



# The Herald of St. Francis

May 2013  
Vol. XXXIII, No. 5

Next Meeting:  
Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>  
@ 11:00 a.m.

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 May Gathering

We will hold our monthly gathering on Sunday, **May 5th, 2012 (please note change from the regular date/time)** and will be celebrating our annual Communion Breakfast.

We will meet at **11:00 a.m.** in Conway Hall and before attending 11:30 Mass. We will attempt to sit together as a group at Mass and we may have seating reserved. There will be no formation activities.

The Communion Breakfast will take place after Mass around 12:30. We will Crown our Blessed Mother but there will be no rosary. Our speaker will be Fr. Quan Tran.

**We will also hold the Rite of Admission for Agnes Iacono and Mary Meade!**

*"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

## May Profession Anniversaries

Christine Truitt 1954

Jim McDonnell 1961

## Don't Forget

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

## May Franciscan Saints and Blessed

- 9 St Catherine of Bologna
- 11 St Ignatius of Laconi
- 16 St Margaret of Cortona
- 17 St Paschal Baylon
- 18 St Felix of Cantalice
- 20 St Bernadine of Siena
- 24 Dedication of Basilica of St Francis
- 28 St Mariana of Jesus de Paredes
- 30 Bl Baptista Varano
- 30 St Ferdinand, King

## St. Francis Inn Needs:

- Laundry Soap
- Liquid Dish Soap
- Coffee
- Sugar
- Travel-Size Toiletries
- Disposable Razors
- 13 gal. & 30 gal.
- Trash Bags

Continued Next Page

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## Rita Mutter

Our Sister Rita Mutter went to be with the Lord on April 15, 2013. Please pray for the soul of Rita and for her family in their sorrow. Her funeral and Franciscan Wake Service was held on April 19th.

## Activity Director

We would like to thank Antoinette Lightman for her many years of devoted service as the fraternity's Activity Director. We would also like Frances and Francis Urso for stepping forward and volunteering to fill this important role.

## Formation Information

Since we will be having our communion breakfast, there will not be any formation activities during our May gathering. However, we will be handing out preparation materials for the June ongoing formation session. In the meantime, here are a few quotes that connect with some the themes we talked about in April.

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*Let them individually and collectively be in the forefront in promoting justice by the testimony of their human lives and their courageous initiatives. Especially in the field of public life, they should make definite choices in harmony with their faith. (Rule 15, Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order)*

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*Rule 15: Secular Franciscans should "be in the forefront ... in the field of public life." They should collaborate as much as possible for the passage of just laws and ordinances.*

*The fraternities should engage themselves through courageous initiatives, consistent with their Franciscan vocation and with the directives of the Church, in the field of human development and justice. They should take clear positions whenever human dignity is attacked by any form of oppression or indifference. They should offer their fraternal service to the victims of injustice.*

*The renunciation of the use of violence, characteristic of the followers of Francis, does not mean the renunciation of action. However, the brothers and sisters should*

*take care that their interventions are always inspired by Christian love.*

*(Article 22, General Constitution of the Secular Franciscan Order)*

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*The first particular aspect of the Secular Franciscans' evangelical action is social justice (#15), both on the individual level and on the level of community participation. They must show justice themselves and motivate justice in others, not just in their private lives, but also in the public forum of politics, business, economics, and the like. This mandate for advancing social justice as an organized group overturns previous prohibitions against a public common expression of rights when it is carried out as a means of demonstrating the convictions of faith. (Commentary on the OFS Rule Of 1978, Official Commentary prepared by the USA National Spiritual Assistants' Commission, Benet A. Fonck O.F.M., Coordinator)*

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*In line with his or her vocation, the duty of a secular (lay) Christian encompasses the redemption of all human activities: work, science, technology, culture, art, politics, in order to snatch them away from the power of sin and bring them into the transparent light of God's design. ("Secularity as a Characteristic Element of Secular Franciscan Identity", Conclusions Of The SFO General Chapter Mexico, October, 1993)*