



THE JOY OF FRANCIS

Secular Franciscan Order | St. Francis Region #52 | Southern California

Future Newsletters

Planned publication dates for *The Joy of Francis* are Feb 15th, May 15th, Aug 15th, and Nov. 15th. **Submission Deadlines** for information to be included must be received by Feb 1st, May 1st, Aug 1st, and Nov 1st. Local Ministers, as well as District Liaisons, are encouraged to submit information about their fraternity's activities. Information should be sent as a Word document to patriciadervish@yahoo.com **NEW!!!**

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Judith Mussatto, OFS, Regional Minister

Care

“Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature...”

A prayer for our earth.

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At the Los Angeles Archdiocese Religious Education Congress, held at the Anaheim Convention Center, February 24-26, 2017, there was Convention Room 304, Sacred Space. This was an area dedicated to facilitating a sense of spiritual rejuvenation.

In Room 304 you could experience the labyrinth (without shoes), meditative music, and prayer through multimedia art drawn from Pope Francis' encyclical, *Laudato Sí* (On Care of Our

Common Home), in which we were invited to connect our faith with Mother Earth and at the same time with one another. The Sacrament of Reconciliation was offered as well.

Many of you have read/studied Laudato Sí, individually, in parish groups, in fraternity or will be doing so this year. I have included three photographs of artwork that was displayed in the Sacred Space. I invite you to choose your special quiet space, at home, in church, which ever works for you and use these photographs as a starting point for reflection on how you are connecting your being Secular Franciscan with care of Mother Earth.



How many objects do you recognize?
What happens to those objects once they have passed through your hands?

Do you care?

“We need a conversation which includes everyone, since the environmental challenge we are undergoing, and its human roots, concern and affect us all.” 14. Laudato Si.

After One Cup of Coffee, drunk from a Styrofoam cup, how many years will this cup take to degrade in a landfill? 500 years or more! Styrofoam comprises 25% of material in

America’s landfills. US. disposed of 25 billion Styrofoam cups annually. *Creation Sustainability Ministry, Archdiocese of Los Angeles.*

<https://csmresources.wordpress.com/>

Can you free your fraternity of Styrofoam cups and plates? Plastic, knives and forks?

You can make a difference, if you care!



Art installation: Toxic Turtle

Thank you to the Fraternity Councils and Ministers for your input. The Annual Report and Fair Share were submitted to NAFRA well within the deadline.

Your Sister in Christ,
Judith

REGIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSISTANTS

TIME FOR EVERYONE TO PARTICIPATE

As everyone should know by now, the fifth series of training classes begins the week-end of June 23-25, 2017. While the name has changed from Spiritual Assistant/Formator to Leadership Training, and the format has changed from one Saturday a month to a complete week-end two to

four times a year, the content covered will continue to be sufficient to prepare not only everyone to take a servant-leadership position in your fraternity, but also to prepare spiritual assistants. For the spiritual assistants, an internship will follow those going on to that position, which will include additional preparation.

Please keep in mind that unless the First Orders suddenly have a great influx of vocations, there are not going to be any friars available as spiritual assistants to the OFS in the foreseeable future. That means we must continue to prepare Seculars to serve in that position. Even with the number of OFS Spiritual Assistants that we have, we still have six fraternities without a spiritual assistant, a situation that badly needs to be remedied, as our Constitutions *require* every fraternity to have one. In addition, several people are serving more than one fraternity, which makes it very difficult to do all that a spiritual assistant should be doing with a fraternity.

So please pray and discern if you can apply for the class starting in June. From the time the last class ended, with two later Orientations set and then the publicity about the new format, there has been relatively little interest shown. We would remind everyone that when you made that profession promise, it included a promise to serve your fraternity and your Order – in whatever way the Lord calls you. Everyone on a council will do a better job of serving their fraternity after taking the Leadership Training class. And remember, that by that profession, which incorporates your baptismal and confirmation promises, you have given your life to God – and that means *all* of you, not just some of you, and your entire life, not just a piece of your body and soul.

I hope to see more applications for the class coming in within the next week or two. Every minister has the necessary information and forms.

Peace and all good to all of you, and may God show you daily what is yours to do.

Sylvia Paoli, OFS
Regional Spiritual Assistant

FORMATION

2017

One day Seminar on St. Bonaventure presented by Margie Rodrigues, OFS and Sylvia Paoli, OFS.

The presenters are available on the following future dates:
May: 20, San Bernardino/Riverside
June: 10 – Orange District.

Regional Retreat at Serra Retreat Center Malibu

Date: MAY 26 – 28, 2017. (Friday - Sunday)

Topic: St. Clare of Assisi: Franciscan Woman, Leader, Healer and Friend.

Sr. Joanne Schatzlein, OSF will be the retreat master. Clicking on the following link <http://stfrancisregion.org/Home/2017-Serra-Retreat> for a flier and registration information.

DISTRICT NEWS

Tri County

The St. Louis the King Fraternity in Santa Barbara has been busy with a variety of meetings, sometimes with speakers from the First Order or outside the Franciscan Family, and

sometimes with some of our own membership leading. We have also explored some of the videos by Bishop Robert Barron in evening meetings.

We have a candidates' class of five people hopefully to be professed in July. We have one more interview and two more study sessions to go! Sounds like we could be done sooner, but a couple have make-up sessions to do...

In June we will make our annual trip up to Santa Ynez to see the Capuchin Franciscan Friars. July has us visiting Poor Clares locally. These are two traditions we have maintained for years and frequently have good turn-out in membership.

By August, it looks as though we will be starting another Orientation class of about three to four people.

We may be far from many of the rest of the family of OFS, but we are busy and growing! Hope to see a lot of you at Serra. There will be four of us there, as far as I know.

Linda Whitman, Minister
St. Louis the King Fraternity, Santa Barbara



San Diego

On Saturday, May 6, 2017 St Anthony of Padua Fraternity had a pre-visit to prepare for the Election on July 1, 2017. The Presider at the election will be our Regional Vice Minister Frank Miller, OFS.

On Sunday June 4 San Luis Rey Fraternity will have a pre-visit to prepare for the Fraternal visit on August 6, 2017. The visitor will be our Regional Vice Minister Frank Miller, OFS.

On Sunday May 7, 2017 the Nuestra Señore de Los Angeles hosted the workshop about St Bonaventure for the San Diego District. Sister Sylvia Paoli, OFS, Regional Spiritual Assistant, and sister Margie Rodriguez, OFS, Regional Secretary, were the two speakers.

We had a chance to learn more about St Bonaventure with his Franciscan theology about the Trinity, creation including humanity so we can understand more about who we are so we can have a better Franciscan life. I hope the one who came to the workshop will share with their Fraternities members about that valuable information.

We had 28 members from all 5 Fraternities presented at the workshop. Thank you for your participation. Thank you, Nuestra Señore de Los Angeles, for your hospitality.

Tuan Cao ,OFS
San Diego District Liaison.



San Bernadino/Riverside

Amelia Sandoval, Holy Spirit Fraternity, Luz Gonzales, St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity, Hermie and Ben Soriano, Our Lady of

Guadalupe Fraternity made their Profession on April 22nd. Pictured below is Amelia Sandoval.



In the group picture with those professed, are their sponsors, ministers, formation directors and Fr. Stephen Gross, OFM, Conv. who presided at the Mass of Profession. See page 8 for more pictures.



Holy Spirit Fraternity has three in initial formation. Immaculata has two people in initial formation. St. Padre Pio has nine people in initial

formation. They are also getting ready for an election in June.

Holy Spirit Fraternity held its annual Palm Sunday Bake Sale, which was a great success. Members of the local parish also contributed to what was offered for sale. Proceeds will go to support various charities.



Peace, Bill Mussatto

Our Lady of Guadalupe Fraternity

From the Slums of Mexico to Carnegie Hall

On April 14, 2017 Ron Wakefield, OFS and his students performed his International Concert for Peace in Carnegie Hall, New York City. Included in the concert were his instrumental students from the Tijuana, Mexico slums, children from an orphanage near Mexico City, a New York City children's chorus, and of course, his North Park Middle School music students. The concert included the world premiere of a new musical "Fanfare for Peace", a symphonic version of "Immaculate Mary", "The Prayer of St. Francis", and the "1812 Overture" with lyrics added that quoted Mother Teresa, Martin Luther King, and other peace makers. A 14 year old girl from the

slums of Mexico conducted Beethoven’s “Ode to Joy” in memory of her little sister who was tragically killed. An orphan girl played lead clarinet in the Saint Anthony Chorale and a young girl from the slums of Tijuana performed “What Child is This?” on her classical guitar.

Ron has been commuting to Mexico for several years developing music programs for the poorest of the poor. The commute includes a flight from Los Angeles to Mexico City every month, and many hours of driving.

This was Ron’s fifth Carnegie Hall concert with his middle school students. In 2010 he presented a similar event in Carnegie Hall that included homeless, abused, and orphaned children, as well as children from housing projects on the East Coast. His 2007 Carnegie Hall Concert included 6 children from the Isaiah House Homeless Shelter. And in 2009 besides presenting his program of abused children in a private concert for the world renowned conductor Gustavo Dudamel at the Hollywood Bowl, he traveled with a group of children to China where they performed interactive concerts in orphanages. They also performed “Immaculate Mary”, while sitting beneath the Communist Flag.

Ron is a member of Our Lady of Guadalupe Fraternity, in Hacienda Heights, CA.

(Picture of the concert is on the next page)



BEQUESTS:

PRESERVING AND EXTENDING OUR SECULAR FRANCISCAN WAY OF LIFE.

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Each of us can play an important role in preserving and extending our Secular Franciscan way of life, in our own fraternity, and at the regional level. This can be accomplished in many ways, including a bequest in our will.

Suggested beneficiaries:

Your FRATERNITY
Your REGION

Suggested wording for your bequests:

1. A BEQUEST FOR GENERAL PURPOSES:
"I give and bequeath the sum of \$_____ (or _____% of my disposable estate) to: (name and address of fraternity, or region(.
2. A RESIDUARY BEQUEST OF INDEFINITE AMOUNT:
"After payment of expenses, debts and specific bequests, I direct that the residue of my estate be given to: (name and address).
3. A CONTINGENT SPECIFIC BEQUEST:
"I bequeath to (name and address) any part of my estate that other beneficiaries are unable to receive because of death or other reasons."

THE ADDRESS OF ST. FRANCIS REGION IS:

276 E. Green St.
Claremont, CA 91711-5026





International Concert for Peace, Carnegie Hall

SOME ADDITIONAL PICTURES

**St. Bonaventure Workshop
May 7, 2017. San Diego.**



SOME ADDITIONAL PICTURES FROM THE RITE OF PROFESSION



Luz Gonzalez
St. Maximilian Kolbe



Ben Boriano
Our Lady of Guadalupe



Hermie Boriano
Our Lady of Guadalupe

**Pictures from the Graduation Ceremony
Franciscan School of Theology
May 20, 2017**






CALENDAR

Date	Event
May	
22	Bonaventure Seminar: San Bernardino/ Riverside District. Claremont.
26 -28	Regional Retreat. Serra Retreat Center. Malibu
June	
3	Regional Executive Council Meeting. Claremont.
4	Pastoral Visit: St. Clare Fraternity. Santa Ana.
10	Bonaventure Seminar: Orange District. Fountain Valley.
11	Profession: St. Lawrence of Brindisi Fraternity. Los Angeles.
11	Elections: St. Padre Pio Fraternity. Moreno Valley
18	Joint Profession: St. Francis Fraternity at Anaheim, St. Clare Fraternity at Roland Heights, St. Diego Fraternity. San Diego. Location: La Habra.
24	Elections: Immaculata Fraternity. Riverside.
July	
1	Elections: St. Anthony of Padua Fraternity. San Diego.
9	Fraternal Visit: St. Clare Fraternity. Roland Heights.
23	Pastoral Visit: St. Joseph Fraternity. Los Angeles.
23	Fraternal Visit: Blessed Luchsius and Buonadonna Fraternity. Los Angeles.
August	
5	Regional Executive Council Meeting.
6	Fraternal Visit: San Luis Rey Fraternity. Oceanside.
6	Fraternal Visit: Nuestra Señora de Los Angeles Fraternity. San Diego
12	Pastoral Visit: San Juan Capistrano Fraternity. San Juan Capistrano.
17-20	National Workshop for Regional Formation Directors. St. Louis.

DVD of Regional Events are *now* available!!

Order Form

		Donation each set	# of Sets	Total
	2016 Regional Seminar: Multi-Culturalism Presenter: Dr. Patricia De Fretas Single DVD	\$5.00		
	2016 Regional Gathering: St. Francis and the Sultan Presenter: Rt. Rev. Alexie Smith Single DVD	\$5.00		
	2016 Regional Retreat: Franciscan Servant Leadership Presenter: Fr. Michael Higgins, TOR Two DVDs	\$10.00		
			Total	

Send order to William R Mussatto
276 E. Green St
Claremont, CA 91711

Make check out to William R Mussatto.

Your Address: _____
