



St. Anthony of Padua Fraternity meets every third Sunday of the month, except July and August, at 9:30 a.m. in the Auditorium of St. Anthony's Hospital, 1200 Seventh Ave. N., Saint Petersburg, FL 33705.

### Fraternity Officers

**Minister:**

Joe Halloran, OFS

**Spiritual Assistant:**

Fr. Gerald Dolan, OFM

**Vice Minister:**

Maria Halloran, OFS

**Secretary:**

Ann Hill, OFS

**Interim Treasurers:**

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Grace Krist, OFS

**Formation Director:**

Jim Prior, OFS

**Councilors-at-Large:**

Grace Krist, OFS

D. Susan Pivec, OFS

Frederic Wheeler, OFS

**Formation Team:**

Jim Prior, OFS

Fr. Gerald Dolan, OFM

D. Susan Pivec, OFS

Rosalie Coyne, OFS

Frederic Wheeler, OFS

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# Ordo Franciscanus Saecularis

## SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER

### St. Anthony of Padua Fraternity Newsletter

<https://www.facebook.com/OFSPadua/>

## The Minister's Message

by Joe Halloran, OFS

Hello, Friend!

Every now and then I present to you a "quotations extravaganza," or what Yogi Berra would cite as "déjà vu all over again"☺. I love sharing quotations because quality quotes are a superb source of enrichment, enlightenment and even energy. A good quotation is "spiritual gold"!



And so let's begin our quotation celebration with St. Leo the Great. That venerable Pontiff said: *"The person who shows love and compassion to those in any kind of affliction is blessed, not only with the virtue of good will but also with the gift of peace."*

And now here's more – it's more and it's galore:

- *"Am I going to live out of a perspective of fear or out of a perspective of trust?"*  
– Angela Franks
- *"How much pain have cost us the evils that never happened!"* – Thomas Jefferson
- *"Without God – I can't. Without me – God won't."* – St. Augustine
- *"Every moment of our life has a purpose ... every action of ours, no matter how dull or routine or trivial it may seem in itself, has a dignity and a worth beyond human understanding. No man's life is insignificant in God's sight, nor are his works insignificant – no matter what the world or his neighbors or family or friends may think of them. Yet what a terrible responsibility is here. For it means that no moment can be wasted, no opportunity missed, since each has a purpose in man's life, each has a purpose in God's plan. Think of your day, today or yesterday. Think of the work you did, the people you met, moment by moment. What did it mean to you – and what might it have meant for God? Is the question too simple to answer, or are we just afraid to ask it for fear of the answer we must give?"* – Fr. Walter J. Cizek, SJ
- *"Do something wonderful, people may imitate it."* – Albert Schweitzer
- *"Life becomes harder for us when we live for others, but at the same time it becomes richer and happier."* – Albert Schweitzer
- *"Nothing is so strong as gentleness, nothing so gentle as real strength."*  
– St. Francis de Sales
- *"From my point of view, God is the light that illuminates the darkness, even if it does not dissolve it, and a spark of divine light is within each of us."* – Pope Francis
- *"The best way to cheer yourself up is to try to cheer somebody else up."* – Mark Twain
- *"Laugh every day. It's like inner jogging."*  
– Anonymous
- *"Someone said, 'Too much self-respect can make you a snob, too little can make you a slob.'"* – Fr. Andrew Apostoli, CFR
- *"The greatest love story of all time is contained in a tiny white Host."*  
– Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen
- *"Unless we encounter Christ, we cannot know our own humanity."* – St. John Paul II
- *"To a great extent the level of any civilization is the level of womanhood. When a man loves a woman, he has to become worthy of her. The higher her virtue, the more noble her character, the more devoted she is to truth, justice, goodness, the more a man has to aspire to be worthy of her. The history of civilization could actually be written in terms of the level of its women."*  
– Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

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**Year of Mercy with Pope Francis:****Daily Reflections**

March 20th: **No Other Way to Conquer Evil**

“Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!” (Jn 1:29) The verb that is translated as “take away” literally means, “to lift up”, “to take upon oneself.” Jesus came into the world with a precise mission: to liberate it from the slavery of sin by taking on himself the sins of mankind. How? By loving.

There is no other way to conquer evil and sin than by the love that leads to giving up one’s life for others. — Angelus, 1-29-14

**Reflection:** In Jesus’ love and mercy, He took away our sins through His death on the cross. Take some time to consider what He endured for you. Consider how you can respond in love.

**Jesus Calling: Enjoying Peace in His Presence**

Sarah Young March 20th

**Thank Me for the glorious gift of My Spirit.** This is like priming the pump of the well. As you bring Me the sacrifice of thanksgiving, regardless of your feelings, My Spirit is able to work more freely within you. This produces more thankfulness and more freedom, until you are overflowing with gratitude.

I shower blessings on you daily, but sometimes you don’t perceive them. When your mind is stuck on a negative focus, you see neither Me nor My gifts. In faith, thank Me for whatever is preoccupying your mind. This will clear the blockage so that you can find Me.

2 Corinthians 5:5, 2 Corinthians 3:17, Psalm 50:14



# Happy Birthday!



Barbara Oshesky, OFS 4/04

Mike Mendez, OFS 4/13

Jason Johns, OFS 4/17

Jim Gillis, OFS 4/18

Bob Johnston, OFS 4/22



## Profession Anniversary Congratulations!

Joan Keefe, OFS 4/2/61

Joseph Halloran, OFS 4/8/90

Rhea Shaddock, OFS 4/15/84

Rosalie Coyne, OFS 4/17/83

Francine Mailhot, OFS 4/21/85

## Goodie Table



Assigned to bring refreshments for the April Fraternity meeting:

Jim Gillis

Jason Johns

Grace Krist

## Please pray for...



The Year of Mercy as proclaimed by Pope Francis  
The upcoming Regional Annual Meeting in April  
The upcoming Quinquennial in June  
The continued growth in membership in our Fraternity and the upcoming change in Leadership.  
All Christians being persecuted around the world.

## Miserere Nobis Mercy and Merci: A Jubilee of Forgiveness

by Jim Prior, OFS

In this Year of Mercy  
Initiated by Pope Francis,  
Let us relax in the arms of Our Lord.  
Turn over our efforts to Him.  
Not our will, but His be done.

The Blessed Trinity is in charge,  
And the tender patience of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary is evident.  
Slow down and listen.  
Recognize the sweet, loving instruction,  
of our dear Lord and His Father  
And the Holy Spirit, the love between  
God the Father and God the Son.

Mercy means love, Merci means thanks  
And so it goes, throughout the Church year,  
Culminating on Christ the King Feast day  
In November 2016.

Love never fails.  
Mercy never fails.  
Seven times seventy times, again and again,  
We are called to mercy, a jubilee of forgiveness,  
The square root of LOVE.



## *The 19th Quinquennial Congress*

The 19th Quinquennial Congress is in St. Louis June 30—July 3rd. There are ways that our fraternity can partake if you are unable to attend in person. We can provide donations for Operation Blessing Bag. Please bring them in by the May fraternity meeting. A message below from the Q:

One of the ways to live the Quinquennial's "Reviving Our Spirit" theme is by taking part in Operation Blessing Bag.

Gallon-size ziplock bags will be filled with travel-size toiletries, snacks, socks, etc. and, at the end of the Q, donated to St. Anthony's Food Pantry, which provides food and clothing to those in need in St. Louis.

To make it more personal, a holy card in each bag will sport the words, "Filling this bag for you has been a blessing for me! I will keep you in my prayers." The person filling the bag can sign her/his name.

Operation Blessing Bag sessions will take place throughout the Q where attendees can stop by and help fill some bags.

"A wonderful project for each fraternity and/or region will be to collect these types of items so that everyone will be taking part," notes Kate Kleinart of the Q Planning Committee.

Q participants may bring donated items to the Congress or have them shipped in June to the Renaissance St. Louis Airport Hotel.

## **The Five Franciscan Martyrs Region: Annual Regional Fraternity Meeting**

Our Annual regional Fraternity Meeting this year will be April 29 — May 1, 2016 at the San Pedro Retreat Center in Winter Park, Florida. Fr. Christopher Panagoplos, TOR will be the leader of the weekend retreat. Fr. Christopher will capitalize on our theme, "Be Still and Know that I am God".

The weekend begins formally with evening prayer at 7pm in the Chapel. And will conclude after the 10am Mass in the Chapel. Registration needs to be paid in full by April 15th.

Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy the Franciscan Charism.

