



# The Herald of St. Francis

Dec. 2012  
Vol. XXXII, No. 12

**Next Meeting:**  
Sunday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>  
Set up: 12:30 p.m.  
Creche Service: 1:30  
No Initial 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](http://www.stfrancisfraternity.org) • [info@stfrancisfraternity.org](mailto:info@stfrancisfraternity.org)

## Our December Gathering

The annual Christmas Celebration will take place beginning at 1:30 p.m. (setup will begin at 12:30) in Conway Hall. We will begin with the Crown Rosary followed by our Creche Service and a Franciscan Feast (one that we provide for each other!!). Many thanks to Antoinette Lightman for heading up the Party Committee.

If you are unable to fulfill your obligation to attend the monthly meeting, please call Pat Simon at 610-352-5390

*"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

## Don't Forget

- To sign the attendance log
- Petition slips
- Pennies for missions and flip tops off aluminum cans

Theresa McHugh has kindly volunteered to take the pennies and can tabs to Our Lady of Perpetual Help each month.

## Important Schedule Changes

Beginning in January, we will be changing the schedule of our meetings as follows:

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| 10:30 to 12:30 | Initial formation for inquirers and candidates                    |
| 12:30 to 1:30  | Mandatory ongoing formation (includes those in initial formation) |
| 1:30 to 2:00   | Social time (light snacks)  |
| 2:00 to 3:00   | Communal prayer & announcements                                   |
| 3:00 to 3:15   | Break & move to church for benediction                            |
| 3:15 to 3:45   | Benediction   |
| 3:45 to 4:45   | Council meeting   |

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## St. Francis Inn Needs:

- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Sugared Cereal
- Coffee
- #13 Gal. Trash Bags
- Metal Soup Spoons
- Toilet Paper
- Sm. Size Toiletries
- #5 & 6 Pampers
- Prayers

## December Profession Anniversaries

Marie Bair 1986

Veda Dugan 1986

Teresa McHugh 1986

Regina McGarry 1971

Claire Quinn 1975

## December Franciscan Saints and Blessed

8 Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

12 Our Lady of Guadalupe

15 Bl Mary Frances Schervier

## Formation Quotations

From the *General Constitutions of the Secular Franciscan Order* (Article 44):

Begun by the preceding stages, the formation of the brothers and sisters takes place in a permanent and continuous way. It should be understood as an aid in the conversion of each and everyone and in the fulfillment of their proper mission in the Church and in society

...

Ongoing formation – accomplished by means of courses, gatherings, and the sharing of experience – aims to assist the brothers and sisters:

- (Rule 4) in listening to and meditating on the Word of God, “going from Gospel to life and from life to Gospel;”
- in reflecting on events in the Church and in society in the light of faith, and with the help of the documents of the teaching Church, consequently taking consistent positions;
- in discerning and deepening the Franciscan vocation by studying the writings of Saint Francis, Saint Clare and Franciscan authors.

**Please note: There will be some changes made to our ongoing formation program beginning in January.**

**First, as you may have noticed from the new schedule on the previous page, our gatherings now begin at 12:30. Ongoing formation will now be considered an integral part of the meeting rather than an optional preface to the meeting.**

**Second, we are going to shift gears a bit and begin the new year by reviewing, over a few months, selected readings from a really powerful presentation called *Profession in the SFO: Gift and Commitment* by Fr. Felice Cangelosi OFM Cap.**

**Copies of this presentation will be handed out at our December gathering and is also be available on our website’s Ongoing Formation page (follow link on the menu on top of each page of the site) if you want to get a head start.**