



# Our Lady of Indiana

Our Lady of Indiana Regional Fraternity



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

October 2019

Volume 6, Issue 4

"See Christ, Be Christ, Share the Vision"

## Our Regional Prayer

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.

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## A LIFETIME OF FORMATION

May the Lord give you peace!

In the last newsletter, I introduced that the National Council had adopted its priority for the next three years: fraternity life. This priority had three areas of focus: deepening our Franciscan vocation, growing in fraternal communion, and cultivating universal kinship.

In what ways might we deepen our Franciscan vocation?

There can be many approaches to this, but I would like to mention three: formation, prayer, and service. We will look at formation this time, and reflect on prayer and service in the future.

The importance of formation, ongoing as well as initial, can never be under-emphasized. One of our old formation books spoke of the progression of the formation process. First, there is information. We must have knowledge of Scripture, the person of St. Francis and his writings, what it means to be a Franciscan, and the Rule and Constitutions. How can you be a good Franciscan if you know nothing about it? Second, there is formation. What

does the information mean TO ME? This is the interior part of formation. Finally, there is transformation. How does all of this change me so that I live it out? This is the exterior part of formation.

Another way of looking at it is in St. Clare's second letter to St. Agnes of Prague. Clare tells Agnes to gaze on Him (Christ crucified), consider Him and contemplate Him as we seek to imitate Him. This IS what we are called to by virtue of our Baptism, but we also need to make sense of it. One of my favorite quotes is from St. Anselm, a 12<sup>th</sup> century theologian: faith seeking understanding. If there was one phrase that sums up my faith journey, this would absolutely have to be it.

Regarding Scripture, the saddest words I consistently hear from people are that they don't read Scripture. What they hear at Mass is sufficient, although most cannot tell me what they heard at the last Mass. Many tell me that they have never been encouraged to read

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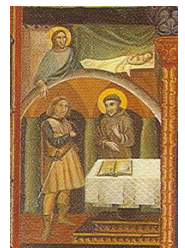


## What We Have Promised to Live . . .

"Mindful that they are bearers of peace which must be built up unceasingly, they should seek out ways of unity and fraternal harmony through dialogue, trusting in the presence of the divine seed in everyone and in the transforming power of love and pardon.

Messengers of perfect joy in every circumstance, they should strive to bring

joy and hope to others. Since they are immersed in the resurrection of Christ which gives true meaning to Sister Death, let them serenely tend toward the ultimate encounter with the Father (Rule, #19)."





### REGIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Barb Braley, OFS : Regional Minister  
 Cyndi Pilot OFS: Regional Vice-Minister  
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JPIC: Jack Hill, OFS,  
 Regional Spiritual Assistants:  
 Sr. Agnes Marie Regan, OSF  
 Kathleen White, OFS

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Scripture. I will always encourage someone who says this to me. Of course, you can really imitate St. Francis and haunt the sacristy after Mass and ask Father to explain it to you! Can you imagine what the Church would be like if we did this? It would be awesome! Also, Pope Leo XIII obligated EVERY Catholic to be intimately familiar with Scripture. St. Francis called it the primary rule of life; any other rule came afterwards.

Allow me to offer you, at this point, the tool I use most often in my own formation... and anyone can use it! You don't need an MA in theology! First, read a passage of whatever you're reading and then retell it to yourself in your own words. Second, look up any words that you may not know or don't know well. (There's nothing like developing your own working "dictionary" of "churchy" words.) Is there a word or phrase that stands out to you?

Stay with it until you know why. Ask God what He wants you to know? Then reread the passage with your new understanding. Third, ask God to help you discern a way to live out what you have just encountered.

I heard someone say one time that, in our fraternities, the Formation Director is probably the most important office to fill. In many ways, it is the most influential. A good Formation Director is likelier to lead others to become good Secular Franciscans. A not-so-good Formation Director can do a lot of harm to both individuals and the whole fraternity.

I would encourage everyone, individuals and fraternities alike, to engage more deeply in good formation. It will bring us closer to God and to each other.

Pax et Bonum!  
 Barb

## Jean Magnant, OFS

Congratulations and Many Blessings to you, dear Franciscan sister! Not only have you completed 103 years of life gifted by God, but 70 years of Profession as a Secular Franciscan!

T



"The righteous will flourish like a palm tree, they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon; planted in the house of the LORD, they will flourish in the courts of our God. They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green, proclaiming, 'The LORD is upright; he is my Rock . . . (Psalm 92: 12—14).'

*"A Gathering of Larks": A Book to which you must treat yourself!*

Libraries and book stores around the world are filled with millions upon millions of books, but it's not rocket science to know not all books are equal. However at a friend's recommendation, I purchased an inspiring small book entitled "A Gathering of Larks: Letters to Saint Francis from a Modern-day Pilgrim." This small but powerful publication is destined to land on my "to be kept and re-read" list for a long time as a stimulus for quiet prayer and reflection.

"A Gathering of Larks" is a compilation of letters written in poetic style by Abigail Carroll to St. Francis about well, all those simple everyday items and events of which our pilgrim lives in this world are composed. The author speaks honestly to Francis from her heart, sometimes questioning him about his use of them and how he dealt with the challenges, brokenness, and difficulties of just being human. Abigail's simple style takes the reader to the heart of each issue in simple strokes of carefully chosen words and reflectively crafted one or two page compositions. And she is not adverse, like Francis of Assisi, to seeing the often-times humorous side of life's mysteries.

As I read through "A Gathering . . .", I would say to myself, "This poem is going to be my favorite." Then after reading on, I would think the same about another poem . . . a process which repeated itself many times as I continued my journey through

the pages of this lovely volume. The charming larks decorating the cover and pages of the "A Gathering of Larks . . ." are reproduced from John James Audubon's *Birds of America* and are a well chosen addition to Abigail's work. Anyone who's been to Assisi can relate to the larks and their songs which fill the morning and evening skies with their joyous sounds and their wings whirling in the updrafts of Mount Subasio.

The poetic chapters of "A Gathering of Larks" is followed by some insightful "Conversations with the Author" describing why Carroll chose St. Francis as the recipient of her poetic ruminations, and a powerful section of "Questions for Thought and Discussion" which can be used as a means of focusing for prayer and journaling. This volume would be a rich choice for book discussion groups interested in spirituality, especially that of St. Francis of Assisi.

One of my favorite poems is a letter of author addressed to St. Francis "Rebuilder of San Dami-

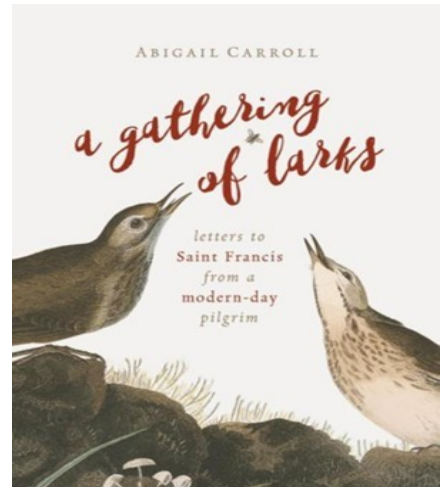


ano." Those who know me are aware that I'm deeply interested in "rebuild" as a challenge to every Franciscan. We all know that Francis's first reaction to that

command was befuddlement, but great joy when he understood its meaning. Carroll concludes that lovely poem with the following words, which make

me want to dance as well:

"High on the voice  
of the Lord, you danced  
through the fields  
toward town, madly  
concocting one hell of a plan."



A plan of which you and I as Franciscans are the inheritors and hopefully, one that makes us dance. If fine wine is to be sipped and savored on the palette, this lovely book of poetry should likewise be read slowly, meditatively, and allowed to seep into the crack and crevices of one's heart in prayer. Please treat yourself to "A Gathering of Larks: Letters to Saint Francis from a Modern-day Pilgrim."

It may be purchased from William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, Grand Rapids, Michigan, ©2017, or [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).





## Thoughts from Tom Bellow, OFS: May he rest in peace!

*Our brother, Tom Bellow, OFS, is deceased but his memory and reflective writings live on. I was impressed with some of the thoughts he shared in a collection of his writings entitled "For All The Saints: St. Francis's Five Point Plan for Salvation." It may be purchased from: [www.taupublishing.com](http://www.taupublishing.com)*

In his reflections, Tom reminds us that our individual examinations of conscience on a regular basis are important, but no less so, are each fraternities' regular "check-up". He uses the Rule as a suggestion as to how this might work. First he quotes Rule 8 where it reads: "As Jesus was the true worshipper of the Father, so let prayer and contemplation be the souls of all they are and do."

As a fraternity, Tom suggests, we might ask the following questions: "How well and how often does our fraternity pray together? When and how could we find richer opportunities to pray together in various forms of liturgical worship? When was the last time, for example, that the whole fraternity celebrated Mass together, or went as fraternity to a celebration of the Sacrament of Penance or an Anointing of the Sick? When was the last time our fraternity offered a Holy Hour or the Stations of the Cross (p. 31)."

Rule 13 proposes another whole set of questions a fraternity might consider to check its "outreach". It reads: "As the Father sees in every person the features of his Son, the firstborn of many brothers and sisters, so the Secular Franciscans with a

gentle and courteous spirit accept all people as a gift of the Lord and an image of Christ,"

To this end, the former National Minister offered the following questions for consideration: "When was the last time our fraternity reached out to members who no longer attend regularly because of failing health, job situations or feelings of animosity or incompatibility with one or more fraternity members? Do we as a fraternity spend time together, eat and socialize together? Do we have a phone or social media tree to stay in touch with one another, or an outreach person or infirmarian who contacts the sick? (p.31)."

To that last question we might add, "Do I make a phone call to someone who is ill or homebound or seems to be in need of some TLC?" The Gospel calls all of us to care for our brothers and sisters in any kind of need, and that demand cannot be passed off to another person — it belongs to each of us.

Additional questions, Tom, directs toward the fraternity include: "Does our fraternity have a collective apostolate or any charitable giving on a regular bases" When was the last time the whole fraternity engaged hands-on in an act of charity or serve listing visiting a nursing home or cleaning up a local park or stream? Do we reach out with other groups in service to the elderly, the homeless, the ill or the imprisoned? What more could we be doing, what more could we be giving?"

Even after all those soul-searching questions our good brother is not finished asking us to do a collective self-examination: "How," he asks,

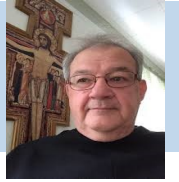
"might we better convert the world around us? Do we pray, individually or in fraternally, for the conversion of the world, the country or our social, political and economic leaders? When was the last time we invited someone from outside our Secular Franciscan world to a fraternity meeting? When as the last time we held an Open House or an Inquiry Session for people to find out about us?

Does the greater Church, the greater Community, know anything at all about our fraternity or about our Secular Franciscan Way of Life? Why should they care? What have we done what could we do, to deserve their attention or attract their interest so that we might teach them by example and convert them closer to Christ (p. 32)."

I suspect that each fraternity will find many strong points as well as some areas which will need some attention. We Catholics have mastered the art of conversion, and we Franciscans are dedicated to it as a lifelong process of growth. By our Profession we promised to do it. I will borrow our Holy Father Francis's words, "Let us begin . . . for up to now . . ." Praise God for the good He has worked through us, and God give us the grace to "do what is our to do."



## Fr. Christopher Panagoplos, T.O.R., shares insights from CNSA Meeting in St. Louis



*Father Christopher Panagoplos, T.O.R., is President-in-Turn of the Council of National Spiritual Assistants to the Secular Franciscan Order.*

Sisters and Brothers, may the Lord grant you peace!

Fifty-five of us journeyed to St. Louis in our country's heartland. In three days came the answer why we gathered: that we as, Franciscans, might serve the Church and the Church's mission, better. Franciscan leadership of the Friars and Seculars arrived to discuss and discern how to live and move and have our being in "Life-Giving Union," members all in the Franciscan Family. With passion and the flame of the Holy Spirit in our hearts, our future, more than ever, is dependent on this vital reciprocity.

As our keynote speaker, we were privileged to have Father Michael Higgins, T.O.R., the Eighth President of the Franciscan School of Theology, University of San Diego. With the affection for the OFS as a "tertiary," Mike served in Rome for six years as Vicar General of the T.O.R. Franciscans and as General Spiritual Assistant for the Seculars. He also served for six years as Minister General of the T.O.R. Friars.

Those attending: four Provincial Ministers O.F.M., one former Provincial Minister Capuchin (via email), ten Friar delegates of the Provincial, twenty-five Regional Spiritual Assistants, ten members of the National Executive Council,

two attendants and the members of the CNSA.

In this past year, you helped the CNSA to fashion this event by voicing your desires and concerns. Father Mike, together with Benedetto Lino, O.F.S., grouped these topics into categories and the CNSA developed them into focus statements that gave rise to his two keynote presentations, the *altius moderamen* and Co-responsibility, the manner in which our service to the Church is understood. His presentation will be available on the web: [www.secularfranciscanusa.org](http://www.secularfranciscanusa.org). Father Mike and Ben answered all the topics that were submitted. Their response to the topics can be accessed below, together with other links from the event.

A true "family" gathering, a dream of many sunsets, now a reality. I am particularly grateful to the CNSA Friars and staff for their direction and insights, and their coordination of details. From these three days a new light has dawned. Let our prayers in the days ahead be joined to those of Mary, Mother of God, and to our holy patrons, Francis and Clare, Louis and Elizabeth. In the blessed words of St. Clare, I pray:

*"What you hold may you always hold.*

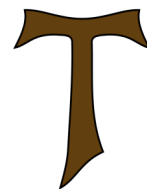
*What you do, may you always do and never abandon.*

*But with swift pace, light step and unswerving feet, so that even your steps stir up no dust, go forward, the Spirit of our God has called you."*

*Though this information applies specifically to the ministry of the Spiritual Assistants in our fraternities, the spirit of what took place at this meeting in St. Louis is something for which every Franciscan can be grateful and toward which we can all work together.*



Fr. Jerome Wolbert, OFM, addressing the assembly in St. Louis, and our own Kathleen White, OFS, in the right foreground.



## News and Views from Around the Region

### PEOPLE OF PEACE

**FRATERNITY:** Congratulations to John Evans, and Jenni Hammond who made their Profession in September at a prayerful celebration in Indianapolis.



Pictured are:  
John Evans,  
OFS, and Jenni  
Hammond, OFS

### HOLY FAMILY FRATERNITY:

Newly Professed in Holy Family Fraternity were Gina Lee, OFS and, Rick Bobilya, OFS: Pictured left to right: Susan Solloway, OFS, Minister, Gina Lee, OFS, Dr. Rosemary Travis, OFS, Formation Director, Erin Gigli, OFS, Formation Team, Rick Bobilya, OFS. Behind this group is Fr. Tomas Shoemaker, Pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Church, the celebrant of the Profession Mass.



### SACRED HEART FRATERNITY:

On Wednesday, September 18, Jean Magnant, OFS, of Sacred Heart Fraternity in Indianapolis celebrated the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her profession to the Secular Franciscan Order. At the time of her Profession, it was known as the "Third Order of St. Francis". See tribute to Jean on page two of this issue.

**ST. BONIFACE FRATERNITY** has welcomed Dave, Maria and John into the Inquiry phase of their Initial Formation and are grateful for these three new vocations to the Franciscan Order.

**LADY CLARE FRATERNITY** celebrated the Feast of the Stigmata of St. Francis with Vespers in the worship space at St. Joan of Arc. Deacon Ron gave a homily for this special occasion. They also invited the parish to join in their Novena in Honor of St. Francis beginning on September 25. The Transitus was celebrated on Thursday, October 3 at 7:15 p.m.

### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

**FRATERNITY:** A group of about twelve members began a study of the "Journey of the Soul Into God", one of St. Bonaventure's greatest works. They are using a text by Andre Cirino, OFM, and Josef Raischel, SFO, as the basis for their once monthly study and discussion.

A prayerful group of brothers and sisters from Immaculate Conception also traveled to the Sylvania Franciscan Retreat Center in Ohio for a weekend of reflection on September 28—29, 2019. Our own brother Deacon James Fuchs, OFS, inspired retreatants with his reflections.



### ST. CHARLES FRATERNITY:



A lovely morning was spent with these lovely Franciscan ladies and Mass was celebrated with Fr. Mark in the University of St. Francis Chapel in Fort Wayne. Sr. Anita presented a reflection on the Stigmata and "The Praises of God".

**PET BLESSINGS:** Fr. Michael Surufka, OFM, doing the honors in Cedar Lake, Our Lady of Lourdes Fraternity.



Fr. Finnian, OFM, in Mishawaka, Immaculate Conception Fraternity.





## Franciscan News and Views, con't

### ST. BONIFACE FRATERNITY

welcomed three new inquirers on September. Pictured to the right are: John Espenes, Marie Banda, and Dave Schmidt. Congratulations to them and to St. Boniface Fraternity for nurturing new vocations to the Franciscan Order.



### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION FRATERNITY:

On September 14m 2019, Immaculate Conception Fraternity celebrated the Final Profession of Joan Hurley, OFS, Amivi Gbologan, OFS, and Joan Keller, OFS. Pictured here with Sr. Agnes Marie, OFS, Spiritual Assistant.



Sister Death has called home . . .

*May our Brothers and Sisters who have passed to our Heavenly Father's hands rest in peace, namely:*

All deceased Franciscans from Our Lady of Indiana Regional Fraternity and all Franciscans, OFM, OFM Conv., OFM Cap, Poor Clares, and TORs and SFOs.

"Since they are immersed in the resurrection of Christ, which gives true meaning to Sister Death, let them serenely tend toward the ultimate encounter with the Father (RULE, Article 19)."



ASSISI PILGRIMAGE 2020

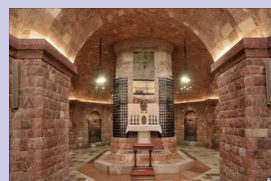
There are only six places for this pilgrimage remaining. If you're interested please let Sr. Agnes Marie know **ASAP**.



## ASSISI PILGRIMAGE 2020

May 18—28, 2020

Please keep our Pilgrim Family in your prayers. We will remember you in ours. Twenty nine of the thirty-five seats available for **ASSISI PILGRIMAGE 2020** have been filled. We are grateful to God for this great grace of pilgrimage. Pilgrims are joining us from Indiana, Ohio, Michigan Illinois, Minnesota, and California. God is good! If you still wish to "jump on board" please let us know very soon as there are still six places available. Contact Sr. Agnes Marie at 574.259.5427 or [agnes.marie.regan@gmail.com](mailto:agnes.marie.regan@gmail.com)



## A Heartfelt Message from One of our Newly Professed Brothers

Brother and Sister Franciscans,

Thank you to all for making my profession mass such a joyous occasion. Some of you were not able to be there personally, but everyone's love support and prayers over the past 3 years has been instrumental in helping on my journey to Profession in the SFO. The spiritual growth that I had hoped for at the onset of this journey has exceeded my expectations.

Obviously meeting and talking with Mary Jane and Helen monthly about the lessons was indispensable in growing in the Franciscan spirit. I am forever indebted to them. Jenni and I shared many wonderful experiences in our formation, including the opportunity to join Sr. Agnes Marie on our pilgrimage to Assisi and Rome last fall. These experiences will allow us to rely on

each other as we continue our journey. A special thanks to Fr Chris Wadelton for his willingness to travel back to Indy and preside at our profession mass. Although he is not an ordained Franciscan friar, his studying with the Franciscans prior to going to seminary at St. Meinrad, has shown through in his priesthood and also made our mass have a special Franciscan feel.



I know I will continue to need your fraternal support as I continue my journey in the footsteps of St Francis and I hope that I can show you that same love and support that you have shown me in my formation.

Pace e bene  
John Evans, OFS  
People of Peace Fraternity

## ZIMBABWE'S FIRST SAINT: A SECULAR FRANCISCAN ???

*The link to the following article was submitted by one of the members of Immaculate Conception Fraternity, Jorge Muniz, for which we are grateful.*

*This man, John Bradburne, heroically cared for lepers and was martyred for his faithfulness to them. Please check out the article to learn of his holiness.*



<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/this-secular-Franciscan-lived-among-lepers-could-he-become-zimbabwes-first-saint-72723>

*(Picture from Catholic News Agency and [www.johnbradburne.com](http://www.johnbradburne.com))*

## "The Sermon of St. Francis" by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Up soared the lark into the air,  
A shaft of song, a winged prayer,  
As if a soul released from pain  
Were flying back to heaven again.

St. Francis heard: it was to him  
An emblem of the Seraphim;  
The upward motion of the fire,  
The light, the heat, the heart's desire.

Around Assisi's convent gate  
The birds, God's poor who cannot wait,  
From moor and mere and darksome wood  
Come flocking for their dole of food.

"O brother birds," St. Francis said,  
"Ye come to me and ask for bread,  
But not with bread alone to-day  
Shall ye be fed and sent away.

"Ye shall be fed, ye happy birds,  
With manna of celestial words;  
Not mine, though mine they seem to be,  
Not mine, though they be spoken through  
me.

"Oh, doubly are ye bound to praise  
The great Creator in your lays;  
He giveth you your plumes of down,  
Your crimson hoods, your cloaks of brown

."He giveth you your wings to fly  
And breathe a purer air on high,  
And careth for you everywhere,  
Who for yourselves so little care!"

With flutter of swift wings and songs  
Together rose the feathered throngs,  
And singing scattered far apart;  
Deep peace was in St. Francis' heart.

He knew not if the brotherhood  
His homily had understood;  
He only knew that to one ear  
The meaning of his words was clear.



## Sharings from Our Franciscan Brothers and Sisters

### "Clear the Mechanism": Ted Boczkowski, OFS

*This lovely reflection and great suggestion was offered to us by Ted Boczkowski, OFS, Minister of St. Mary of the Angles Fraternity in St. John, IN*

A few weeks ago, I was asked to sub at the Adoration Chapel for the 1 a.m. hour. I spent the time as I normally do, praying, readying and listening. The hour was at the end no relief arrived. A few minutes went by and it became evident there would be no relief. I grumbled in self pity. Then I was upset with myself for being upset. After all, I get to spend another hour in adoration, alone with the Lord.

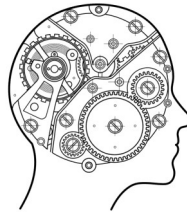
I am a fanatic about sports movies. There are those I watch every time they are on. One of them is called, "For the Love of the Game." It is about a Detroit Tiger's pitcher at the end of his career. He is pitching a no hitter in his final game and the noise in the ball park is overbearing. He has this method of shutting out the noise by telling himself to "Clear the mechanism". Then all goes quiet.

So, the night I was so upset about being upset, I told myself to "clear the mechanism". I closed my eyes and all went still. I was in a place where there was peace, silence and solitude. I opened my eyes when I heard the door open at 3 A.m. The next adorer had arrived. I felt gratitude and peace for the journey I had taken to I know not where.

This reminded me of St. Francis going to a cell, alone to pray. I found the "Rule for Hermitages" that he had authored. I was inspired to investigate further into Franciscan solitude and found a book I highly recommend, "Prayer

of Franciscan Solitude". It is a collection of writings by various Franciscans. Within is a reflection entitled, "The Journey into Silence", which was quite meaningful to me. It is about a young disciple seeking wisdom and the Master who helps him. They journey together for years with few exchanges between them. They walk, then pause. The Master asks what the disciple hears and the disciple responds. The Master nods and walks on. It is about patience, perseverance, listening and conversion.

So, whenever you feel the noise becoming too much to bear, "clear the mechanism", enter your own cell and try to take the journey into silence. If and when you are successful, the trip will be one of the best you've ever taken!



### "Women of Hope": Reflection by Sue Daly, OFS

*"Women of Hope" is a program of assisting former residents of Hannah's House, a maternity home for women at risk in the South Bend-Mishawaka area. A group of volunteers from Immaculate Conception Fraternity is trained as "neighbors" to assist an assigned woman with her newborn child. Sue Daly, OSF, offers a reflection on this ministry.*

In the Women of Hope program there are wonderful single mom's that need the support of a mentoring group to help them face

their struggles in today's world. Here at Immaculate Conception Fraternity, there is a group of Secular Franciscan women who heard the calling of the Holy Spirit to step forward and mentor one of God's people.

We are a mentoring group of six women of different ages, at different stages of our lives, we come from different backgrounds, and ethnic groups. We each have our own unique way of facing the struggles of everyday life, being a wife, mother, sister, aunt, cousin, grandmother etc. We feel as a group we are diverse enough to help our single mom stay strong and be positive when challenged with everyday struggles. We meet with our mom once a month but encourage her to call at any time if she needs the guidance in a matter or just needs someone to listen.

One of the things our mentoring group have in common is the love for our Lord and we believe in his words, love your neighbor as yourself. We also share in our belief of following in Saint Francis's footsteps. As a true Franciscan we know Saint Francis did not lead an easy life. Keeping that in mind, may Saint Francis and the Lord stay by our sides and guide us as we walk on the path of our journey through life.



## Our Lady of Indiana Secular Franciscan Regional Fraternity



International Website:

[www.ciofs.org](http://www.ciofs.org)

National Website:

[www.secularfranciscansusa.org](http://www.secularfranciscansusa.org)

International Website:

[www.ciofs.org](http://www.ciofs.org)

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

[OLI-Region-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:OLI-Region-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

Also check us out on Facebook

"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."

### Dates to Remember

November 9, 2019: Fall Chapter of Mats, Kokomo

Nov. 17: Feast of St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Patroness of SFO

Nov. 29: All Saints of the Seraphic Order

February 8, 2020: Regional Executive Council, Huntington

March 14, 2020: Workshop for Formation Directors and Teams: Kokomo

April 4, 2020: Chapter of Mats (moved up due to Easter weekend)

April 28: Bl. Luchesius and Buanadonna, First Members of 3rd Order

June 13, 2020: Regional Executive Council, Huntington

June 13: St. Anthony of Padua

July 15: St. Bonaventure

August 8, 2020: UNITY DAY for Our Lady of Indiana

August 2: Our Lady of the Angels, Portiuncula

August 11: St. Clare of Assisi

October 10, 2020: Regional Executive Council, Huntington

October 3: Transitus of Our Holy Father St. Francis

October 4: Feast of Our Holy Father St. Francis

November 14, 2020: Fall Chapter of Mats, Kokomo



August 18—22, 2021: Sheraton Grand Hotel, Phoenix AZ. Start saving your pennies . . . and red letter your calendars!



This photo appeared in September's issue with a lovely reflection by Christine Popiela, OFS, entitled "Franciscan Tales." In the newsletter, the picture appeared very small and perhaps not at all clear. But just moments ago, I just looked up at my "desktop" and realized that here is a living example of a "COOL CAT. Just sayin' !



"If you wish to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give it to the poor . . . The come follow me (Mt 19:21)."

"Take nothing for the journey, neither walking stick, nor sack, nor food, nor money . . . (Lk 9: 3)."

" . . . Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross and follow me (Mt 16:24)."