

"The Canticle"

July 2018

Divine Mercy Fraternity
Secular Franciscan Order, Vero Beach, Florida
www.dmf-ofs.org



Regular Meeting:

The next meeting is: **Sunday, July 8, 2018, 2:00 - 4:00 pm, at St. Helen Church, South Room, Vero Beach, Florida**

Agenda and Schedule

- 2:00 Opening, Reports, etc.
- 2:10 Formation Director (Donna):
Franciscan Summer Film Fest Part II — The Conclusion of June's movie.
- 3:00 Break and Refreshments
- 3:15 Liturgy of the Hours, using, "Christian Prayer," followed by the Franciscan Crown, if time permits.
- 4:00 Closing Prayers and Dismissal

Fraternity Officers/Council Members (exp. Jan. 09, 2019)

Minister:	Fred Schaeffer, OFS
Vice-Minister:	Helen Caldarone, OFS
Secretary:	Jean McGovern, OFS
Treasurer:	Jack Reddy, OFS
Formation Director:	Donna Haro, OFS
Councilor-at-large:	Joanne Giordana, OFS
Spiritual Asst. (when available):	Deacon Richard Blake, OFS

Refreshment Committee:

Snacks: Virginia Davis, OFS
Drinks: Jean McGovern, OFS

Council Meeting: 9 AM at St. John of the Cross on Sat., July 14, 2018. See Fred for info.

Remember in your prayers: All fraternity members, especially Fred, Stan and Virginia. Also please pray for Nick Giordano (Joanne's husband) for healing. And Marie (Rm. 385 hospital)

Anniversaries - July: Stanley Widing, OFS 07-27-2013

Mary Jean McGovern, OFS 07-12-2014

Joanne Giordano, OFS 07-15-2017

Minister's Message:

A short review how to say the Liturgy of the Hours seems needed again. I get the impression that many are not praying it because it is too difficult. These are age-old prayers of the Church said (in different languages) by Popes, Cardinals, Bishops, Priests, Deacons, members of Religious Orders and members of the Laity, particularly those belonging to Third Orders and the Secular Franciscan Order (OFS). We use the easier "Christian Prayer" (Catholic Book Publishing Co.) because we traditionally pray Morning and Evening Prayer, only. Clergy and religious have a canonical obligation to pray the Liturgy of the Hours as official representatives of the Church. They generally use the four-volume books which has the full "Office of Readings" that is part of their obligation.

Helen offered the following article on page 2, which covers the subject very well. Thank you, Helen.

Praying the Liturgy of the Hours

by Helen Caldarone, OFS

As Secular Franciscans, we are asked to pray the Liturgy of the Hours daily (morning and evening) and that is not easy if you are not familiar with the way the Christian Prayer book is organized. I hope the following information helps make it easier.

Firstly, we Catholics are, or should be, aware of the Liturgical Year and how it shapes our worship calendar; it starts with the Advent season and is followed by the Christmas season which is then followed by a somewhat shortened Ordinary Time depending upon when Lent begins. As you know, Easter is a moveable feast and, therefore, it means that the start of Lent also varies each year. Following the Easter season, we are back to Ordinary Time and that doesn't end until the beginning of another Liturgical Year with Advent.

We are currently in Ordinary Time and will be for quite a while. The good news for you is that following the Liturgy of the Hours is a lot easier during Ordinary Time. To start, all you need to do is to open your Christian Prayer Book to the Table of Contents at the front of the book and find the entry called "the Four-Week Psalter" and open to the first page where you will find "Week I".

This section contains the Liturgy of the Hours day-by-day, psalm-by-psalm, canticles, antiphons, and hymn references, for Weeks I, II, III, and IV. One warning: Ordinary Time following the Easter season and Pentecost, etc., means that you need to refer to a Catholic calendar, your church Missalette or the weekly bulletin to make sure you are using the correct week -it will be I, II, III, or IV in the Four-Week Psalter.). So, using the Four-Week Psalter, you will be able to continue this sequence until Advent again starts. Please note that in the Four-Week Psalter, Saturday does not have an Evening Prayer....that has been moved to Sunday as Evening Prayer I, since the Saturday Evening prayers are a part of Sunday worship.

I hope this explanation helps you throughout the Summer and early Fall--at which time, we will give you similar pointers for coping with the "Proper of Seasons, if you need it. This is the section which provides various antiphons, canticles, psalms, etc., to be used during Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, etc. when you will have to flip back and forth in your Christian Prayers to locate the sections which contain specially selected readings for these beautiful seasons of the Liturgical Year.

And, please, don't hesitate to check out the many other sections of your Christian Prayers--sections for Feast Days, Saints Days (called Proper of the Saints), Office of Readings, Guide to Hymns, Office of the dead, Commons (a section of prayers used for martyrs, apostles, virgins, etc.). I encourage you to explore them --you will love what you find! Enjoy!

Let the rhythm of the Liturgical Year bring a beautiful and holy rhythm to your life and prayers.

40 Celebrating
years
Of the OFS Rule
1978 - 2018