



Our Lady of Indiana Regional Fraternity Secular Franciscan Order

Website: <http://olirf-ofs.org/>

March, 2018

Volume 5, Issue 1

"Renewed and Confirmed: LIVE THE TREASURE (Celebrating 40 Years of the OFS Rule)"

A Message from our Regional Minister: Kathleen White, OFS



Inside Edition

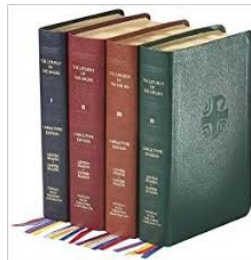
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Lent can be such a challenging time. It challenges us to pray, fast, and give alms. Some may be appreciative of the age requirements for fasting — "For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on *fasting* are obligatory from *age 18* until *age 59*" (USCCB). I have been over the age of 59 for several years now... you need not know just HOW many. But I still fast. It's not hard for me, and I hope to continue for as long as I am physically able. Food — that's easy. Other fasts? Harsh thoughts and/or words, inattentiveness, social media. So many opportunities for fasting, it's like a buffet. Alms giving is also an easy one for most... our time, our talent, and our treasure come from God, let us return a portion of each to Him for His glory and the good of others. Prayer... ah, prayer! Of the three, this is my challenge this Lent. Using the tools the Church, in her wisdom, has provided — various Lenten reflection books/booklets, parish opportunities for reflection, utilizing time in a better, more productive way, all are available to us.

how the Secular Franciscans may fulfill this (Rule, Art 8) responsibility:

1. *Morning and Evening Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours, either in common or in private. These celebrations are to be preferred at the fraternity meeting."*

It's easy, if you try. (I think that's a line from a Beatles song.) There are various breviaries; the one volume Christian Prayer, the four volume Liturgy of the Hours, and several online sources such as ibreviary.org. Using an online resource eliminates page turning and confusion, but many still prefer the feel of the book in one's hands. The holy card book marks. The ribbons.



A very good source for learning more about the Liturgy of the Hours is *Coffee and Canticles* —

Ordinary Catholics Loving the Liturgy of the Hours

<https://dariasockey.blogspot.com/> Her blog is loaded with information and resources. I love the suggestion from her "Breviary Bootcamp" — start with Night Prayer. It's a 7 day rotation, doesn't change with seasons or celebrations, and is shorter than Morning or Evening Prayer. Once you become comfortable with it — expand to Morning Prayer — then add

Our Regional Prayer — a Gift from St. Francis

Holy Virgin Mary, among all women born into the world, there is none like you. Daughter and Handmaid of the Most High, sovereign King, the heavenly Father, Mother of our most holy Lord Jesus Christ, Spouse of the Holy Spirit.

Pray for us with St. Michael the archangel and with all the powers of the heavens and with all the saints together with your most holy beloved Son, Lord and teacher.

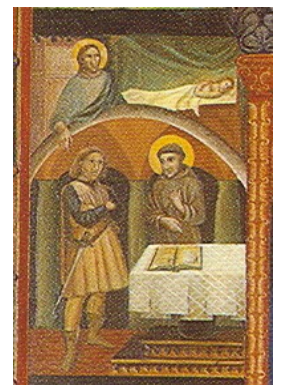
A concern we have as we visit local fraternities in our Regional Fraternity is our members' unfamiliarity and uncomfortableness with the great gift we have in the Liturgy of the Hours. Our Ritual, page 103 states *"The following are suggestions regarding*

What We Have Promised to Live . . .

"Regarding expenses necessary for the life of the fraternity and the needs of worship, of the apostolate, and of charity, all the brothers and sisters should offer a contribution according to their means. Local fraternities should contribute toward the expenses of the high fraternity councils.

As a concrete sign of communion and coresponsibility,

the councils on various levels, in keeping with the constitutions, shall ask for suitable and well prepared religious for spiritual assistance. They should make this request to the superiors of the four religious Franciscan families, to whom the Secular Fraternity has been united for centuries (RULE, Art 25-26).



REGIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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Evening Prayer.

The Liturgy of the Hours is a universal prayer of the Church – like the Mass – celebrated all over the world and by most Secular Franciscans. How wonderful to join in prayer with our brothers and sisters across borders and time. Some parishes offer Liturgy of the Hours prior to morning Mass, or communally in the evening prior to various meetings taking place (obviously in larger parishes). In my parish we have Morning Prayer at 7:30 prior to the 8:00 Mass on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. I love it when we stand to chant the Benedictus.

People often comment that they are afraid they are “doing it wrong.” The challenge here is learn to do it right. Read about it from various sources: <https://www.ewtn.com/expert/answers/breviary.htm> and <https://www.ewtn.com/library/CURIA/CDWGILH.HTM> are excellent. Daria Sockey (Coffee and Canticles as mentioned above) has also written an exceptional book titled *The Everyday Catholic's Guide to the Liturgy of the Hours*. I have this on my Kindle.

Pray Liturgy of the Hours with a friend. Maybe on the phone. Pray in a group. Pray in the quiet of your morning or evening, or at night in the comfort of your bed. Again, just do it. It's easy if you try.

Liturgy of the Hours



Sanctifying Time

Forgiveness
Acceptance
Self-Control
Truth
Integrity
Nourishment
Grace

Fr. Slavko Barbaric O.F.M.

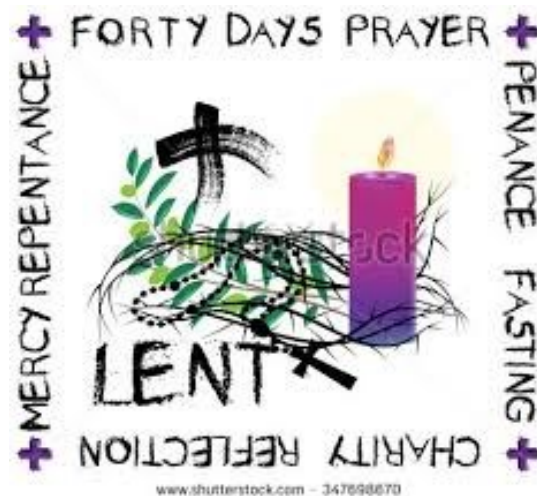


DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

In the words of Pope Francis

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

pietrafitness.com



Barb Braley, OFS, Regional Vice-Minster : St. Clare and St. Agnes of Assisi: Kindred Souls

From SHARON MARMALEJO, OFS,
Regional Counselor Northwest

The letters of St. Clare to St. Agnes of Prague contain some of the most beautiful theology ever written. I am especially partial to the second and third letters.

In the second letter, Clare writes, "Most noble Queen, **gaze, consider, contemplate** desiring to **imitate** your Spouse, [Who] though more beautiful than the children of men became, for your salvation, the lowest of men, was despised, struck, scourged untold times throughout His entire body, and then died amid the suffering of the Cross" (bold mine) (Clare of Assisi: The Lady, page 49).

Then, in the third letter, she writes, "Place your mind before the **mirror of eternity!** Place your soul in the brilliance of glory! Place your heart in the figure of the divine substance and, through contemplation, transform your entire being into the image of the Godhead Itself, so that you may feel what friends feel in tasting the hidden sweetness that, from the beginning, God Himself has reserved for His lovers (bold mine) (ibid, page 51).

First of all, these two passages are best when they are read together. They really form one thought.

Second, a look at the bolded words in the second letter is in order. To gaze is to look at something intently, deeply. In this case, we are gazing upon Christ Crucified. For Clare, this would have meant the San Damiano crucifix. Yes, THE San Damiano crucifix. The gaze is not just a quick glance or at the artistic details, but to really SEE Christ Crucified. To consider the Crucified Christ means to think deeply about what the crucifixion, death, and resurrection of Jesus is really all about: the depth of his love, the mercy of God, the salvation of us all.

To contemplate is to enter into one's inner temple where we encounter the living God personally. This is a profound experience that cannot be described or explained because it is intensely personal. However, it is NOT sitting there doing nothing. It is a letting go of our own agendas and letting God have his way with us. (It is one of the least understood and, I would dare to say, the least practiced articles of our Rule. See article 8). Finally, to imitate Christ isn't merely duplication of his actions. True imitation is to conform our hearts, minds, and wills to Christ, like St. Paul admonishes us in Philipians 2:5-11.



So, to combine the bolded words and phrases, we read something like this: Gaze into the mirror of eternity, consider Christ, contemplate, and imitate Him through the transformation of your entire being into the image of the Godhead itself, that is Christ. In other words, what we should see in the mirror of eternity is the face of Christ and our own faces become one image: Christ. Is that not what it means to be truly Christian: Christ in the world? St. Teresa of Avila, the great Carmelite mystic and Doctor of the Church, said, in essence, "Christ has no eyes but ours, no hands or feet but ours."

Our great challenge, therefore, is to be Christ in, with, and for the world. St. Francis and St. Clare did this, and we have professed (or hopefully will profess one day) to follow in their footsteps, which were following in Christ's footsteps.

Pax et Bonum!

Barb Braley, OFS,
Regional Vice Minister

Rule, Article 8. As Jesus was the true worshipper of the Father, so let prayer and contemplation be the soul of all they are and do.

Let them participate in the sacramental life of the Church, above all the Eucharist. Let them join in liturgical prayer in one of the forms proposed by the Church, reliving the mysteries of the life of Christ.

Back in November of 2017, I put out a request for our Formation Director's son Michael who was electrocuted on the job. At the time, he was near death's door. He was badly burned and the doctors were not very optimistic of his recovery. He had numerous operations, and there was a long road ahead if he did recover.

Within a short period of time after the prayer request went out to our Franciscan brothers and sisters, Michael's condition turned for the better, so much so, that the doctors couldn't believe his progress.

They were astounded and will now use his case as a study for future burn victims. I might add that his Mom told me that besides the Franciscans praying for Michael, there were many others from all different religious backgrounds that prayed for him. (I guess we can't take all the credit!)

Michael is home now and will be getting treatments for skin grafts on his arms for the next several months. He hopes to be back on the job later this year. Praise God!

Intercessory prayer is so very powerful, and it is amazing to see the results when we have faith. When we pray with confidence and trust in God, God delights in our confident faith and hears us. "Is there anyone among you who if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? If you then are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him! (Luke 11:11-13)

Sharon Marmalejo, OFS
Regional Counselor Northwest





St. Francis Spends Lent on Lago Trasimeno



The Prophet Isaiah wrote the following: "The Lord will give you the **bread** you need and the **water** for which you thirst. No longer will your TEACHER hide himself, but with your own eyes you shall see your Teacher, while from behind, a voice shall sound in your ears: "THIS IS THE **WAY**: WALK IN IT," . . .

We all know the wonderful story of our Holy Father Francis and his Lenten sojourn on an island in the middle of Lago Trasimeno (FA:ED, Vol. III, p. 578-579).

Besides the two loaves and the jug of water, what else did Francis have on that isolated spot in the middle of the lake? Even today there is very little: a dilapidated church covered with vines which are destroying its structure, the tower of a fortress which is falling into the lake, a few snakes, a very small community of people (about 60 or less), a trattoria, and a pier jutting out into the lake. There was even less here at the time of our Holy Father.

There were no evening devotions, Ways of the Cross, study sessions with the latest priest or friar fad, fish fries, novenas, etc. etc. etc. Nothing wrong with any of these devotions! But can they also be a distraction from what Lent is really meant to be?

So what did FRANCIS have? Only the presence of God and his fascination with God and his overwhelming desire to be present with Him and immersed in Him

When we come to a place in our lives where we wish CONVERSION, we are aware that God is asking for more . . . and we are wishing to respond more fully and completely. That does not

mean more legalism or more mortifications which, however, may deceive us into believing we're really getting holy now! Maybe yes, maybe no! How often during Lent will we hear the words, ". . . rend your HEARTS, not your garments!" or "My sacrifice, O God, is a contrite spirit . . . one you will not spurn."

In other words this CONVERSION does mean a more sincere and total turning of our hearts — something which is a gift freely given and which only each of us can give. It's not something we can make happen, but rather something only God can empower us to do — if we are courageous enough to "TURN OFF" all the noise and busyness, and all the doo-dads and gadgets that keep us from focusing on Him.

What if, during Lent, we created an island someplace in our lives with generous amounts of time without computers, think pads, iPads, smart phones, any kind of phones, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, radios, etc. etc. etc.

So what did Francis have? What did Francis do?

Fr. Roch Niemier, OFM, writes so beautifully: "He entered the church of his heart. He made of his heart an altar for God. His choice to spend Lent on an island was not of his going or some pious romantic fling. He was captured, seized, by the Spirit of God. And when God grasps us in the heart, the deepest center of our lives, then we can let go and move to adoration. Then we realize the meaning of the words of Scripture, "For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God than burnt offerings (IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF FRANCIS

AND CLARE, p. 135-136)."

So the question for each of us as we begin our Lenten journey is: where's that island in our lives where we can nurture our fascination with God and allow Him the time and space to bring us more and more into the Mystery that He is? Do we have the courage to go there?

WATER: ". . . No one who drinks the water that I shall give him will ever be thirsty again: the water that I shall give him will become a spring of water, welling up for eternal life (John 4: 13-14)." Lord, — in this crazy, crazy world we are thirsting for you! Give us to drink!

BREAD: "This is the bread which has come down from heaven . . . anyone who eats this bread will live for ever (John 6: 58)." Lord, in this crazy, crazy world we are hungering for you! Give us to eat!

ISLAND / THE WAY: Mark 6:31-33 Jesus said to them, 'Come away with me. Let us go alone to a quiet place and rest for a while.' Many people were coming and going. They could not even eat. So they went away in a boat to a lonely place by themselves." Jesus is asking each one of us to do the same! Lord, in this crazy, crazy world, we long for Your presence. Lord, you are the WAY!

Once more the words from Isaiah: "The Lord will give you the **bread** you need and the **water** for which you thirst. No longer will your TEACHER hide himself, but with your own eyes you shall see your Teacher, while from behind, a voice shall sound in your ears: "THIS IS THE **WAY**: WALK IN IT."



"Go Fly a Kite" Dave Dieringer, OFS, Regional Formation Director

This month our brother Dave has given us a special reflection entitled "Go Fly a Kite". The intricacies of constructing a kite have been attached to this newsletter, but Dave's connection of "kites" to Lent is included here for your prayerful reflection.

Whoa! Stop the presses! What does kite-flying have to do with anything in this newsletter or Lent? Great question! A priest friend of mine is a bi-ritual priest, which means he is permitted to celebrate the Divine Liturgy in the Byzantine Rite as well as the Roman Rite. He explained that in the Byzantine Rite, Lent started two days before Ash Wednesday on "Clean Monday". One of the traditions apart from devouring delicious "Clean Monday" treats, dictates that you take to the hills or the countryside with a kite to fly. **Kite-flying** has become a firmly-grounded tradition on "Clean Monday", and being a public holiday in some countries, it is a chance to enjoy the advancing spring weather. It is a common sight to see roadside stands selling kites



on the weekend before "Clean Monday".

Nobody is quite sure where the kite-flying **tradition** came from. Some say that the ancient Greek mathematician Archytas of Tarentum designed and flew the first kite to test aerodynamics, while others believe it started when people would write wishes on the kites and fly them as high as possible for the gods to answer. However the tradition came into being, it's now firmly established, and if you are blessed with fine weather on "Clean Monday",

you are to tear yourself away from the work, the television, or the computer and head outside of town to enjoy colorful kites dancing in the air.

The happy, springtime atmosphere of "Clean Monday" may seem at odds with the Lenten spirit of repentance and self-control, but this seeming contradiction should be a marked aspect of the Franciscan approach to **fasting**, in accordance with the **Gospel** lesson (**Matthew 6:14-21**) read on the morning before, which admonishes:

"Whenever you fast, do not put on a gloomy face as the hypocrites *do*, for they neglect their appearance so that they will be noticed by men when they are fasting. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face so that your fasting will not be noticed by men, but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees *what is done* in secret will reward you."

In this manner, the Christians celebrate the fact that "The springtime of the Fast has dawned, the flower of repentance has begun to open.. "

So, my suggestion to you this Lenten Season...HAVE FUN WITH IT!

"Taking up our Tiny Crosses: the 5th Admonition of St. Francis"

A Lenten Reflection by Linda Grady,
OFS Regional Councilor, Northeast

"(E)ven the demons did not crucify Him, but you together with them crucified Him and still crucify Him by taking delight in vices and sins. Wherefore then can you glory?" (from Admonitions, no. 5)

Our dear Father St. Francis gives us much to think about. Indeed, if we are such sinners, shouldn't we be terribly ashamed and totally unworthy of even approaching Our Lord in prayer?

St. Francis goes on to say that even if we were the most clever, wise, knowledgeable, even the most handsome

and rich and able to "put the demons to flight," we could not glory in any of this. But we *may* glory "in our infirmities, and in bearing daily the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ."

This isn't an original idea of St. Francis. St. Paul speaks of it several times in his letters to the churches he established. A quote that gives me comfort at times is this: "(The Lord) said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.'...For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities; for when I am weak then I am strong" (2 Corinthians 12:9a, 10).

I have the privilege of knowing an elderly woman who lives this daily. She is infirm, homebound, but she offers all her sufferings to Christ Crucified, and through her disability has fallen deeply in love with Him. She gives flesh to St. Paul's words,

and is an example to me of how to achieve sainthood.

I once heard the story of a man who complained to Christ that his cross was too heavy for him; so He took him to a room filled with crosses: big ones, small ones, medium sized ones. Jesus told the man he could trade his cross for any in the room. The man looked around, and finding a tiny little cross in the corner of the room, said, "I'll take that one." Our Lord replied, "That's the one you just gave up."

With what remains of Lent, let's strive to fast a little more, spend more time in prayer, and take up our (tiny) cross each day without complaint.



News and Views from around the Region: both new and old

SIGNIFICANT YEARS OF FRANCISCAN LIFE:

St. Boniface: Josephine Magnus, Dec 8, 1957, 60 years; Virginia Marshall, Dec 9, 1978, 38 years.

May the Lord bless and keep you and grant you many blessings for your faithfulness to your Profession. If there are others we missed, let us know and we will honor them in our next edition.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES FRATERNITY:

Each month someone has the honor of taking the St. Clare statue home to pray for the fraternity's outreach program, St. Clare's Kitchen. In December, Candidate Joseph Martinez was the chosen person to pray for that intention.



The brothers and sisters also enjoy a lovely dinner together in celebration of Christmas.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION FRATERNITY enjoyed a lovely evening together watching the movie "Francis and Clare" on January 12, 2018. It was a lovely way to share a relaxing evening out of the frigid January cold. Family members and friends joined those who came and everyone brought their brown bag suppers and snackies to share. Those present were joined by two four-legged friends (a.k.a.

dogs) who made the rounds during the movies begging for snacks.

The fraternity also enjoy a spectacular presentation in the Planetarium at Notre Dame entitled "Laudato Si'" on Ash Wednesday. Seeing the immensity of God's creation was a humbling way to begin our Lenten journey reminding us that "we are dust and to dust we shall return."

ST. MARY OF THE ANGELS FRATERNITY

in St. John sponsored a "Come and See" event in January with a lovely display in the narthex of the church including a lovely, new fraternity banner. They invited interested persons to come for a discussion and question and answer session about the Secular Franciscan Order. The homilist and pastor both gave glowing recommendations during the homily and final blessing to encourage folks to consider life as a Secular Franciscan.



PEOPLE OF PEACE FRATERNITY:

Many words of THANKS, GRATITUDE and GOD BLESS YOUs to Helen Burke for sheltering Diane Martin, OFS, of Immaculate Conception Fraternity, Mishawaka, during the severe illness of their daughter Miriam. Prayers are requested not only for Miriam but for Bob Burke, Helen's husband, who is ill. What an exemplary example of Franciscan love and caring.



A message of THANKS and GRATITUDE from **Joy Mc Clough, OFS**, of **Our Lady of Lourdes Fraternity**,

From **LADY CLARE FRATERNITY** comes a prayer request from Elaine Stiner for her sister-in-law who is scheduled for some serious brain surgery to remove a benign tumor.

ST. BONIFACE FRATERNITY in Lafayette has announced a retreat at St. Meinrad's on "Simplicity" to be held the weekend of Sept. 21st to Sept. 23rd, 2018. Cost is \$255.00 for a single room and \$425.00 for a double room — cost is all inclusive and includes all meals. To make a reservation call 812.357.6611. Those of you in the southern area of Our Lady of Indiana Regional Fraternity may find this opportunity for prayer, fraternity, and reflection very appealing, although everyone is invited.



If you love being
Franciscan —
show it!



From **JACK HILL, OFS**, our
Regional Justice, Peace, and Integrity
of Creation Liaison

Nearly three years ago, our Holy Father Francis gave us *Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home*. It is time to reflect on how this has changed us. He starts this Encyclical with: "Saint Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life, and a beautiful mother who opens her heart to embrace us (#1)."

He adds emphasis with words we understand: "If we no longer speak the language of fraternity and beauty in our relationship with the world, our attitude will be that of masters, consumers, ruthless exploiters." #11 AND "The earth, our home, is beginning to look more and more like an immense pile of filth(#21)."

What can we do (as an individual or a fraternity)? "All of us can cooperate as instruments of God for the care of creation, each according to his or her own culture, experience, involvements and talents (#14)." "When we can see God reflected in all that exists, our hearts are moved to praise the Lord for all his creatures and to worship in union with them (#87)."

I am not writing with a laundry

list of actions to take. Contact me if you need one. But, surely, fraternity dialogue and individual prayer will help us to form our priorities. Study, then action are mandated. For Pope Francis says: "Living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience(#217)."

This document is fully JPIC material: "In the present condition of global society where injustices abound, the principle of the common good immediately becomes a summons to solidarity with the poorest of our brothers and sisters (#220)."

Finally, despite human failures to change our world, Pope Francis does not want us to lose heart. He concludes with: "May our struggles and our concern for this planet never take away the joy of our hope(3244)."

Peace and All Good,
Your Brother Jack Hill, OFS



Sister Death has
called home . . .

ST. CHARLES FRATERNITY

Dorothy Ward, OFS (12.23. 17)

ST. BONIFACE FRATERNITY

Joe Wippel, OFS (2.19.18)



POPE FRANCIS'S "Practices for Lent"

"Pause from this compulsion to a fast-paced life that scatters, divides and ultimately destroys time with family, with friends, with children, with grandparents, and time as a gift... time with God. See and contemplate the real face of Christ crucified out of love for everyone, without exception. For everyone? Yes, for everyone. Return without fear, for this is the favorable time to come home, to the home of my Father and your Father. It is the time for allowing one's heart to be touched... Remaining on the path of evil only gives rise to disappointment and sadness."



Pope Francis' Prayer for Countering "Fake News"

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Help us to recognize the evil latent in a communication that does not build communion.

Help us to remove venom from our judgments.

Help us to speak about others as our brothers and sisters.

You are faithful and trustworthy: may our words be seeds of goodness for the world:

Where there is shouting, let us

practice listening;

Where there is confusion, let

us inspire harmony;

Where there is ambiguity, let

us bring clarity;

Where there is exclusion, let

us offer solidarity;

Where there is sensationalism,

let us use sobriety;

Where there is superficiality,

let us raise real questions;

Where there is prejudice, let

us awaken trust;

Where there is hostility, let us

bring respect;

Where there is falsehood, let

us bring truth.

Amen.

—Pope Francis' Message for World Communications Day
2018 released at the Vatican on January 24, the fest
of St. Francis de Sales, patron saint of journalists.

Our Lady of Indiana Regional Fraternity—Secular Franciscan Order



To join OUR LADY OF INDIANA list-serve
send a blank email to:

OLI-Region-subscribe@yahoogroups.com



OLIRF Mission Statement

"We, the Secular Franciscans of Our Lady of Indiana Regional Fraternity, are called by virtue of Baptism and Confirmation to holiness. We are committed by our Profession to living the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ in our time according to the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi for the rebuilding of the Church. With the help of Mary our Advocate, Protectress, and Patroness, we will foster prayer, vital fraternities, and communication. We will provide direction, support and resources to local fraternities for understanding and implementing the Rule, the General Constitutions, and the National Statutes of the Secular Franciscan Order, and our Regional Fraternity Guidelines."

2018 Dates to Remember

March 10: Spring Formation Directors and Team Members Workshop: Kokomo

April 14: Spring Chapter of Mats: Kokomo

May: No scheduled activities

June 8, 9, 10: Regional Visitation / REC: University of St. Francis, Fort Wayne

July 14: Candidates Day Away: Site TBA

August 11: Unity Day — Kokomo

September 8: Fall formation Directors and Team Members Workshop: Kokomo

October 6: Regional Executive Council: Kokomo

8—18 Assisi Pilgrimage with Sr. Agnes Marie: Rome, Assisi, Greccio, La Verna

23—29 NaFra Elective Chapter: St. Louis

November 10: Fall Chapter of Mats: Kokomo

2018 Monthly Intentions of Prayer OFS and YOUFRA

MARCH:

For Evangelization: That the Church may appreciate the urgency of formation in spiritual discernment, both on the personal and communitarian levels.

OFS: For the national fraternities of Brazil (VFP), Switzerland, Russia and Japan. Our Father . . .

APRIL:

Universal: That economists may have the courage to reject any economy of exclusion and know how to open new paths.

OFS: For national fraternities of Mauritius, Cuba, Latvia, Taiwan and for the CIOFS Presidency. Our Father . . .

MAY:

For Evangelization: That the lay faithful may fulfill their specific mission, by responding with creativity to the challenges that face the world today.

OFS: For the national fraternities of Canada, Costa Rica and New Zealand (VFP). Our Father . . .

1978-2018 40th Anniversary of the Pauline Rule

Study aids: (in alphabetical order)

Called to Build a More Fraternal and Evangelical World: Commentary on the Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order (OFS Resource Library, Vol 6) – Benet Fonck, OFM

Called to Follow Christ: Commentary on the Secular Franciscan Rule (OFS Resource Library, Vol 1) – Benet Fonck OFM

Called to Live the Dynamic Power of the Gospel: Commentary on the Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order (OFS Resource Library, Vol 3) – Philip Marquard OFM

Called to Make Present the Charism; The Meaning of the Footnotes of the OFS Rule (OFS Resource Library, Vol 5) – Benet Fonck OFM

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