he was doing.  
But Jesus would not trust himself to them because he  
knew them all,  
and did not need anyone to testify about human  
nature.  
He himself understood it well.

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**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**

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