

SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER - FIVE FRANCISCAN MARTYRS REGION

www.franciscan-sfo.org

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI FRATERNITY - CLEARWATER, FL
2ND SATURDAYS @ Light of Christ Church, 2176 Marilyn St., Clearwater



SIMPLICITY

Next Meeting Saturday June 9, 2018

Light of Christ Church, Following 8:30 a.m. Mass

Ongoing Formation - Art. 21 "Animating, Guiding the Fraternity Pg. 199-209"

Message from the Minister for June:

Dear brothers and sisters,

June has many special feast days. Starting with Corpus Christi, followed with the feast of the most Sacred Heart of Jesus. On the 17th we will celebrate Father's day and the nativity of St. John the Baptist on the 24th. On the 29th the feast day of St. Peter and Paul.

I have chosen to paraphrase an article from Living Faith written by Fr. James Stephen Behrens, OCSO, Cistercian monk of the Strict Observance (Trappist). The article is called Food for the Journey, the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. *While they were eating, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it and gave it to them, and said "take and eat this is my body" (Mark 14:22)*

In many, if not all, religious traditions, the sharing of a meal is a celebration rich in symbolism. The Eucharist and Passover are bearers of the shared memories of a people. God reveals Himself through the communal ritual of drinking and eating. (continued on page 2)

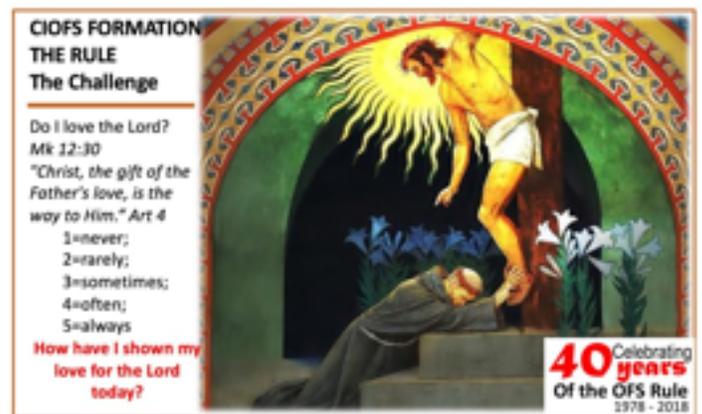
Through the Eucharist, we believe that God remembers Himself for us. He is brought to our midst and once again nourishes us with His very flesh and blood. We consume His life, and He becomes, very intimately, a living part of us. When we leave the sacred table and re-immense ourselves into the seemingly mundane routine of life, we bear God within us — a God who lived, died and rose for us so that we might live the same Mystery for and with each other. The Body and Blood of Jesus is indeed food for our Journey through life.

Let us partake of this Eucharist as often as possible. Have a blessed summer.

While in formation for the religious life, St. John the Baptist was the patron of all novices, preparing for the great day of Profession. I thank you my God and my Savior for choosing me to be one of your good messengers. From life to Gospel and Gospel to life.

Celebrating 40 Years of Our Rule: June 24, 2018

At Pentecost, all the brothers used to gather for a chapter at the church of Saint Mary of the Portiuncula and discuss how they could better observe the **Rule**. They approved brothers throughout the various provinces who would preach to the people, and assigned other brothers in their provinces. Saint Francis used to give admonitions, corrections, and directives as it seemed to him to be according to the Lord's counsel. Everything that he said to them in word, however, he would show them in deed with eagerness and affection. He used to tell them: "As you announce peace with your mouth, make sure that greater peace is in your hearts. Let no one be provoked to anger or scandal through you, but may everyone be drawn to peace, kindness, and harmony through your gentleness. for we have been called to this: to heal the wounded, bind up the broken, and recall the erring.



COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Minister: (acting Secretary) Jeannette Grant, OFS
Treasurer: (acting Vice-Minister) Rachel Ahern, OFS
Formation Dir. Jim Grant, OFS

Councilors - at- Large:

Ed Belliveau, OFS
Cindy Housley, OFS
Susan Reece, OFS

Councilor Emeritus:

Connie Quatrano, OFS

Newsletter Editors:

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

Anniversaries: Ed Belliveau - June 13 (20 yrs.) ~ Peggy Stahlman - June 24 (17 yrs.)
Susan Reece - June 24 (6 yrs.)

Necrology: Michael Connor- June 3, 1998 (1 yr.)~Veronica Henry-June 8, 2009 (30 yrs.)
Mary Stefanics - June 8, 1989 (28 yrs.) ~ Bridget Kavanaugh - June 19, 1987 (11 yrs.)

NOTICE: Fair Share Contribution and Common Fund checks to be sent to :
Rachel Ahern, OFS, 2006 Nugget Dr., Clearwater, FL 33755

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

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

St Francis of Assisi Fraternity Meeting**Date: 5/12/2018**

Opening prayer by Jeannette.

Holy office lead by Jeannette and Rachel.

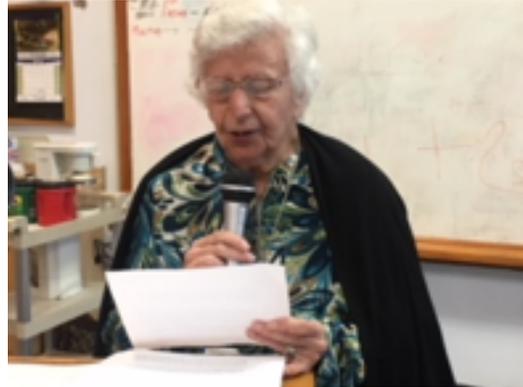
Hail Mary for all those absent because of illness.

Hymn to the Blessed virgin.

Jeannette prepared two sets of folded papers to be selected by each member, the Gifts and the Fruits of the Holy Spirit. When everyone had made their selections, they could share if they so wished.

Report from the San Pedro Annual Meeting presented by Rachel, who represented Jim, and Jeannette. Formation highlights: everyone is in charge of their own ongoing formation, every member can help in the running of the fraternity. Jeannette reported that most of the fraternities are suffering from the lack of a Spiritual Assistant. What to do with difficult persons.... one bad apple can spoil the whole barrel. (continued on page 4)

Kathy Dee led the discussions assisted by Connie, Annette, Cindy, and Susan on Article 25, "Caring for each other." The discussions resulted in similar results: we have an obligation to the Fraternity for the Common Fund and the Fair Share. Many of us shared our outside ministries: soup kitchen, visiting the sick, giving our extra food to St. Vincent de Paul food pantry etc.
(photos by Jim Grant)



Our Ministry by Sr. Jeannette Grant, OFS

We had a Eucharistic Minister's meeting today
No one there wanted to laugh or play.
We were gathered in Your Holy Name
It should have been full of fun and games.
No one dared to mention Your name... Jesus
Are You still such a stranger to us?
What is it that we bring to the sick and poor
As we stand outside and knock on their door.
Is it just a piece of bread
Or is it really You instead?
We are Your ministers on the earth
This should fill our hearts with bliss and mirth.
Oh come Holy Spirit and fill our hearts
With a fire of love that must never depart.
Ministry is not a job that must be done
It is a service of love we bring to everyone.
Our hearts should be overflowing
No matter where we are going.
And so I hope and pray today
In Jesus's name we may learn to play.
We are bringing the Savior of the world
To every man, woman, boy and girl.
May the light of Christ shine through us
As we whisper the sweet name of Jesus.
Let us be filled with happiness and joy
Heavenly Father we do implore.
The Eucharist is the priceless pearl
That can change the whole wide world.
Let us sing and jump with glee
And show the world that we are free.
Jesus is alive and well today
We must never be ashamed to say.
Remember we are His hands and feet
To all the people that we meet.
When they look at us
They should see Jesus.
With a smile upon our face
Let us go out and run the race.
In the Name of Jesus here we come
God's Kingdom has been won.

