



“Share the Joy”

Holy Spirit Fraternity of the
Secular Franciscan Order
of Claremont



Newsletter

Listen, Discern, Go Forth!

August 2024

Minister’s Corner

I just returned from a trip to Trinidad. The roads are narrow and it was interesting how patient and caring the drivers were able to have two way traffic when there were spots where there was room for just one car to pass. People would wait in a place that would allow cars in the other direction to pass. Without this sharing, road traffic would be stalled for long periods, but they do it like it was second nature. I compare this with some of the impatience I see in the roads here.

As a Franciscan am I willing to extend my faith out into action. I was reminded recently, that prayer is not a way to get what I want. I won’t change God but prayer is a means to change ourselves. Contemplation can help us to build radical resilience. The ability to face hardship with greater, more sustained inner strength, purpose and connectedness.

When I meet other people am I willing to see God’s image in them, am I willing to listen to where they are coming from even when their ‘facts’ differ from what I believe is true. I pray that God will give me the grace to listen to both what is said and what is hidden.

Your servant,
Bill Mussatto, OFS

Calendar of Events:

- Aug 5th 6:30 ~8:45pm Initial Formation OLA 1st floor C-5 (old convent),
- Aug 11th 3:45 ~ 6:00pm Annual Picnic, Blaisdale Park in Claremont.
- Aug 12th 6:30 ~8:45pm Initial Formation OLA 1st floor C-5 (old convent),
- Aug 17th 10:00 ~ 2:00pm Regional Gathering, St. Hedwig's in Los Alamitos.
- Aug 24th 10:00am ~ noon Council Meeting, OLA 1st floor C-5 (old convent).
- Sep 2nd 6:30 ~8:45pm Initial Formation OLA 1st floor C-5 (old convent),
- Sep 8th 11:00am 1:00pm Fraternal Visit with Council in Felician Room
- Sep 8th 1:00 ~ 4:00 pm Fraternal Visit with the Fraternity OLA 1^s

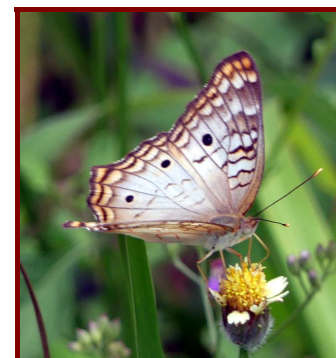
- Oct 4th - 6th floor C-5 (old convent).
- Oct 2nd 2:00-3:00pm OLA Parish Fiesta
- Oct 3rd/4th Blessing of the Animals (Tenative) Trastitus

August Picnic:

In August we will be having our annual District Picnic as our monthly Fraternity Meeting. **Note: you can arrive at 3:45pm.** It will be held at Blaisdale Park in Claremont. We will be joined by members of St. Padre Pio Fraternity (it will be their monthly meeting as well). Remember this is open to friends and family. It will be held at 4:00pm and will be pot luck with the Fraternity providing the meat course. The Fraternity will provide hamburgers and all the fixings, please bring a side or dessert to share. While there should be tables, if you can please bring folding chairs. In keeping with being good stewards of the environment please bring your own flatware, plates and napkins. We will have Bingo after the meal, with some small prizes, as well as time to gather and meet with others. Its fully shaded and their should be a breeze. You should have already let your phone tree contacts know if you plan to bring guests.

Regional Gathering

On August 17th, a week after our picnic, the Region will have its annual gathering. Since it’s the 800th Anniversary of St. Francis receiving the Stigmata this will be the topic. It will be held in the auditorium at St. Hedwig's in Los Alamitos. In addition to a chance to meet Franciscans from throughout the region it will be a chance to grow in our understanding of St Francis’ full embrace of our Lord’s Suffering. Please contact your phone tree contact if you have not already made car pooling arrangements.



September Visit:

Each September our fraternity has either a visitation or an election. This September, Jannet Serrors, OFS will represent the Regional Council and conduct a Fraternal Visit. The visit will consist of meeting with your council between 11:00am and 1:00pm in the Felician Room (aka, the school library). At about 1:00 pm she will visit with the entire Fraternity. If needed she will meet again with your council. As is true for both Visits and Elections, the visitor will conduct the meeting. There should be time set aside for members to meet individually with the visitor.



July Meeting:

We began with the Franciscan Wake for Rachel Rodriguez, OFS. Although we invited the members to join us via ZOOM, they did not attend. I sent out copies to people who normally cannot attend our meetings.

We will be having our Fraternal Visit at our September meeting. To prepare for it we discussed the purpose of Fraternal Visits at our July Meeting as our Fraternity ongoing Formation. Based on a discussion the arose in the initial formation class we took a survey of that days and time members would be available for extra meeting. We also gathered ideas about what we can do to increase fraternity Fellowship. The closing prayer was the Evening Office out of the Book of Christian Prayer as a group which we practiced at the June meeting.

Thoughts of Francis and Friends:

The greatest thing in the world is not a just suffering, but an 'unjust suffering.' as it is called in Peter's first Letter. It is so great and precious because it is the only type of suffering that is close to God's own suffering.

Ranicho Cantalamessa, OFM, Cap.

Next Council Meeting

At our last meeting we discussed a number of changes

in how we can improve our the Fraternal nature of our Fraternity. Because of scheduling your council has not had a chance to visit any of these items. The next council meeting will focus on the revised pre-visit checklist so out long term planning will be limited. However, we agreed to have a 3 month projection of upcoming events. Further out dates are still too fluid. Currently this will include a blessing of the Animals in late September and/or early October. Your council is looking into some form of Transitus Celebration at a location to be determined.

Please remember in your prayers:

Cynthia Hewitt (Ted's wife); Zoila, Amelias' sister, Mary Macleod who is in remission; All Secular Franciscans who are, for whatever reason, unable to attend Fraternity meetings.

For victims of hurricane which are impacting people in both the Carrabean and several US states. For refugees especially those suffering the effects of conflicts, and weather related food shortages and those who minister to them.

That we listen to Pope Francis who reminds us we are called to be peacemakers, bridge builders and for the willingness to listen to and learn from each other.

For peace and an end to suffering in Israel, Gaza, Ukraine, Sudan and those places that do not make the news.

To be thankful for our many blessings.

Formation:

Initial Formation: Gail continues her classes with Juanito as her sponsor. If you would like to attend one of the classes, Jaqui will provide you with the content for the section. The future classes will be in the Convent (building C-5) at OLA.

Council Ongoing Formation: is reviewing the 2021-2022 revision of Instrumentum Laboris CIOFS prepared to address needed improvements to our order.

For July on-going Fraternity Formation Bill explained the purpose of the Fraternal Visit.

