



The Herald of St. Francis

Jan. 2009
Vol. XXIX, No. 1

Next Meeting:

Sunday, January 11th
@ 1:30 p.m.

12:30 p.m.
for Inquirers,
Candidates and
Professed Formation

Newsletter of the St. Francis Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order, St. Katharine Drexel Region
Meeting at St. Francis of Assisi Church, Saxer Ave. & Rolling Rd., Springfield Delaware County, Pennsylvania 19064
www.stfrancisfraternity.org • info@stfrancisfraternity.org

If you are unable to fulfill your obligation to attend the monthly meeting, please call Rita Dourdoufis at 610-352-2413.

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"The object of a new year is not that we should have a new year. It is that we should have a new soul"

~ G. K. Chesterton

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Minister's Notes

January - that time of year for new beginnings, new president, new promises to keep, the best of intentions.

It is also a time for reflection - to go forward by looking back. A time when Minister's Notes become... Telling it like it is...also known as: The State of the Union, er...State of the Fraternity!

When I became Minister, I was amazed at what it took from a financial stand point to keep us going.

The Per Capita is a yearly amount (\$25 per Professed member this year) that is owed to our Regional Fraternity. Our Fraternity is responsible to pay the Per Capita for every active Professed member - whether you come to the meetings, or take part in Fraternal life. (Members in Nursing Homes are considered "retired" and are not part of the requirement.)

Up until a few months ago, we had to pay over \$300 a year in Liability Insurance - to cover us in case anyone was injured during our meetings. Our newsletter costs the Fraternity nearly \$500 a year to publish and mail. There are also monthly stipends paid to St. Francis of Assisi Parish for the use of Conway Hall and the deacon for our Benediction.

We make a monthly donation to St. Francis Inn, Kensington, and a yearly donation to support "our family" in India / part of the Franciscan Family Apostolate. These 'expenses' are what we really are about - helping a Brother and Sister in need.

At the end of the year, we are not supposed to be showing a great profit. We are very much in compliance there!

I have shared all these facts and figures with you, not to rock you to sleep, but to help you understand that the Fraternity needs you - every month - and not just from a monetary stand point, but to take an active part in our prayer life which keeps us going much more than balancing the books!

Kate

Our January Meeting

We will hold our monthly meeting on Sunday, January 11, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. in Conway hall. We will recite the Franciscan Crown Rosary and after our regular meeting and prayers, we will proceed to St. Francis Church for Benediction.

We will be having the "Rite of Admission" for Stella Viola, Francis Urso and Frances Urso as well as the "Welcoming In" for Patricia Simon.

"And we will be involved in the monthly meeting as an act of worship and a building of community."

--from The Lay Franciscan Monthly Pledge

Liturgy of the Hours

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Evening prayer is on pages 242 and 214

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Don't Forget

- To sign the attendance log
- Petition slips
- Pennies for the missions, cancelled stamps and caps off of aluminum cans should be given to Rose Marie Gantz.
- Please save any free religious articles you receive in the mail for Mary Ellen Gontaryk.

Prayer Requests

"You are to help your brothers until the Lord gives them rest."

-- The Book of Joshua

Please remember in prayer: Santa Ricci, Grace Holley and her granddaughter Michelle Davis; Frances Bellew, Kimberly Gilligan (Niece of Marie Gilligan); Marie Frantini's daughter (Marie Dolores); Christine Truitt; Antoinette Iorio; Jean Cannon; Betty Downey, JoAnne Troup and her family, Bernie Kleinert (Kate Kleinert's Husband), Mary Ann Palmer, Jeanette Anderson (Rose Marie Anderson's daughter-in-law), Mary Betancourt, Lisa Davis (Marie Gilligan's daughter-in-laws mother); Cyrilla Pine, Marian McCole, Christine Somers, Father Paul Stenson, Mary Stenson, 4 yr old Evan Nickel.

Francis Inn Needs:

- Mens' and Womens' thermals
- Scarves, hats and gloves
- Tuna fish
- Hot Cocoa mix

January Profession Anniversaries

Francis Dee 1963.

Formation

Formation sessions begin at 12:30 p.m. in Conway Hall.

- **Professed** will be reviewing Chapter D4 -- "Fraternity for Franciscans"
- **Inquirers:** Come & See, Chapter 1
- **Candidates:** Catch Me a Rainbow Too, Chapter 1

January Franciscan Saints and Blesseds

- 1 Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
- 3 Holy Name of Jesus
- 7 Bl Angela of Foligno
- 12 St Bernard of Corleone
- 14 Bl Odoric of Pordenone
- 16 Sts Berard and Companions
- 24 St Francis De Sales
- 27 St Angela Merici
- 30 St Hyacinth of Mariscotti
- 31 St John Boscus

Reminder

The 2009 Guides for The Liturgy of the Hours are available. The price is \$3.50. Just a reminder to please pay for the Guides that were distributed at the December meeting.

February Meeting

Our Regional Minister, Mattie Ward, is tentatively scheduled to be with us for our February meeting on Sunday, February 8. Please plan to attend.

Our Council

Minister	Kate Kleinert	583-0155	minister@stfrancisfraternity.org
Vice Minister	Carmen Lombertino	626-8958	viceminister@stfrancisfraternity.org
Secretary	Mary Ellen Gontaryk	352-1389	secretary@stfrancisfraternity.org
Treasurer	Marie Blair	626-7422	treasurer@stfrancisfraternity.org
Formator	Marian McCole	449-6461	formator1@stfrancisfraternity.org
Formator	Rose Benner	647-8374	formator2@stfrancisfraternity.org
Newsletter	Lee Potts	789-6741	newsletter@stfrancisfraternity.org
Attendance Secretary	Rita Dourdoufis	352-2413	attendance@stfrancisfraternity.org
Infirmarian	Marie Gilligan	284-4725	infirmarian@stfrancisfraternity.org
Historian/Membership	Genevieve Sullivan	534-5778	membership@stfrancisfraternity.org