



# Secular Franciscan Herald

**St Francis of Assisi Fraternity**

Website: [www.queenofpeaceregion.org](http://www.queenofpeaceregion.org)

**Little Falls, Minnesota**

Website for Liturgy of the Hours: [www.divineoffice.org](http://www.divineoffice.org)

**November 2019**

## **Remembering Indigenous People at Thanksgiving**

Coming together with family can be challenging, we all have different ideas of what "America" is. In the history of this country, we can agree that Native people were wronged. 90% of the millions of Indigenous peoples died with the arrival of European settlers who enacted genocide of Indigenous peoples through starvation, torture, and massacres. There are endless tales of kidnappings, rapes, broken treaties and armed attacks. A member of the Ojibwe Tribe from Minnesota with a PHD in Anthropology, in his new book David Treuer shows that the Indians not only have maintained their culture and civilization through some dark years, but in some parts of the country, today are thriving. The heartbeat is strong. There are intrepid entrepreneurs, savvy lawyers and others who work for the best interests of their tribes. "The American Indian Dream is about looking back and bringing the culture along with it as it is looking ahead," Treuer writes.

Some Tribes share vast wealth among their members, by creating museums, jobs, programs, schools and cultural centers. But it has not helped all Indians. Unemployment rates as high as 77%. "Like all American avenues to wealth, casinos privilege the few and leave out the majority." Native peoples continue to fight for their lands and sovereignty while facing exceptional rates of poverty, suicide, and sexual violence, colonization persists to this day. Because of the colonizing settlers enacted through genocide of Indigenous people, it is hard for them to see Thanksgiving as anything other than a national day of mourning.

To be an ally to Native People this Thanksgiving we can research the truth. Reclaiming Native Truth's "Guide for Allies" can help to identify and challenge harmful ideas about Indigenous peoples. Consider sharing "the truth" with others at your Thanksgiving meal.

*Sr Mary Ann Capizzo OSF, spiritual assistant*

## **The Demon and the Angel Francis the Journey and the Dream, by Murray Bodo**

AND THEN THE TEMPTATIONS! How they had plagued him at first when he was alone and the pull of his former home was so strong upon his heart, drawing him back to the security of Assisi. But he somehow remained on the plain below the city, caring for the lepers and waiting for Jesus to drive away the demon in his heart. The greatest temptation was to feel sorry for himself and to ask himself why no one really cared for what he was doing. Yes, the lepers were grateful. That he knew, but he could not expect from poor people the companionship he needed to sustain him in his service of them.

So, Francis lived in prayer. He cast himself totally upon Jesus and begged Him to let one poor man survive this test of selflessness. In his daily washing of the lepers' sores Francis learned that love was hard, not soft and sentimental as he had guessed it would be. Every day he had to remind himself that he must discipline his own feelings if he was to become God's instrument. Love itself, he slowly grew to understand, could be the demon in his heart, if by love one understood a sweet consoling feeling that ran over at the heart and made a little puddle of piety in the soul. And that kind of demon was hardest to root out because it looked and felt so much like real love.

But when life became difficult and lonely and there was no return for giving of yourself, then this demon-love showed itself for what it really was, and you turned away from the path and abandoned the Quest. Jesus had said, "No one putting a hand to the plow and looking back is fit for the Kingdom of Heaven." Francis believed that to the end, for he knows what would have happened had he looked back during those first months when he was all alone in his service of the lepers in the little colony below Assisi. There is no prettier sight in Italy than the one from that spot: the pink and brown buildings of Assisi huddled close together on a green buttress of Mount Subasio, the very picture of warmth and security.

But Jesus knew what Francis' heart could take, and He sent him His angel to comfort him and lift his heart again. That angel, as so often was the case in his life, was a person, the first brother to join Francis in the Journey. His name was Bernard of Quintavalle, and he, like Francis, never looked back from the Quest he had begun. *What demons lurk in us, do we look back, or forward. Who is our angel, always there to help?*

*Janice Rybaski ofs, minister*

This is the *Day*  
that the Lord has made,  
let us *Rejoice*  
and be glad in it.  
Psalm 118:24

# Happy Thanksgiving!

**Secular Franciscan "Come and See" Gathering  
October 6, 2019, Heritage Room  
St. Francis Center, 2:00 PM**

Present: Jan Rybaski, Kathy Hoffman Tax, Charlotte VanRisseghem, Rita Vosen, Patty Commerford, Leona Mattock, Sister Mary Ann Capizzo, and Janet Berendt. Guests: Brad and Maria Uberto, Sister Maurita Burnett. Introductions by each person and sharing favorite story of St. Francis.

Sister Mary Ann read the story of the nativity created at Grecio.

Coming Events:

Share a Meal – November 14 at 5:00 PM at First Lutheran Church. Buns will be ordered from the Little Falls Bakery, Thielen's Meat will donate 25# hamburger, and 2 cases of chips from Red's Auto in Pierz.

We enjoyed sweet treats at the close of the gathering at 4:00 PM.

*Janet Berendt, ofs, secretary*

**St. Andrew**, also known as Andrew the Apostle, was a Christian Apostle and the older brother to St. Peter. According to the New Testament, Andrew was born in the village of Bethsaida on the Sea of Galilee during the early first century. Much like his younger brother, Simon Peter, Andrew was also a fisherman. Andrew's very name means strong and he was known for having good social skills.

In the Gospel of Matthew, it is said Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee and saw Andrew and Simon Peter fishing. It is then he asked the two to become disciples and "fishers of men."

In the Gospel of Luke, Andrew is not initially named. It describes Jesus using a boat, believed to be solely Simon's, to preach to the multitudes and catch a large amount of fish on a night that originally was dry. Later, in Luke 5:7, it mentions Simon was not the only fisherman on the boat, but it is not until Luke 6:14 that there is talk of Andrew being Simon Peter's brother. However, the Gospel of John tells a separate story, stating Andrew was a disciple of John the Baptist. When Jesus walked by one day, John the Baptist stated, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" It is then that Andrew and another made the decision to follow Jesus.

Little else is said about Andrew in the Gospels, but it is believed Andrew was one of the closer disciples to Jesus. It was he who told Jesus about the boy with the loaves and fishes, according to John 6:8. When Philip wanted to speak to Jesus about Greeks seeking him, he spoke to Andrew first. Andrew was also present at the last supper. Per Christian tradition, Andrew went on to preach the Good News around the shores of the Black Sea and throughout what is now Greece and Turkey. Andrew was martyred by crucifixion in Patras. He was bound, rather than nailed, to a cross, as is described in the Acts of Andrew. He was crucified on a cross form known as "crux decussata," which is an X-shaped cross or a "saltire." Today this is commonly referred to as "St. Andrew's Cross." It is believed Andrew requested to be crucified this way, because he deemed himself "unworthy to be crucified on the same type of cross as Jesus."

Andrew's remains were originally preserved at Patras. However, some believe St. Regulus, who was

**Calendar of Events**

**November 2019-month of the Holy Souls in Purgatory**

1<sup>st</sup>-Feast of All Saints-Holy Day of Obligation

2<sup>nd</sup>-Commeration of all of the Faithful Departed

4<sup>th</sup>- St Charles Borromeo, Bishop, Secular Franciscan, died 1584

12<sup>th</sup>- **GATHERING AT ST OTTO'S 6PM**

**PRAYER LEADER-SR MAY ANN CAPIZZO**

**PRAYER-LITURGY OF THE HOURS**

16<sup>th</sup>-St Agnes of Assisi, Virgin, Poor Clare Sister, died 1253

19<sup>th</sup>-St Elizabeth of Hungary, Virgin, Patroness of Secular Franciscans, died 1231

21<sup>st</sup>-Feast of the Presentation of the Holy Virgin Mary

26<sup>th</sup>- St Leonard of Port Maurice, Priest, Franciscan First Order, died 1751

28<sup>th</sup>-Thanksgiving Day

30<sup>th</sup>-St Andrew

**December 2019-month of the Incarnation**

7<sup>th</sup>-profession anniversary-Pam Geyer & Kathy Hoffman Tax

9<sup>th</sup>-Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, patroness of the Seraphic Order, Holy Day of Obligation

**10<sup>TH</sup>-GATHERING AT ST OTTO'S 5PM POTLUCK**

**PRAYER LEADER-KAREN GROSS**

**PRAYER-LITURGY OF THE HOURS**

12<sup>th</sup>-Feast of Our lady of Guadalupe; discovery of the tomb of St Francis, 1820

22<sup>nd</sup>-St Francis Xavier Cabrini, Virgin, died 1917

25<sup>th</sup>-Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Holy Day of Obligation

26<sup>th</sup>-St Stephen

27<sup>th</sup>-St John

28<sup>th</sup>-Feast of the Holy Innocents

29<sup>th</sup>-Feast of the Holy Family, Jesus, Mary & Joseph

a monk at Patras, received a vision telling him to hide some of Andrew's bones. Shortly after Regulus' dream, many of Andrew's relics were transferred to Constantinople by order of Roman emperor Constantius II around 357. Regulus later received orders in a second dream telling him to take the bones "to the ends of the earth." He was to build a shrine for them wherever he shipwrecked. He landed on the coast of Fife, Scotland.

In September 1964, Pope Paul VI had all of St. Andrew's relics that ended up in Vatican City sent back to Patras. Now, many of Andrew's relics and the cross on which he was martyred are kept in the Church of St. Andrew in Patras. St. Andrew is venerated in Georgia as the first preacher of Christianity in that territory and in Cyprus for having struck the rocks creating a gush of healing waters upon landing on the shore. His saltire cross is featured on the flag of Scotland and is represented in much of his iconography. He is commonly portrayed as an old man with long white hair and a beard, often holding the Gospel book or a scroll.

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