



St Anthony of Padua Fraternity Bulletin

Volume 26 No. 3

March 21, 2021

Dates to Remember

THURSDAY, MARCH 4 @ 5PM
COUNCIL MEETING-JULIE'S

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10
8:00 AM OFS MASS
ST. BRIDGET'S CHURCH

SUNDAY, MARCH 21 @ 3PM
OFS MEETING
ST. BRIDGET'S CHURCH
(5TH SUNDAY OF LENT)

SUNDAY, MARCH 28-
PALM SUNDAY

APRIL 1-HOLY THURSDAY

APRIL 2- GOOD FRIDAY

APRIL 3-HOLY SATURDAY

APRIL 4- EASTER SUNDAY

THURSDAY, APRIL 8 @5PM-
COUNCIL MEETING-JULIE'S

SUNDAY, APRIL 18 @3PM
OFS MEETING
ST. BRIDGET'S CHURCH

(NOTE: MASS DATES WERE IN-
CORRECT AND WILL BE PUB-
LISHED AS SOON AS THEY ARE
CONFIRMED)

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

March Liturgy-Pope St. John
Paul II-Scriptural Stations of
the Cross

March Ongoing-History of
Stations- Barb/Julie

Remember in a special way
your Block Apostolate in
these times.

"Worthy is the Lamb who
was slain to receive power
and divinity and wisdom and
strength and honor and
blessing ." Let us praise and
glorify him forever.
(Praises before the Office)

Christ did not send me to baptize; he sent me to preach the gospel; not with an orator's cleverness, for so the cross of Christ might be robbed of its force. To those who court their own ruin, the message of the cross is but folly; to us, who are on the way to salvation, it is the evidence of God's power. So we read in scripture, I will confound the wisdom of wise men, disappoint the calculations of the prudent. What has become of the wise men, the scribes, the philosophers of this age we live in? Must we not say that God has turned our worldly wisdom to folly? When God showed us his wisdom, the world, with all its wisdom, could not find its way to God; and now God would use a foolish thing, our preaching, to save those who will believe in it. Here are the Jews asking for signs and wonders,

here are the Greeks intent on their philosophy; but what we preach is Christ crucified; to the Jews, a discouragement, to the Gentiles, mere folly; but to us who have been called, Jew and Gentile alike, Christ the power of God, Christ the wisdom of God. So much wiser than men is God's foolishness; so much stronger than men is God's weakness. Consider, brethren, the circumstances of your own calling; not many of you are wise, in the world's fashion, not many powerful, not many well born. No, God has chosen what the world holds foolish, so as to abash the wise, God has chosen what the world holds weak, so as to abash the strong. God has chosen what the world holds base and contemptible, nay, has chosen what is nothing, so as to bring to nothing what is now in being; no human creature was to have any ground for boasting, in the presence of God. It is from him that you take your origin, through Christ Jesus, whom God gave us to be all our wisdom, our justification, our sanctification, and our atonement; so that the scripture might be fulfilled, If anyone boasts, let him make his boast in the Lord. Corinthians 1:17-31

There is nothing more to say about the Cross and Christ crucified than that which St. Paul says here. God has chosen what the world holds foolish. That is us. But not a bad foolish, just foolish to the world. Francis was foolish to the world as well. And we follow him with great love. The advice for all of us this Lent is to listen to God's foolishness. You will find yourself very wise in the ways of the world. Francis did not receive the stigmata, the wounds of Christ suffered on the cross to show how much he cared for the "other," No, he foolishly received one of the greatest gifts God could bestow on man, the ultimate love Jesus showed for Francis by allowing him to carry His wounds as a sign that Francis did indeed understand what Christ meant when he said, If anyone would follow after me he should deny himself and take up his cross.

Peace and all Good to all our brothers and sisters



"And at last he heard St. Francis' voice speaking and he went closer to hear what he was saying. In the moonlight he saw St. Francis on his knees, with his face lifted toward the sky and his hands held out to God, saying these words with fervor of spirit: "Who are You, my dearest God? And what am I, your vilest little worm and useless little servant? And he repeated those words over and over, and he said nothing else." (Little Flowers- Third consideration about the apparition of the Seraph and the Imprinting of the Holy Stigmata on St. Francis)

TREASURER'S REPORT:

General Fund Balance as of 1/31/2021	93.86
March Collection	305.00
Balance as of 02/28/2021	398.86
Submitted by Kathy Kubow, Treasurer	

Editors Note: budget for 2021 and financial report for 2020 is still pending and will be printed when complete.

2021 Secular Franciscan Masses All Masses at St. Bridget's Church

:NOTE: DATES TO BE RECONFIRMED

March 10th Wednesday @ 8 am

April 14th Wednesday @ 8 am

May 12th Wednesday @ 8 am

June 13th St. Anthony of Padua –
Sunday @ 9:30 am

July 15th St. Bonaventure Thursday @ 8 am

August 11 St. Clare – Wednesday @ 8 am

September 8th Wednesday @ 8 am

October 4th St. Francis - Monday @ 7 pm

November 17th St Elizabeth of Hungary
Wednesday @ 8 am

December 8th Wednesday @ 8 am

FRATERNITY MEETINGS VIA ZOOM:

We are excited to be trying to connect with those who are homebound and the Browns Valley fraternity members today via Zoom. We hope this will work well and we will be able to continue to use this platform to connect those who cannot be physically present.

If you do not have Zoom on your cell phone, tablet or computer, please load ahead of time and create a login and password. If you require assistance, reach out to a computer savvy relative or Tammy. The day of the meeting you wish to attend click on "Join Zoom Meeting" and enter

MEETING ID: 879 6287 6555
NO PASSWORD IS REQUIRED.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- For our Blocks in N. Minneapolis, who we offer our special prayers that God would hear us and provide every grace and blessing needed to all who live there and that His presence be known to the St. Bridget's neighborhood.
- For the Lucia family prayers for health, well being as well as continued prayers for Maria's discernment regarding profession into the OFS.
- For peace in our Nation.
- For Mary Ann Witzman (Alice's sister and former Minister of our fraternity as well as a founding member of the San Damiano fraternity in Elk River) who is near death after falling this last Sunday and hitting her head hard. She is at Holy Angels nursing home and was moved to hospice-type comfort care.
- For the healing and peace of Christ to the sick, suffering, and homebound or in Care Centers including LaRayne, and Rose, and for their caregivers.
- For full healing from chronic health issues for Carol Wolney.
- For Sarah North, Julie's daughter, for successful knee surgery and healing.
- For Jan Parker, National OFS Minister for healing from cancer.
- For all that are struggling due to the lockdowns and COVID-related stresses.
- For Sharon Brisk and her children Denise and David, for full healing and God's grace in their lives.
- For Gunnar and Courtney, (nephew of Edith Foren) who are expecting their first child.
- For Bre and Steve Wolney (son and daughter-in-law of Tim and Tammy) who are expecting their 2nd child in late August.
- For healing for Will's family members, Brother, Brother-in-law and Nephew, and for a job for his sister-in-law Julie.
- For Maria's daughter and son in law as they move to a new life in Texas.
- For Kathy Kubow's sister, Carol, for healing from inoperable cancer and for her sister, Rosie, for healing of depression.
- For continued healing from pancreatic and breast cancer for Dianne Redman.
- For those who are alone and lonely may they know God's love.
- For all unborn children, that they especially be protected from the legislation in states allow for killing up to the moment of birth, and for those preparing for/caring for our newborns.
- For blessings on all who are in the Franciscan family, that God will strengthen their commitment. And for an increase in vocations to the Secular Franciscan Order.
- For our Pope, all priests, bishops and religious that they may perform their ministerial duties fearlessly with the help of the Holy Spirit.
- For God's blessing on all our marriages, that we be an example to those who need it in this time.
- For Kathy's goddaughter, Amy, for mental and spiritual well being and return to good health.
- For the Browns Valley Fraternity and their discernment for how each of them will decide how to move forward in living their Franciscan life in fraternity.
- For those who have fallen from the faith, that the message of Easter would call them back to the faith.

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Pope Saint Martin I's Story (Feast Day April 13)

When Martin I became pope in 649, Constantinople was the capital of the Byzantine empire and the patriarch of Constantinople was the most influential Church leader in the eastern Christian world. The struggles that existed within the Church at that time were magnified by the close cooperation of emperor and patriarch.

A teaching, strongly supported in the East, held that Christ had no human will. Twice, emperors had officially favored this position: Heraclius by publishing a formula of faith, and Constans II by silencing the issue of one or two wills in Christ.

Shortly after assuming the office of the papacy—which he did without first being confirmed by the emperor—Martin held a council at the Lateran in which the imperial documents were censured, and in which the patriarch of Constantinople and two of his predecessors were condemned. In response, Constans II first tried to turn bishops and people against the pope.

Failing in this and in an attempt to kill the pope, the emperor sent troops to Rome to seize Martin and to bring him back to Constantinople. Already in poor health, Martin offered no resistance, returned with Calliopas, the exarch of Constantinople, and was then submitted to various impris-

onments, tortures, and hardships. Although condemned to death and with some of the imposed torture already carried out, Martin was saved from execution by the pleas of a repentant Paul, patriarch of Constantinople, who was himself gravely ill.

Tortures and cruel treatment having taken their toll, Martin died shortly thereafter. He is the last of the early popes to be venerated as a martyr.



Reflection

The real significance of the word *martyr* comes not from the dying but from the witnessing, which the word means in its derivation. People who are willing to give up everything, their most precious possessions, their very lives, put a supreme value on the cause or belief for which they sacrifice. Martyrdom, dying for the faith, is an incidental extreme to which some have had to go to manifest their belief in Christ. A living faith, a life that exemplifies Christ's teaching throughout, and that in spite of difficulties, is required of all Christians. Martin refused to cut corners as a way of easing his lot, to make some accommodations with the civil rulers.