

SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER - FIVE FRANCISCAN MARTYRS REGION

www.franciscan-sfo.org

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI FRATERNITY - DUNEDIN, FL
2ND SATURDAYS @ OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH, 750 SAN SALVADOR DRIVE



SIMPLICITY

Next Meeting: Saturday February 8, 2014 @ 12:00 pm

Message from our Spiritual Assistant, Br. Mark Brown, OFM

Our Prayer Life in Ordinary time

Holy Mother Church refers to this period on the Roman Calendar as Ordinary Time. The other periods of the year focus on events such as Easter and Christmas preceded by forty days of fasting and prayer. So what should we do with Ordinary Time? Perhaps it's time to reflect on our spiritual life and examine how well we are doing. At the beginning of the New Year, it is our tradition to set goals for the coming year, which also include ways to enrich our devotion to God. This life of ours is all about rejecting evil and doing good. We may never reach perfection and perhaps we were never meant to in this life. It seems to me it's all about the journey. Heaven is not here but else where.

One of the ways we defend ourselves against evil is through prayer. We are not prayer factories, pumping out an abundance of Hail Marys and Our Fathers. Rather we are seeking to unite our words and thoughts to God in ways that are meaningful and deliberate. Let us reflect, during this Ordinary Time, on the quality of our prayers we offer to God.

MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER:



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

At our next meeting, Saturday February 8, I hope to see more brothers and sisters in attendance than were present at the January gathering. Several members were unable to attend due to illness, but were remembered in our prayers. On Saturday February 22 at St. Catherine of Siena Church, 1955 S. Belcher Rd. Clearwater, FL there will be an opportunity for you to help feed the poor in Burkina Faso, in West Africa, the third poorest country in the world. The event, a service called Helping Hands which is a division of Catholic Relief Services, will involve packing non-perishable food packets. If you would like to volunteer or make a donation to purchase the food to be packed, call Deacon Fred Kunder @ 727-709-2280 or sign up and/or donate online at www.crs.org and then click on the Helping Hands link.

Pax et Bonum,
Jim Grant, OFS

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Spiritual Asst: Br. Mark Brown, OFM
Minister: Jim Grant, OFS
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Councilors - at- Large:

Rebecca Dymock, OFS
Violet Saldua, OFS

Newsletter Editors:

Jim & Jeannette Grant, OFS
(727-712-3645)

(Thanks to Alain Poulin & Vanessa at KKP Security Group for our printing.)

February Birthday: John Probert - February 16

Anniversaries: Frank & Rose Averill - February 4 (13 yrs.)

Necrology: Howard Lammermier - February 10, 1998 (51 yrs.)
Frances Desaulniers - February 21, 2008 (12 yrs.)

NOTICE:

Fair Share Contribution checks to be sent to :
CINDY HOUSLEY, 876 Jackson Court, Palm Harbor, Florida, 34683

The Franciscan Family Fund: This fund exists to assist any member needing financial assistance. Please feel free to contact any Council member when help is needed. Your request will be handled in the strictest confidence.

DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, LET US REMEMBER ALL OUR MEMBERS, RELATIVES AND FRIENDS IN OUR PRAYERS.

MESSAGE FROM OUR FORMATION DIRECTOR, FRANCIS AVERILL, OFS

Franciscan Call to Prayer: “The Te Deum”

The Te Deum is one of the earliest Christian prayers and is a song of praise. The name of the prayer is taken from the opening words in Latin: Te Deum laudamus, which means “Thee O God We Praise.” The prayer is traditionally ascribed to St. Ambrose and St. Augustine and is also known as the “Ambrosian Hymn” or A Song of the Church. Legend held that the prayer was spontaneously sung by these saints on the night of St. Augustine’s baptism. However, scholars now believe that it was more likely written by St. Niketas, Bishop of Remensiana in the 5th century. The support for this view is the discovery of ten Irish manuscripts which name Niketas as author.

The prayer is a hymn of praise to God the Father and Jesus Christ, his Son and follows the pattern of the Creed, praising the Triune God. The prayer begins with praising God the Father, then his Son Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide, and lists all who praise God from the celestial angels, the apostles, prophets, martyrs and the whole Church throughout the world. It concludes with a petition for God to help his people and to bring us to life everlasting in the company of God’s saints.

The Te Deum is used daily in the Divine office as well as after Holy Mass on special occasions. It is occasionally sung as an expression of thanksgiving to God on joyous occasions such as the election of a Pope, the canonization of a Saint or the profession of a religious. A plenary indulgence is granted to those who recite the prayer in public on New Year’s Eve. The hymn has been set to music by many famous composers including Mozart, Haydn, Verdi and Handel.

The Te Deum

O God, we praise You, and acknowledge You to be the supreme Lord.
Everlasting Father, all the earth worships You.
All the Angels, the heavens and all angelic powers,
All the Cherubim and Seraphim, continuously cry to You:
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts!
Heaven and earth are full of the Majesty of Your glory.
The glorious choir of the Apostles,
The wonderful company of Prophets,
The white-robed army of Martyrs, praise You.
The Holy Church throughout the world acknowledges You:
The Father of infinite Majesty;
Your true and only Son, worthy of all worship;
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide..
You Christ, are the King of glory!
You are the everlasting Son of the Father. (continued on page 4)

You took it upon Yourself to deliver man,
You did not disdain the Virgin's womb.
Having overcome the sting of death,
You opened the Kingdom of Heaven to all believers.
You are seated at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father.
We believe that You will come to be our Judge.
We, therefore, beg You to help Your servants whom You have redeemed with Your Precious Blood.
Let them be numbered with Your Saints in everlasting glory.

V. Save Your people, O Lord, and bless Your inheritance!
R. Govern them, and raise them up forever.

V. Every day we thank You.
R. And we praise Your Name forever, yes, forever and ever.

V. O Lord, deign to keep us from sin this day.
R. Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us.

V. Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, for we have hoped in You.
R. O Lord, in You I have put my trust; let me never be put to shame.

St. Francis of Assisi Fraternity Meeting Jan. 11, 2014

Call to order at 12:10 p.m.

Opening Prayer - Ritual Pg 35 Jim

Liturgy of the Hours: Jim , Br. Mark

Scripture Reading: Revelation 7:1-12

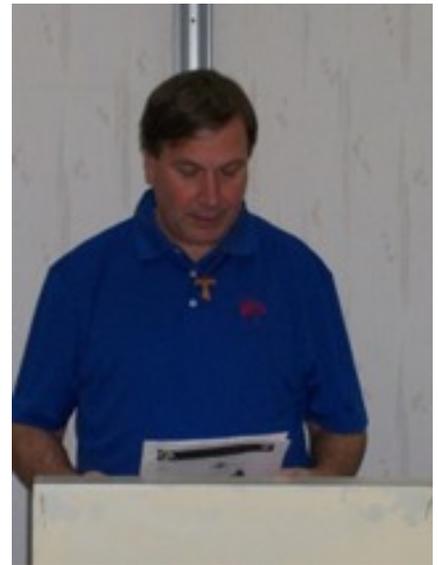
The Lamb has become the Shepherd. It is the Lamb that has conquered and because of the Lamb we are empowered.

A Hail Mary was said for our sick members. Prayed for a friend of Rebecca and David Dymock who is battling cancer.

We had 3 visitors - Edna Wunderlin, Irene Cascione and David Dymock.

Homily : Br. Mark talked about the Bible being inspired by God. Two Jehovah Witnesses visited him and asked him if he was saved. He answered that he was washed in the blood of the Lamb. In the beginning the stories of the Bible were orally transmitted; later the Gospels were written down. St. Jerome translated the Bible into Latin.

On going Formation: Frank talked about Franciscan devotion to the Eucharist. If possible we should go to Mass daily and make time for Adoration when the Blessed Sacrament is exposed. St. Francis had great respect for ordained priests because they could consecrate bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ. (photos page 5)



Capture the Joy of today!

Homeless

by Sr. Jeannette B. Grant, OFS

Forgive me Lord Jesus as I kneel and pray
With me You might no longer want to stay.
I saw You yesterday on a street corner
In a hungry, homeless man...why should I bother?
He repulsed me so
I was in a rush to go!
Why should I disrupt my day for him?
He was a stranger...not even a kin.
Am I right or am I wrong?"
As I carelessly sing my pious song.
A day after...I know You were in him
I feel guilty and ashamed for not helping him.
Lord Jesus help me see You in all I meet
Especially in the homeless who roam our city streets.
It is so easy and very nice
To love people who have no lice.
The dirty and homeless poor
I don't want them coming to my door.
Lord Jesus do You understand why I feel this way?
I am afraid of people who have no place to stay.
The sick in hospitals and nursing homes... I can relate to
But the men and women on the street, I don't know who is who.
I am afraid of them and cannot trust
Just because they are all covered with dust.
Lord Jesus I plead with You today
Help me to see that with them you are to stay.
Let me never overlook a homeless person again
This has caused me too much sorrow and deep pain.
For me the homeless will now have but one name..JESUS
You came for all, You came to save us.
Hold my hand and never leave my side
Make me humble and rid me of my pride.
You and I will go ahead to love and serve
Even people who really get on my nerves.
I must remember I am homeless too
On a journey that will finally bring me to You.

