



# Tracings

ISSUE 38 | Spring June 2022





# ***Theme of the Issue***

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### ***Secular Franciscan Order Queen of Peace Region Charitable Giving Form***

***I/We would like to make a tax deductible donation to the OFS Queen of Peace Regional Common Fund:***

***In honor of:*** \_\_\_\_\_  
***- or -***

***As a Memorial to:*** \_\_\_\_\_

***My/Our check numbered*** \_\_\_\_\_ ***in the amount of*** \_\_\_\_\_  
***is included in this mailing, made out to “QUEEN OF PEACE REGION.”***

***My/Our Name:*** \_\_\_\_\_

***Address:*** \_\_\_\_\_

***City/State/Zip:*** \_\_\_\_\_

***Please mail this form and your check to: Treasurer, OFS Queen of Peace Region  
3715 Vinewood Lane N, Plymouth, MN 55441***

## ***Minister's column from Kim Pappas OFS***

When the Regional Executive Council decided on themes for Tracings, "Celebration" seemed like the perfect theme. If you have planned any kind of celebration, you realize there is a lot of work that goes with hundreds of details. The celebration is the culmination of effort. I have loved reading fraternity newsletters about the Regions 30 for 30 (do 30 things to celebrate 30 years as a region). My fraternity has a calendar for May doing something different every day.

My granddaughter is helping by reminding me what I should/should not do. We are also planning an All-Region gathering on Sept. 24, 2022 at St. Bonaventure Parish in Bloomington, MN. Although there has been a lot of work, it has also made me realize that I don't know what I don't know.

Contracts, meetings, discussions with ministers...the planning goes on. A sense of humor goes a long way, when you think, the road is leading to perfect joy. I find that the biggest celebration is our fidelity to the Secular Franciscans. We have been tried All the way up to International with Covid.

If we took fraternity life for granted before the pandemic, we quickly realized how much we need each other and our fraternity family. Zoom, phone calls etc. were tools we used to keep in touch. In person gatherings remind us why we went down this path in the first place. The Quinquennial is happening in Phoenix (Aug. 2022) and National fraternity will meet for the first time since the pandemic started in October. It is the NAFRA election so if you are interested in running...Celebration

## ***Franciscan Celebration! 30 years as a Region!*** by Mona Wolney, OFS

If there's one thing that Franciscans do well, it's we know how to celebrate! Every Fraternity meeting has 4 parts and one of them is social; we celebrate our being together with food and conversation. This year is a special year as we celebrate 30 years as: "The Queen of Peace Region." For me, it holds special meaning as my mom, Carol Wolney, OFS, was one of the key players in moving the Secular Franciscans in our region from gathering under our Provincial Sources around the country: OFM's, TOR's, Conventual's and Capuchin's to meeting and gathering as Secular Franciscan fraternities in our perspective Regions.

I recall my mom's travels, the many meetings and all the hard work involved in making this important move a reality. Change is not something most people enjoy. Prior to the change, for our Fraternity, St Anthony of Padua, it meant traveling from Minneapolis MN to Pennsylvania to be with the TOR's. Though it's nice to travel it became very costly for TOR sponsored fraternities to gather with each other and very few could go and attend unless you lived in closer driving range. The change to becoming Region's truly united us all to more enriched and larger gatherings and helped to make us one Franciscan family regardless of the order of Friars we are bonded to. I look forward to our Annual meeting in June to hear of all the ways our Region is celebrating this 30th year with 30 special apostolates!

## **CELEBRATION!!!**

As anyone that knows me will tell you, when I think of any celebration, the first thing that comes to my mind is party cake! That scrumptious, sweet, over-the-top decorated cake that makes my mouth water the second I see it! It's not just the taste of the cake but it's the fact that the cake represents a special moment in time, it's not just an everyday occurrence that I take for granted.

On October 23, 1992 the Queen of Peace Region was established by the National Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order in the United States of America. This was no small fete at the time. Boundaries were roughly drawn by the regionalization committee then every single fraternity within that boundary had to sign a document agreeing to become an integral part of this region. Every fraternity had a choice! Every fraternity had a choice to be "the basic unit of the whole Order and a visible sign of the Church, the community of love." Rule, Art. 22. Do you realize that the Queen of Peace regional logo was commissioned by an OFS artist, Jaime Bernardo, and is the only know image of Mary standing on a TAU cross?

For 30 years the fraternities, past and present, of The Queen of Peace region have been "the privileged place for developing a sense of Church and the Franciscan vocation and for enlivening the apostolic life of its members." Rule, Art. 22

We, as fraternity, continue to celebrate every time we:

- Welcome someone seeking our way of life to a fraternity gathering
- Have a Rite of Admission for a member
- Gather at Mass to share the Eucharist when a Candidate is Professed
- Have a Newly Forming Group meeting
- Declare a new Emerging Fraternity
- Canonically establish a new fraternity
- Perform an apostolate or pray for an intention
- Experience a healing or are faced with a challenge
- Mourn the life of a member as they experience their transitus to everlasting life
- Recall the deeds of a fraternity and all its members as the need to deactivate arises
- Realize the awesomeness of the Spirit-given vocation that we carry in the world!

Happy 30th birthday Queen of Peace region! Bring on the party cake!!

Kathy Taormina, OFS  
QOP Regional Spiritual Assistant

## ***JPIC Article by Mary Higgins***

Celebrate Francis, a Man for our Times

When I was a second grade teacher in a Catholic school, I gave my students an assignment to go home and ask their parents who their favorite saint was and why. Jesus' mother Mary and Saint Francis won the popular vote, hands-down. Many of the whys for Saint Francis told of his love for animals and creation. It's easy for us to romanticize Saint Francis and relegate him to a birdbath or a rock garden statue.

But as we know, Saint Francis was radical in his embrace of poverty, his utter lack of decorum, the way he dressed in tatters, begged for food to eat and rocks to rebuild broken down chapels. He hung out with the lepers and the poor and the ragtag brothers who joined him. There was that dramatic gesture when he broke with his merchant-class father and stripped naked in the town square. He risked his life on a mission to make peace with the Muslim sultan during the Crusades. He was given the "gift" of the stigmata, which caused him intense pain.

You don't get to be remembered for eight centuries by being a quiet, compliant, unassuming person. Saint Francis was larger than life. And because of that, people are still captured by his spirit all these hundreds of years later. As we look at the life of St. Francis and our promise to follow Jesus in his footsteps, a number of qualities in his life are worth celebrating and imitating.

Francis' embrace of creation is one of them. Francis saw himself as one with all of creation, a brother to the sun and moon, water and fire, plants and all animals, and to the poor. "Love your neighbor as yourself" became a command to love all that God created. If we see creation in the same way, we do what we can to care for the planet as we pass it on to future generations.

The second is Francis's detachment through his radical embrace of poverty and humility. Here in the US, we wallow in consumerism – in all the stuff we own and use. Francis was free of this attachment and to take following Francis seriously, we deal with our own attachments and seek to live a simpler life, walking gently on the earth.

Another attribute of Francis was his absolute love and care for the poor. His life changed dramatically the day he dared to embrace a leper, when he had felt nothing but revulsion toward lepers before then. Concern for the poor is a bedrock of Franciscan spirituality.

Saint Francis lived a balance of contemplation and action. He often spent time in isolated caves, praying for days. And then he went out and preached the Word and lived the Word. We are challenged to ground our actions in prayer, to develop the resolve we need to respond to the needs set before us.

Francis demonstrated a sincere respect for the Church. He loved the gift of the Eucharist, which sustains us on the spiritual journey and empowers us for the ministries we undertake. His call to rebuild the Church becomes our call to strengthen the Church today.

And finally, St. Francis lived with deep joy and hope. Opening our minds and hearts to all the suffering in the world can cause sadness and anxiety. In a sense this is necessary for us, because it motivates us to action. But we also must live with joy, celebrating our appreciation for the world, the creatures and people around us, the blessing of the present moment. We hold on to the hope of the resurrection.

All of these attributes of Francis serve us well as we strive to live out the mission of Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation. On his deathbed, Saint Francis said to his followers: "I have done what is mine to do. Now may Christ teach you what is yours." Let's celebrate all the ways Franciscans over these past eight centuries, and in our region over the last 30 years, have answered that call.

## ***Events***

Yesterday, 3/10/2022, Pater Noster Fraternity held an Thank You! event at a local KFC. We were able to partner with them to help feed young people at Youth Emergency Services. Kent Riesberg, OFS has been the lead coordinator between, Pater Noster Fraternity, KFC and Youth Emergency Services.

## ***Installation of Our New Spiritual Assistant***

Alan Weier OFS was installed as the spiritual assistant for Our Lady of Consolation Secular Franciscan Fraternity on Sunday, April 24, 2022.

The rite was led by Minister Steve Schier OFS and Fr. Jim VanDorn OFM Conv.

Fr. Jim has served as the fraternity's spiritual assistant for 12 years, the maximum number allowed.

The fraternity expressed their appreciation for his faithful accompaniment over the years and their support for Alan as he begins his new role.

## ***Elections***

**John Paul II fraternity had an election on Sunday May 15th.**

Jenise Seewald (Secretary) Lisa Falenschek (Councilor) Matt Johansen (Vice Minister) Sarah Gahlon (Minister) Kyle Gahlon (Formation) Joan Dahle (Treasurer)

**Little Portion held elections on may 15 2022**

VM: Sharon Kinker, OFS, Sec.: Annette Rohlik, OFS,

Formation: Carrie Stiernagle, OFS, Treasurer: Bernadette Deutz, OFS,

Minister: Sandra Tuszynski, OFS

**St. Thomas More fraternity had an election on Tuesday March 8th.**

The new council is Elizabeth Korth OFS is the formation director, JoAnn Larson OFS is the treasurer, Clara Trapp OFS is the Minister, Michael Rief OFS is the Vice Minister and Jane Marie Rief OFS is the secretary.

**Our Lady of Consolation had an election Sunday May 15th.**

The new council .Cindy Boggs OFS is a councilor, Paula Spranger OFS is the secretary, Edward Vierling OFS is the vice minister, Mary Higgins OFS is Minister, David Keymer OFS is the treasurer, Wendy Parks OFS is the formation director.

**Pater Noster Fraternity had a Chapter of Elections on May 15, 2022**

Members are: Standing: Sr. Kathleen Kluthe, OSF(SA); Larry Reynek, OFS

(Presider at Election); Mitchell Brazell, OFS(Vice Minister); Steve Carlson, OFS(Councilor); Richard "Dick" Beal, OFS(Secretary); Nancy Yount, OFS(Councilor); Dave Garrett, OFS(Formation Director)

Kneeling: Luis Alvarez, OFS (Minister); Linda Mertz, OFS(Treasurer)

## ***Profession***

Profession of Mary Ann Bucklin on May 26, 2022 Fr. Steve McMichael, OFM Conv., Mary Ann, Tim Taormina, Minister, and Mary Kopelke, Formation Director.



NAFRA

## REGIONAL TREASURER'S REPORT

Date: 5/31/2022

Fraternity: Queen of Peace Region

Frat #: 55

Name: Edward G Walker

EIN: 41-1769783

Address: 3715 Vinewood Lane N

City: Plymouth, MN 55441

MONTHLY REPORT

TO THE

REGIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Month: May Year: 2022

(form NAF-TR-3)

Cash balances at ...	Beginning of Month	End of Month
Checking account	\$ 32,773.57	\$ 32,208.73
Savings account	\$ 9,357.46	\$ 9,357.46
Other bank accounts		
Other cash		
<b>Total cash</b>	<b>\$ 42,131.03</b>	<b>\$ 41,566.19</b>
Income:	Same Month Last Year	This Month
Book Sales		
Donations		20.00
Duns Scotus		
Fair Share		900.00
Fund Raisers		
Interest Income-Checking		1.41
Interest Income-Savings		
Stipends Elections/Visitations		350.00
Other Income <i>Annual Meeting Guest fees</i>		20.00
Other Income		
<b>Total income</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$1,291.41</b>
Expenses:		
Annual Regional Fraternity Mtg <i>FR&amp;SC Deposit for 2023</i>		1,856.25
Charitable Contributions		
Executive Council Meetings		
Fair Share		
Formation		
JPIC		
Meal Expenses		
NAFRA Annual Meeting		
Operations/Administration		
Quinquennial		
Regional Election/Visitation		
Stipend-Spiritual Assistants		
Stipend-Elections/Visitations		
Travel Expenses		
Workshops & Conferences		
Youth		
Other		
Other		
Other		
Other		
Other		
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,856.25</b>
<b>Net income or expense for the month</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (564.84)</b>
Cash balance at end of month:		
[(Beginning cash+(net income-net expense))]		\$ 41,566.19

Attested to by Edward G Walker

, OFS, Regional Treasurer

Date: 5/31/2022

Sister Mary Lou Eltgroth, age 87, died on March 31, 2022. She served as Regional Spiritual Assistant for several appointments beginning in 1997.

## **REGIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

### **Minister**

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kimberlyp4708@gmail.com

### **Vice Minister**

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### **NE/IA Councilor**

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### **Regional Spiritual Assistant**

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kathysfo@hotmail.com

If you have anything to put in the Tracings. Please send it to Alan at **TracingsEditor@gmail.com** Thank you.

## **TRACINGS**

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**Queen of Peace Region | ORDO FRANCISCANUS SAECULARIS | [www.queenofpeaceregion.org](http://www.queenofpeaceregion.org)**