



The Joy of Francis

Together for the Gospel!

Summer - Fall 2010 - Vol. 18, No. 2

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Secular Franciscan May Retreat in Malibu (See Malibu Musings, page 5)

Minister's Message

Hearts on Fire for the Lord!

Do We Love Our Neighbor?

by Sylvia Paoli, Regional Minister



My brothers and sisters,

Jesus taught that we must love God with all our heart and all our being and all our strength and our neighbor as ourselves. In a recent Sunday Gospel we heard Jesus tell the scholar of the law the parable of the Good Samaritan, when the scholar asked "And who is my neighbor?" It is a straight-forward story, where the "good" people of the time - a priest and a Levite - passed on the other side of the road from where the

injured man lay, but a Samaritan - a people whom the Jews looked down on as being inferior - took care of the man, using his own money, and going way beyond what might have been considered basic care. The Samaritan was living the Gospel - caring for his neighbor as he cared for himself. We have heard the story so often that I'm afraid it often rolls right over our heads with little response by each of us to the message.

Message, continued page 3

Joy of Francis

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FROM MY CORNER OF THE WORLD

Anne Mulqueen, SFO, International Councilor, USA, July 2010

Peace and all good to you my brothers and sisters,

I did not make it clear when I first began these articles—and I prefer to think of them as letters—that I want them to be personal, informal and informative. And, I want you to be an active participant through communication. Therefore, I have set up an email address for you to contact me. The address is Amulqueen.icusa@gmail.com. (The icusa stands for International Councilor, USA) If you do contact me, tell me about yourself. Ask questions, give comments—whatever—but it would give me joy to hear from you because it is you I represent.

And now we go to the news from around the world!

International Chapter 2011

I just received word that the XIII General Chapter of the SFO will be held in San Paulo, Brazil, from October 22 to 29, 2011, at the “Santa Fe” Pastoral Center. This is the first time a Chapter will be held in South America. The SFO in South America constitutes one third of our Order, and I hear that Youfra is thriving there.

The theme of the Chapter will be Evangelized to Evangelize and the sub-themes will be: (a) specific vocation for a particular mission and (b) builders of a fraternal and evangelical world (instruments of

peace and reconciliation). When I receive further information I will pass it on to you.

CIOFS Central Themes of Ongoing Formation

The January through June 2010, CIOFS Topic I theme was dedicated to Profession in the SFO. In July 2010, Topic II was introduced, A Sense of Belonging to the Secular Franciscan Order. I wonder how many of you use this material in your fraternities or for personal enrichment. If you do, and I hope you do, would you write and comment on your experience with the material. Then I will be in a better position to discuss it from your point of view at the General Chapter in Brazil.

In the coming year the ongoing formation material that I send to your Regional Minister will be dedicated to the theme of the General Chapter. This will give you an opportunity to help me prepare and, in the process, you will be prepared to understand and better equipped to implement the priorities set at that time.

The SFO in Haiti

In mid-April, the Presidency wrote to the Secular Franciscan brothers and sisters in Haiti, expressing compassion, communion, and assurance of prayer for those who lost loved ones, homes, employment, etc., as a result of the devastating earthquake of January 2010. In the letter to the Haitian fraternities,



the Presidency told them that a delegation from CIOFS would visit Haiti in mid-June. When I have information on that visit, I will pass it along to you. Our Minister General Encarnita refers to Haiti as “... an icon of the wounded body of Jesus—wounded but risen.” I pray this is true not only for the Haitians but for all who endure personal wounds yet live in the hope of the resurrection.

Please remember in prayer those Haitian brothers and sisters who lost their lives in the earthquake: (from the Saint Antoine de Padoue Fraternity) Assilien Roseline and Salomon Marie-Ange, (from the Saint François d’Assise Fraternity) Marcel Hector, Anaise Barhelus, M et Mme Duton Emmanuel, Louiza Bonaventure, Andréa Louis-Charles and André Gilbert Baptiste. Give them eternal rest, O Lord, and may your light shine on them forever.



World Youth Day (WYD) 2011

As some of you know, in 1984 Pope John Paul II



inaugurated World Youth Day, which is celebrated annually on a diocesan level on Palm Sunday. Every three years, it is celebrated internationally with youth participating from all over the world. ***The 2011 celebration will be held in Madrid, Spain, August 15-21, 2011.*** The theme will be Rooted and built up in Jesus Christ, Firm in the Faith (Col 2:7).

Franciscan youth from across the globe will gather as one body to participate in this event and to bear witness to the Charism of our common Seraphic Father, St. Francis. These gatherings give our youth and young adults an opportunity to broaden their understanding of fraternity by interacting with brothers and sisters who live in completely different circumstances. This mutual exchange of culture will have a significant impact on their Franciscan formation.

Quoting Holy Scripture, I close this letter with St. Paul's words and my prayer for you.

And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God. —
Philippians 1:9-11

Hope to hear from you,

Your sister Anne

Message, Cont from page 1

But that part of the Gospel of Love needs to be given more attention by each of us, for all too often, we, like the priest and the Levite, fail to recognize our neighbor and his or her needs. How many families have had such arguments and disputes within the family that one person or one part of the family simply has nothing to do with another family member or another part of the family - and we accept that condition as though it were the "normal" way to be. But it is not. Our family members are very much our "neighbor" in the sense meant by the Gospel. Do we make any effort to heal the wounds that caused that rift in the family, or do we just accept it and participate in it and go through life as though the inter-family problem didn't exist?

How do we treat our neighbors where we live? Do we even know them? Do we care to know them? Or do we accept the southern California "to each his own", with large fences between properties, as the "norm" and see no reason to go further? Do families who live next door to us or on the same block, have illnesses and misfortune and even disasters within their families that we know nothing about until it's all over - if even then? Might we not be of some assistance, however small it might be, to the family in the illness of one of their members, or in their misfortune or disaster?

What about people within our parish community? People within our city where we live? People at our places of work, or school, or in the activities we are involved in?

Especially what about the people in our fraternity? There are tensions

and disputes within fraternities that sometimes threaten to split a fraternity. Besides the fact that such behavior is not living the Gospel life that Christ and the Church have called us to live, have we made any efforts to resolve the issues that caused or are causing the problem? When each of us professed to follow our Rule and live the Gospel life for the rest of our life, did we somehow think that everyone in our fraternity would fit our own idea of who a Franciscan should be? Did we think, like too many people when they get married, that we could "make over" someone in the fraternity whose habits, words or behavior we did not like and did not agree with? Are we not aware that our fraternity, like our Church, has a big "umbrella" over its members, thereby encompassing many different nationalities, backgrounds, languages, behaviors, philosophies, habits, educational levels, speaking abilities, political views, and all the other human characteristics that make each of us unique and different from any other human being? Do we reach out with love to each and every member of our fraternity, or only to those we "like"?

I invite each of you to examine your heart and give a truthful and honest answer to each question I have posed above. Unless you can unequivocally answer "yes" to the question "do I reach out with love to each and every member of my fraternity?" you need to do some serious thinking, praying, and meditation, seeking help from your spiritual director, and asking Our Lord to help you become that kind of Franciscan who truly loves his or her neighbor - within and without the fraternity.



Peace and Justice for Secular Franciscans

*Diane Halal, SFO and Anne Killian,
SFO, August 8, 2010*

The topic for this year's Secular Franciscan Seminar was Peace and Justice for Secular Franciscans; held at St. Francis University in Loretto, PA, from June 24-27, 2010. The presenters were Fr. Joseph Nangle, OFM, and Pat Brandwein-Ball, SFO.

The first session was presented by Fr Joe on Thursday evening with an overview of the seminar's topic, Peace and Justice. He asked us: "Are you willing to walk with me to a place neither of us has ever been?" He encouraged us to look at the Rule as a way of life that challenges us beyond where we are today. We should ask ourselves three questions:

- 1) How does the Rule affect my life?**
- 2) Who would I be without the Rule? and**
- 3) What difference does it make to those around me?**

On Friday morning, Fr. Joe covered the history of Catholic Social Teaching and Pat spoke on how that relates to our Rule. He went over all the nuggets of wisdom from the Encyclicals starting with 1891 *Rerum Novarum* up through 2005 *Deus Caritas*. They gave us a lot of Resources, such as – "Our Best Kept Secret", from the Center of Concerns, a Jesuit think tank in Washington, DC. We had a brief synopsis of all the documents. Our new dimension of Catholic Spirituality is to take the

parables and show how they apply. We learned Lazarus was the only person named in the parables. They spoke of effective homilies. The art of Peaceful dialogue is not "here is the answer" but "this is what people are thinking" and "where do you fit in"? They offered helpful insights from the Gospel to help people form their own conscience. We were told about people in the field such as Fr. Brian Hare, who preaches on Peace and Justice, and Marie Dennis, a mother of six, a Secular Franciscan, and the co-president of Pax Christi International and how she is making the next right step in changing her world. We should look for Verbs in our Rule to help us in our way of life.

Pat gave a wonderful PowerPoint presentation entitled Our Rule of Life, based on the booklet *From Gospel to Life*, by Benet A. Fonck, OFM. She stated that the prologue is the lens through which we study the Rule. One Rule, 26 articles. Our charism is to live the Rule. The person who does penance responds to God's inviting grace and lives in union with Jesus. We see God's presence in each other and in the Eucharist. She went on to cover the 26 articles in depth.

The speakers stressed the point of CST is to build the reign of God, who is the centerpiece of our Human Freedom. Jesus was inclusive of everybody and each one of us is worthy of Human Dignity. Peace is based on justice, and if you want peace work for justice. "Love

one another as I have loved you" is the apex of the Reign of God. These values are what CST is all about. Am I promoting the reign of God in a small way?

Fr Joe talked about the difference between charity and justice. Charity is the band-aid approach that only deals with the symptoms. But justice goes to the cause of the pain and asks why does it need a band-aid? Like surgery, justice goes to the root of the problem. Justice is the minimum expression of love. It asks "Why is it there?" and "What can we do about it?"

By our baptism, we are called to be prophets. Our prophetic task is fourfold. First is the great task and privilege of announcing the Good News. Second, denouncing what is wrong and stands in the way of the Good News. Thirdly, understand the difference between social sin and social grace. Social sin is the structural evil, sin embedded in social and economic situations; whereas social grace is God's light and life that works against social sin. Fourthly, contemplation, which is a posture towards life, a way of looking at life from a loving Creator's point of view. In light of this, the tasks of Catholic Social Engagement are Direct Service, Education and Advocacy.

Saturday evening Pat gave us the History of the Commissions; Peace and Justice, Work, Ecology, Family, etc...and people discovered they were all interrelated, so JPIC.



(Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation) was created to embrace the foundation of all of them. JPIC is for all Secular Franciscans but The Franciscan Action Network (FAN) is a grassroots, faith-based civic engagement organization that is for everyone.

Sunday was a general wrap up and conclusions. We especially enjoyed the handout on the Supplementary Questions to Examine Conscience in Light of CST. We were encouraged to reread the Rule and then spend prayerful time answering the questions.

We also received information on the opportunities to take correspondence courses from St. Francis University, and the upcoming 4th annual summer SFO seminar on Aspects of Fraternity Life that will be presented by Lester Bach OFM Cap and Mary Bittner SFO.

In conclusion, Peace and Justice is the fabric of who we are as Secular Franciscans. We need active transformation; find a balance between doing and being. Read scriptures with social justice in mind. Listen to where the other side is coming from. Make an informed decision based on all the facts, not just media's opinion. God calls us to be a preferential option of the poor. Our ability to take care of people depends on us to do it. It is not enough to be busy doing things, we need to incorporate JPIC into every aspect of our lives. Ask ourselves the questions: Do I have all the facts to make an informed decision? Is this the right thing to do?



Malibu Musings

By Jan DeSpain, sfo

It seemed a rather idyllic moment. My husband, Rock, and I were immersed in the sights and sounds in the courtyard of Serra Retreat Center. Gently a small bird lit on the head of the life sized fountain figure of our Father Francis. Wanting to capture the fleeting moment, I grabbed my smart phone, but you guessed it, the bird had skittered off.

I stopped to gaze at the face of dear Francis. *YUK!!* His head was coated with crusty black bird droppings. Streaming into one eye and flowing down his nose, poor Francis was indeed a mess! My feelings of dismay and disgust were almost instantly transformed into an epiphany of laughter. Did Francis have a message for me? I could almost sense him saying, *"My life was messy. As you follow me, expect the same, dear sister."*

This image followed me the rest of the retreat. Fr. Michael Doherty brought alive similar messages through stories and humor. Throughout the retreat we were asked to repeat a scripture verse. "This is the day the Lord has

made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it." (*Psalm 118:24*) He spoke of fighting the current negativity of the world with Franciscan joy. Like the statue, dark challenges and disappointments stain our days. Perhaps it is good that others see Franciscans not worrying about our imperfections and struggles.

Fr. Michael also helped me recognize that sometimes I'd rather judge others than focus on the filth that covers me. He shared a profound insight, that while we tend to judge others by their actions, we judge ourselves by our intent. Judging others doesn't help anyone become a better person. Only Love, appreciation, and understanding do that.

I hope more Seculars will mark their calendars now for next year's retreat. It is always on Memorial Day weekend. We had seventy this year. Capacity is 125. I'm sure by now, the gardener has tidied up St. Francis....for a while at least. So with us, as we meet life's challenges, and with God's grace turn bad news into good, His mercy will rain down and cleanse us too. I am looking forward to seeing you at Serra next year. Meet me at the fountain.



THROUGH A PERSISTENT FAITH

*Edited by Emanuela De Nunzio SFO,
past Minister General*

On April 11, 2010, Cardinal Franc Rodé, Prefect of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, published an article with this title in *L'Osservatore Romano*, on the current status of the Constitutions of the institutions that are under his purview. Among these, as we all know, is the Secular Franciscan Order. Therefore, it seems useful to present to our brothers and sisters around the world some excerpts of this article that is so influential and so helpful for the strengthening and growth of our Fraternities.

In view of a process of revitalizing and redeveloping the Institutions that should remain faithful to the original inspiration, Cardinal Rodé considers it necessary to have a renewed emphasis on the Rules and Constitutions. They represent the surest standard for witnessing to the needs of the day, because, in them, lies the authentic charism recognized by the Church.

In the Constitutions, we will find inspiration and the means to encourage, both individually and communally, spiritual maturity and apostolic service, following our own tradition and in communion with the Church. This faithfulness happens through the acceptance of the constitutional rules in their entirety: we can not "interpret them" taking what we like and rejecting what may be less to our liking!

The Cardinal writes, "The worm of individualism and a misconstrued freedom present in our society so strongly as to diminish, not only the consciences of individuals, but the very communities and institutions, now make it even more urgent to understand the true meaning and the fundamental value of the Constitutions for the life of an Institution.

In today's Western or postmodern culture, there is almost a religious pluralism. Everyone has his or her own way to live, his/her own way of thinking, personal guidance/orientation systems, different modes of acting." Even the Rules and Constitutions are victims of a similar mentality, through which common rules/standards or requirements are viewed with suspicion, if not completely rejected, because they crush or bring humiliation to personal individualism.

Cardinal Rodé recommends focusing in on on-going formation with regular reading and a more detailed study of the Constitutions. And he adds:

"The Constitutions are not just any book that, while important, always ends up forgotten on library shelves. Constitutions are a book to keep with us, to continue reading, because in them, we don't find just a story that we already know, but a life plan, a divine call, which is begun each morning and whose fulfillment requires a journey of



*Emanuela De Nunzio SFO, past
Minister General*

*faithfulness to God and to men
throughout the day."*

I believe that these insights and these recommendations are very important for us, Secular Franciscans, especially since the Cardinal concludes his article mentioning specifically St. Francis and relating the words he gave to the Order:

"Listen, My children of the Lord and my brothers (and sisters), And listen to my words. / Incline the ear of your heart / and obey the voice of the Son of God / Observe with all your heart his rules and carry out his recommendations completely. / Praise Him because He is good, / and exalt Him in your works, because it was for this He sent you into this whole world, / so that you may bear witness to His voice / by word and by deed / and that you may make known to all / that there is no one who is Almighty except Him. / Persevere in discipline and in holy obedience / and carry out with a good and firm intention / those things that you have promised."



The Canonical Establishment of the 8th Korean Speaking Fraternity



On July 31, 2010, St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe fraternity of Torrance (8th canonically established Korean-speaking fraternity in the St. Francis Region), CA received its final signature confirming its canonical membership in the Secular Franciscan Family of the St. Francis Region. The fraternity began as a forming group in 2003, under the sponsorship of St. Francis Fraternity in Anaheim, CA

The Mass was celebrated by Fr. Jacob H. Kim, Pastor of St. Francis Korean Catholic Center, with Fr. John Hardin, OFM, St. Barbara Provincial Minister and Fr. Francis Kim, OFM, Holy Name Province, FMC (Franciscan Missionary Charities) Director, as concelebrants. The Liturgy was bilingual, with hymns also in English and Korean. About 200 guests including representatives from many fraternities in the Region, the Regional Executive Council

members and parishioners of St. Francis Korean Catholic Center, came for the celebration of establishment.

The fraternity currently has 18 professed members with 5 candidates and 3 inquirers from the South Bay area of Los Angeles. There have been four classes of profession to date. Augustin H. Lee, SFO serves as Spiritual Assistant to the fraternity.

The photo display includes all the members of the fraternity as well as Fr. John Hardin, Br. Bob Brady, Provincial Spiritual Assistant from St. Barbara Province, Fr. Steve Gross, OFM Conv., a National Spiritual Assistant and mentor to the Conference of Regional Spiritual Assistants, Rock De Spain, SFO, President of CSRA, back row, Sylvia Paoli, Regional Minister, Front row.

Rev. John Hardin, OFM, and Sylvia Paoli, Regional Minister,

signed the Document of Canonical Establishment. Francis Lee, SFO, fraternity minister, and Augustin Lee, SFO, fraternity Spiritual Assistant signed as witnesses.

Sylvia Paoli, St. Francis Regional Minister, called all the names of the 18 Professed members of the fraternity and confirmed the appointed members of the council for the term of one year.

All the guests were invited to a Reception banquet arranged by St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe fraternity brothers and sisters. They served delicious Korean traditional dishes along with typical American dishes. All the guests received two pieces of kitchen utensil cleaner made out of dried cucumber which is very much a pro-environment product.



My Hero(s)

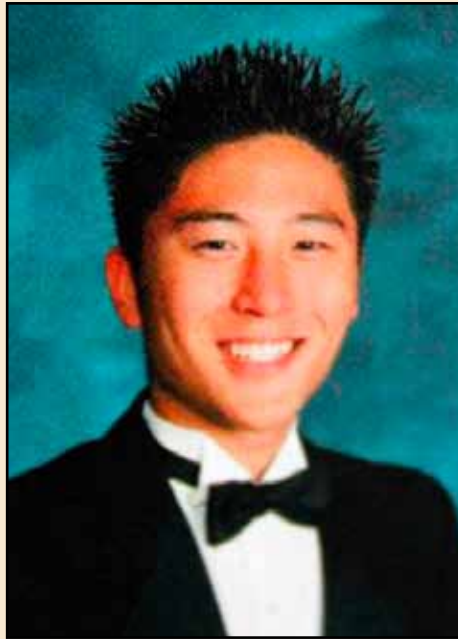
By Rock DeSpain, sfo
Regional Spiritual Assistant

Late last month, I received the news, along with many of our SFO brothers and sisters, that Sgt. Daniel Lim, The son of our Franciscan sister Juliana, had been killed in Afghanistan. Having lost a son to sister death, I could feel some of her pain, and began to pray for her and her family.

The funeral was arranged for Monday, August 2, at the Korean Catholic Center in Westminster. What I experienced that day was one of the most loving, respectful experiences of my life. The military and police were out in full force and uniforms, showing respect and love for their fallen comrade.

The Mass was well arranged, so that family and friends could share their love and honor their loved one. There was a PowerPoint presentation celebrating the life of Daniel and we all got to know him personally. It was done so well that we all soon realized that it was happening to all of us because he was part of our family. I was so touched that like many others, I could not hold back the tears. Fr. Francis Kim, OFM, delayed his trip to Korea and presided at the Mass. The journey from Westminster to the Riverside National Cemetery was tasteful and done with the respect due to our fallen brother. There had to be at least 16-20 police and funeral home motorcyclists leading the way for our mile long procession to Daniel's final resting place. They stopped traffic on the freeways, and let our procession lead the way along our journey there.

When we arrived at the cemetery, things were well arranged for the final



Army Staff Sgt. Daniel Lim, 23, was killed July 24 along with three other soldiers when their vehicle was attacked by insurgents with an improvised explosive device in Qalat, Afghanistan.

prayers and blessings. A Brig. General shared some stories about Daniel's service to our country and reminded us that Daniel was truly an American hero. As the tears again flowed from my eyes, I realized that Juliana and her family were truly heroes too. God Bless all of you, and may Daniel rest in peace along with all our heroes. **T**



29 students and 6 Lay Spiritual Assistants participating in the the Lay Spiritual Assistant/Formator class with Fr. Steve Gross, OFM Conv.

In Prayer

by St. Lawrence Justinian
In Signo Vitae

*In prayer the soul is cleansed
from sin, pastured with
charity, confirmed in faith,
strengthened in hope, gladdened
in spirit.*

*By prayer the inward man is
directed aright, the heart is
purified, the truth discovered,
temptation overcome, sadness
avoided, the perceptions
renewed, languishing virtue
restored, lukewarmness
dismissed, the rust of vices
done away; and in it there do
not cease to come forth living
sparkles of heavenly desires,
with which the flame of divine
love burns.*

*Great are the excellencies of
prayer, great are its privileges!
Before it Heaven is opened,
secret things are made
manifest, and to it the ears of
God are ever attentive.*



Formation Seminar III a Success

As those members who attended can attest, Seminar III of our Regions Ongoing Formation Training was a great success. Its topic was *Our Documents and Their Relationship to the Church*. Canon Law was updated extensively as a result of the Second Vatican Council. We learned more about our Franciscan family and how it works in the framework of the Church. Those who attended the seminar were shown how Our Rule, Constitutions, National Statutes and Regional Norms fit into this Framework. Unlike many secular organizations, our Order's Rule of Life was directly approved by the Holy Father, in this case Paul VI.



Peggy J. Paoli, a judge for the Diocese of Orange Marriage Tribunal, discussed Canon Law at Seminar III.



Seminar III in Los Angeles (top) and in Claremont (bottom)

Look on Jesus

By St. Clare of Assisi

“Look, look on Jesus, poor and crucified, look on this Holy One, who for your love has died, and remember as you contemplate the sacred mysteries, this Jesus whom you gaze upon, loves you most tenderly.”

Celebration of St Francis, 2010

YOUNG ADULT GATHERING

at Our Lady Queen of Angels, Newport Beach, 10/2/10 at 7:30 pm until 10:00 pm

English: Jason Ramos / Angel Ramos, (562) 699-3705

Vietnamese: Quinn Tran, QNNTRAN@Yahoo.com

Korean: Cathy Kwan, SFO, cathykwansfo2009@gmail.com

Spanish: Edith Brito

EVERYONE is asked to contact ALL young Catholic adults they know and get them there - bring them yourself, if that's what works.

<http://www.mygodmyall.net>

Franciscan Print Resources

Franciscan Resources

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Lay Ecclesial Ministry:

Co-Workers in the Vineyard of the Lord

The United States Catholic Bishops have offered *Co-Workers in the Vineyard* as “pastoral and theological reflection on the reality of lay ecclesial ministry, as an affirmation of those who serve in this way, and as a synthesis of best thinking and practice.” The document examines: theological foundations for lay ecclesial ministry, discernment and suitability for lay ecclesial ministry, formation of lay ecclesial ministers, authorization of lay ecclesial ministers, and policies and practices in the ministerial workplace.

Lay ecclesial ministers are women and men whose ecclesial service is characterized by:

- * Authorization of the hierarchy to serve publicly in the local church
- * Leadership in a particular area of ministry
- * Close mutual collaboration with the pastoral ministry of bishops, priests, and deacons
- * Preparation and formation appropriate to the level of responsibilities that are assigned to them

This document offers:

- * Pastoral and theological reflection on the reality of lay ecclesial ministry and a synthesis of best thinking and practice.

* Affirmation of lay ecclesial ministers, conveying an understanding of how their service is unique and necessary for the life and growth of the Church.

* A common frame of reference for ensuring that the development of lay ecclesial ministry continues in ways that are faithful to the Church’s theological and doctrinal tradition and that respond to contemporary pastoral needs and situations.

* A call for Church leaders, ordained and lay, to become more intentional and effective in ordering and integrating lay ecclesial ministers within the ministerial life and structures of dioceses.

Co-Workers in the Vineyard of the Lord

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Together in God’s Service: Toward a Theology of Ecclesial Lay Ministry

ISBN: 978-1-57455-285-0

Price: \$14.95

Announcements

SFO REGIONAL GATHERING:

The annual St. Francis Regional Gathering is coming up, so mark your calendars. It will be smaller this year as each of the language groups will be meeting separately. It’s a great chance to meet other seculars and exchange ideas. Dates:

English 9/25 at San Juan Capistrano

Vietnamese: 10/9 at Mission San Luis Rey

Korean: 10/24 at Carmelite Center in Orange County

Spanish: 10/24 - Santa Ana

All are from 8:30 (gathering time) to 4:00.

QUINQUENNIAL: The next Quinquennial Congress will be held from July 3-8, 2012, in Chicago at the Holiday Inn North Shore, in Skokie. Of interest is the fact that Chicago was the location of the very first Quinquennial. The theme is: *Why Francis? Claim the Gift!* The daily themes are: Tuesday: Opening liturgy; Wednesday: *Who are you, O Lord?*; Thursday: *Who am I?*; Friday: *Who are the Franciscans?*; Saturday: *Who are we, the SFO?*

A Reminder

Mike Morris SFO, Web Master

If you know of any events we might be able to attend together, let me know. Also, if you have access to the Internet you can look at our Calendar located on our Regions website,

www.stfrancisregion.org



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The Joy of Francis

If you esteem yourself unhappy because you are poor, you are indeed miserable and deserving of tears; not because you are poor, but because, being poor, you do not embrace your poverty, and esteem yourself happy.

- Saint John Chrysostom

Si te consideras infeliz porque eres pobre, de verdad eres desdichado y mereces lágrimas; no a causa de tu pobreza sino porque, siendo pobre no aceptas tu pobreza y no te consideras feliz.

- San Juan Crisóstomo

