



# Our Lady of Indiana Regional Fraternity



Secular Franciscan Order

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

March 2020

Volume 7, Issue 1

"Journey Together in Love and Compassion"

## 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.

May our brother, Fr. Lester, rest in the peace of the Lord

## Lester Bach, OFM Cap

Lester Bach OFM Cap made his first profession in the Capuchin Order in 1950 and was ordained in 1957. He has worked with the formation program with Capuchin Brothers as well as sharing ministry in a parish, worked with the Cursillo and Search programs, and served as chaplain at a county nursing home. He has worked with the Secular Franciscans since the 1960's. He has been director of a retreat center and done retreat work for many years. He served as director of the House of Prayer as well as having served as Provincial formation director for the province of St. Joseph.

For several years, he worked with ISAIAH 43 preaching parish missions. He continued that work with Missions 2000. He served as Provincial Spiritual Assistant to the Secular Franciscan Order as well as serving on a regional council of the OFS and represented the Capuchins on the Conference of National Spiritual Assistants (CNSA). He has authored several books on OFS Formation and Franciscan spirituality and one devoted to scripture.

On Sunday evening, February 2, 2020, Sister Death accompanied our dead brother home to the presence of the Lord he loved and served so well. The Mass of Resurrection was celebrated for Fr. Lester on Monday, February 10, 2020 in Appleton, WI.



Some of Fr. Lester's books include *The Franciscan Journey*, well known to all who have joined the Secular Franciscan Order in recent years. He also authored *Take Time for Sunsets*, *Catch Me a Rainbow*, *Called to Rebuild the Church*, *Life Giving Union*, and *Franciscan Family Connections*. And he was an ongoing columnist for NEWS & VIEWS in TAU-USA, the national newsletter.

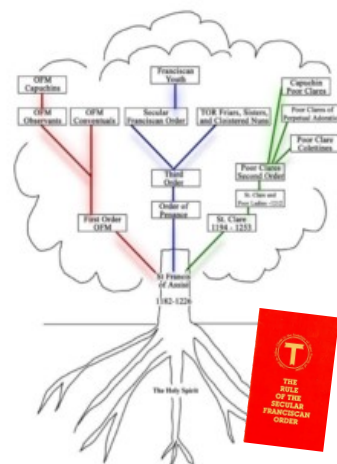
Brother Lester, in gratitude for all you have done for the Franciscan family, may you enjoy eternal rest — one so beautifully earned!

## Inside Edition

Tribute to Fr. Lester Bach, OFM Cap`	1
Message from Our Regional Minister: Barb Braley, OFS	2
Challenged by Lent	3
Celebrating the Gift of Profession	4-5
A Very Special Blessing: Poor Clare's Message to Us	6
"Yes, This is What I want": Have you ever said those words?	7
"Cantic of Creation"	8
"Surround by Love": a Book Review	9
"They'll Know We Are Franciscans by Our Tau"	10
Regional Calendar	11

## What We Have Promised to Live . . .

"The Secular Franciscan Order is divided into fraternities of various levels — local, regional, national, and international. Each one has its own moral personality in the Church. These various fraternities are coordinated and united according to the norm of the Rule and of the Constitutions (**RULE** Chapter Three, Article 20)."





## REGIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Barb Braley, OFS: Minister

Cyndi Pilot OFS: Vice-Minister

Sharon Roberts, OFS: Secretary

Susan Knight, OFS: Treasurer

Tim Short, OFS : Formation Director

Regional Councilors: Linda Grady, OFS,

Richard Cain, OFS, Erin Gigli, OFS

Regional Spiritual Assistants:

Sr. Agnes Marie Regan, OSF

Kathleen White, OFS

JPIC: Jack Hill, OFS,

## St. Clare's Message for Us:

## Look, Consider, Contemplate, Imitate



May the Lord give you peace!

In prior newsletters, 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 regard to deepening our Franciscan vocation, we have considered formation. This time we will reflect on prayer.

For us as Franciscans, I believe that St. Clare offers us a treasury of wisdom regarding prayer, especially in her second letter to St. Agnes of Prague.

In this letter, Clare counsels Agnes to gaze on him (Christ), consider him, contemplate him, as we seek to imitate him. As always, the focus is on Christ. The image she always had before her eyes was the San Damiano crucifix (as in the one that told St. Francis to rebuild his church). It was her prayer book.

What did she mean by gaze, consider, contemplate, and imitate? A little back story is in order here.

If you recall, after Francis cut Clare's hair and invested her in the habit, he took her to a nearby Benedictine abbey. She hated it, but she did learn some things. One of them was *lectio divina*, the great prayer tradition of the Benedictines. It had four "steps":

read, pray, meditate, and contemplate. Clare's approach kept much of the Benedictine influence, but made it more incarnational.

To *gaze* means to look at something and really see it. To *consider* something means to think about it deeply. I had a teacher once who said that it was like going swimming: are we content with the wading pool, or will we risk going out into the middle of the ocean? To *contemplate* means that we enter into the temple of our soul, encounter God himself, and allow him to fill and to use us for himself. To *imitate* means that we do what Jesus would do: give ourselves completely, in love, to God and others.

For a more in-depth look at what St. Clare has to say about prayer, I highly recommend her four letters to St. Agnes of Prague. (**See Clare of Assisi: The Lady**, pages 43-58.)

Pax et Bonum!

Barb Braley, OFS  
Minister

Our Lady of Indiana Regional  
Fraternity



"Franciscans . . . learn to graciously to accept love when we are the needy ones. The OFS is our PRIMARY COMMITMENT. Activities of other groups must not interfere with our Franciscan way of life, a 24/7 commitment  
THE FRANCISCAN JOURNEY, p. ii

## Still giving up candy for Lent? This writer challenges us to re-think our Lenten Practices

Those of us who attended Catholic grade school surely remember the time of lent. I remember one year that we all wrote down Lenten resolutions on slips of paper and put them in a box. Each day we picked one out and that was the days' penance. Mostly there were things that we were supposed to give up, candy, dessert, T.V. Sometimes there were prayers to be said. But as St. Paul said, "When I was a child, I thought as a child. I spoke as a child. Now that I am a man, I have given up childish things."

As we approach lent, we should give thought to what we will do for lent. It is time to put aside our childish resolutions and look at some that have more meaning, things that will change us. This lent instead of denying ourselves that bit of candy or chocolate cake, let us deny ourselves our will. For Jesus asks us to deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow him. Once



Francis had stripped himself of all his rich clothing and parties, there was nothing more to hold him down, nothing more to drown out the voice of Jesus. The penances we do during lent should be a spiritual stripping down those things that hold us back completely giving ourselves to the Lord. Replace all the noise of the world with quiet prayer and contemplation; open to hear the voice of Jesus. I would think none of us as great sinners for which we must do great penances.

For most of us it is the little things that chip away at holiness. Like a little tear in a shirt, the more we wear it without repair, the bigger the hole gets. Instead of saying, "Yeah, lent is over I can eat ice cream again." This lent let us practice something that will change us, something that will last beyond lent. Not eating ice cream may have a good effect by losing some weight, but we really need to lose some of those bad habits that weigh down our souls.

"Francis, you must despise and hate all that your body has loved and desired up till now, if you would recognize my will. Once you have begun, you will find that everything which seemed pleasant and sweet to you will turn to unbearable bitterness, but the things that formerly made you shudder will give you peace and joy (adapted from the words of St. Francis)."

*Reprinted from the newsletter of Our Lady of Lourdes Fraternity in Cedar Lake.*



"Francis burned with a great desire to return to his earlier steps toward humility; rejoicing in hope because of his boundless love, he planned to call his body back to its original servitude, although it had now reached its limit. He cut away completely the obstacle of all cares and silenced the noise of all concerns. When he had to relax this rigor because of illness, he used to say: "Let us begin, brothers, to serve the Lord God, for up to now we have done little or nothing." He did not consider that he had already attained his goal,

but tireless in pursuit of holy newness, he constantly hoped to begin again (1 Celano 103)."



## 60—70 Years Professed

09/18/50	Jean Magnant	Sacred Heart	70 years
05/01/53	William Fink	St Anthony	67 years
11/02/54	William Botkin	St Anthony	66 years
12/08/57	Josephine Mangus	St Boniface	63 years

## 50—60 Years Professed

05/27/64	Charles Lothamer	St Charles	56 years
11/10/65	Laura Kadelak	Our Lady of Lourdes	55 years
06/22/66	Margaret Ann Brown	Sacred Heart	54 years
06/09/68	John Fredette	Little Portion	52 years

## 40—50 Years Professed

11/11/73	James Donner	Our Lady of Lourdes	47 years
11/11/73	Mary Ann Meschi	Our Lady of Lourdes	47 years
05/19/74	Mary Lou Sohn	St Charles	46 years
11/17/74	Joan Hamnik	Our Lady of Lourdes	46 years
07/15/75	Donna Carteaux	Holy Family	45 years
11/15/75	Carole Donner	Our Lady of Lourdes	45 years
04/21/76	Susan Solloway	Holy Family	44 years
11/13/76	Judy Doolin	Our Lady of Lourdes	44 years
11/21/76	Laura Hoffman	St Charles	44 years
03/06/77	Betty Price	St Boniface	43 years
03/04/79	Arlene Goodman	St Boniface	41 years
04/18/79	Patricia Altenhoff	Holy Family	41 years

## 30—40 Years Professed

03/15/81	Robert Goodman	St Boniface	39 years
03/18/81	George Foster	Holy Family	39 years
09/19/81	Diane Rada	Our Lady of Lourdes	39 years
09/19/81	Georgianna Steininger	Our Lady of Lourdes	39 years
10/04/81	Frances Scheuer	Little Portion	39 years
10/04/81	John Scheuer	Little Portion	39 years
11/22/81	John Mader	Sacred Heart	39 years
12/14/81	Sharon Brady	Lady Clare	39 years
06/28/82	Jan Stetzel	People of Peace	38 years
09/11/82	Elke Huisman	Our Lady of Lourdes	38 years



We celebrate with our brothers and sisters, whose names are included here, the sincere effort they have made since their profession "to make present the charism of the common seraphic Father in the life and mission of the Church" and to build 'a more fraternal and evangelical world so that the Kingdom of God may be brought about more effectively." Let us join with them in thanksgiving to God for the call to Franciscan life and to an ongoing conversion of heart.



Jean Magnant,  
OFS9/18/50  
70 Years



Bill Fink OFS  
15/01/53  
67 Years



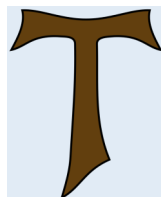
William Botkin, OFS  
11/02/54  
66 Years



Josephine, Mangus,  
OFS  
12/08/57  
63 Years

## 30—40 Years Professed, con't

03/28/83	Joseph Stetzel	People of Peace	37 years
02/13/84	Shelia Gilbert	People of Peace	36 years
05/01/84	Louisa Sheets	People of Peace	36 years
05/01/84	William Sheets	People of Peace	36 years
09/08/84	Mary Macias	Our Lady of Lourdes	36 years
03/17/85	Jon Cooper	Holy Family	35 years
09/14/85	Paul Biegel	Our Lady of Lourdes	35 years
09/14/85	Nancy McCooley	Our Lady of Lourdes	35 years
01/26/87	David White	Lady Clare	33 years
01/26/87	Kathleen White	Lady Clare	33 years
05/31/87	William Booher	Sacred Heart	33 years
10/04/87	Chris Beiting	Immaculate Conception	33 years
10/25/87	Michael Wolfe	Lady Clare	33 years
10/03/88	David Krug	St Mary of the Angels	32 years
03/15/89	Pauline Creutzburg	Little Portion	31 years
03/15/89	David Dieringer	Little Portion	31 years
04/18/89	Dorothy West	St Anthony	31 years
05/06/89	Sarah Beiting	Immaculate Conception	31 years
05/15/89	Sharon Solloway	Holy Family	31 years
03/31/90	John Biegel	Our Lady of Lourdes	30 years
03/31/90	Romeo Munoz	Our Lady of Lourdes	30 years
05/22/90	Don Fox	Lady Clare	30 years
08/25/90	Sandra Waggoner	Immaculate Conception	30 years
11/11/90	David Brown	Lady Clare	30 years
11/11/90	Marilyn Brown	Lady Clare	30 years
11/11/90	Elaine Chmiel	Lady Clare	30 years
11/11/90	Joan Klemko	Lady Clare	30 years
11/11/90	James Konopa	Lady Clare	30 years
11/11/90	Patricia Lerche	Lady Clare	30 years
11/11/90	Elaine Stiner	Lady Clare	30 years



Editor's Note: Next month we will continue looking at the Profession dates of all of our brothers and sisters in Our Lady of Indiana Regional Fraternity. The gift of Profession is something precious to be recalled often, prayerfully, and with as much enthusiasm and joy as the first time.





## Have You ever said, "Yes, this is what I want"?

*"After the Lord gave me some brothers, no one showed me what I had to do, but the Most High Himself revealed to me that I should live according to the pattern of the Holy Gospel (**Testament**, St. Francis)."*

From the beginning, Francis knew that following the Gospel and walking in the footsteps of Jesus was coupled with walking with others of like mindedness. Jesus called his apostles and disciples and sent them out together, two by two, to preach His message. Francis, after spending the night with a friend, Bernard of Quintavalle, was drawn by the Holy Spirit to invite another friend, Peter of Catania, to search out a Gospel-oriented direction for their lives. Thus, the event at San Nicola where the Spirit revealed to them the three Gospel quotes that form the basis of our fraternal Franciscan life.

In the case of Jesus as in the life of St. Francis, we see that Spirit-inspired connections became movements that spanned centuries and surround the whole world with their message. Jesus' message of the Father's infinite love which He embodied, and Francis' message which was the literal carrying out of Jesus' message to "rebuild my Church".

Jesus, of course, presents to us as the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity, the perfect model of fraternity. Three persons in one God, yet each one a separate and distinct person carrying out their Trinitarian responsibilities. Thus, the eternally first "community" of persons — the Godhead is a model for our fraternal lives.

Thus, all who are called to follow Francis who followed Jesus so exactly, are called to life in fraternity as a community. It's a promise we made

at the time of Profession when we responded "Yes, this is what I want" when questioned by the celebrant about ones intent to live by "following the example and words of St. Francis of Assisi, which are at the heart of the Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order".

Before the Church and the whole world, we said, "YES" and the celebrant accepted our promise with the words, "Together with all the members, you now pledge yourselves to spend your efforts to make the fraternity a genuine ecclesial assembly and a living Franciscan community."

At that time, no conditions were placed on that commitment and promise, but it's puzzling and quite curious that soon after that public ecclesial promise, some folks drift away from those "efforts to make the fraternity" whatever God wishes to make of it in, with and through their presence and gifts.

Slowly, many other events seem to take precedence, and brothers and sisters we've come to love are no longer a part of a "living Franciscan community". Why?

Are you not being spiritually fed as you wish? How does not being a living part of the community change that? What can you add to provide the nourishment you believe should be there? Or as the "Peace Prayer" says, "It is in giving, that we receive". What can you give?

Are there folks in the fraternity that are like sandpaper rubbing on you? Jesus had Peter, Judas, and other disciples of rough temperament as well. And Francis had more than his share of brothers with Italian temperaments giving him an endless array of "perfect joy" moments.



What is most painful is that persons who have promised "to live all the days of my life the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Secular Franciscan Order by observing its rule of life" . . . are not sharing that life of fraternity and community on a regular basis. Each and every one of them is missed! And we're deeply sorry that the promise you made no longer holds life for you.

A thought from "To Live as Francis Lived":

"In fraternity we are reminded of our Franciscan charism. Meeting regularly provides opportunities to work together. Individuals grow in friendship in the Lord and each other as they pray together, work together, motivate each other, share their faith journeys. Fraternities are havens of joy where laughter and human lightens life's burdens. Fraternities provide a place to learn to resolve disagreements peaceably. Fraternities are places to learn to forgive ourselves and others as we begin again and again to follow Francis and Jesus (**To Live as Francis Lived**, p. 178)."

"I promise to live all the days of my life the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Secular Franciscan Order by observing its rule of life (Profession of the Gospel Life, Ritual p. 23– 24)."

## "Canticle of Creation: All Praise, O Most High Lord!"

*Reflection on the "Canticle of Creation" was shared with us by Virginia Anson, OFS, of St. Boniface Fraternity in Lafayette, IN*

*"Most High, all powerful, all good Lord! All Praise is Yours, all glory, all honor, and all blessing."*

All creation praises God—all creatures, all plants, all the universe. Each aspect of nature worships its Creator by merely being exactly what God created it to be.

"Even nature praises God by its very existence."

Isaiah 55:12

Thus, it seems, Francis' design within the lyrics of his canticle was to praise God and give Him glory as the Creator of the universe, of Earth and her creatures, and of the entirety of nature. Francis saw himself to be one with every element of God's creation-- as part of the unity of God with His masterpiece. He saw all as sacred and was inspired to compose his canticle when he witnessed the human mistreatment of God's creatures, wildlife over which God gave us stewardship, over which He entrusted us with their care.

Our all powerful, good Lord is so very worthy of our homage. So unfathomable is He. So unfathomable is His universe in its vastness and its complexity. So unfathomable is His infinite love that He would create such spectacle for us miniscule humans.

The power of God can be clearly seen in His cosmic

craftsmanship. The immensity of the heavens is seemingly infinite forward of its birth—still expanding. The laws of physics that govern it are precise, to the point that Earth is the perfect distance from Brother Sun to support life. The Big Bang occurred at the precise spec of a second to allow our universe to exist without imploding or expanding too quickly to form. The laws of physics are uniform throughout the cosmos.

Powerful is far too mild a word for God. No word is strong enough. Human language is far too weak to give Francis accurate adjectives. Despite these inadequacies, one can feel his awe of Our Lord.

Yet this almighty Being loves so infinitely that He formed humans in His own image and loves us so very perfectly that He sent His Son to die for us so that we may live with Him in Heaven. God is indeed unfathomable.

Our infinitely powerful, merciful, loving God deserves our profound adoration. Nay, our lowliness demands our humble praise. To not praise our benevolent Creator constitutes the utmost arrogance of the human.

Father Francis constantly glorified God—through his prayers, through his unity with creation, through his preaching. Praise of God was at the center of Francis' spirituality. So encompassing was this homage that he initially planned for the first two stanzas of his canticle to be said at the beginning of each hour of the Divine Office. Francis saw his littleness in the presence of God. He saw God's immense love, mercy, and handiwork.

And he praised. With all



of the energy of his being he praised.

Francis, our dear seraphic father, is a faithful example of a true Franciscan child of God Our Father. Strive we must to adore God as did Francis.

Resources for further study:

*"Francis of Assisi's Canticle of the Creatures: A Modern Spiritual Path", by Paul M and Joan De Ris Alan*

*"St. Francis' Canticle of Creatures", by John Watts*





## "Surround by Love: Seven Teachings of St. Francis"



At a recent visit to one of our fraternity families here in Our Lady of Indiana Region, I heard several expressions of the fear that some have about the future of our country and the moral direction it has taken. Fears which are very real and which face us every time we watch or listen to the news. Our national (and international) value systems seemingly have crumbled and are being assaulted from every side by opposing views that our Catholic, Christian, Franciscan values find unacceptable.

Two things came to mind for me, the first from the Letter to the Romans, namely: *"Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."* [Romans 15:13](#). We know through our theological virtue of hope that God holds all things in His providential hands.

The second is a wonderful book which I'm reading presently and would like you to consider for your own spiritual reading regimen. It is by one of our favorite authors, Fr. Murray Bodo, OFM, and is entitled "Surround by Love: Seven Teachings from St. Francis of Assisi." It is a wonderful meditation on seven of the values we seek to acquire by following in the footsteps of St. Francis. The book is a solid Franciscan reflection but is also very practical. It offers some doable concrete suggestions of how the values Francis taught us can help us dialogue with our contemporary world and to infuse it with our Franciscan values and spiritual visions — quietly, gently, like leaven causing bread to rise!

Fr. Murray uses all his poetic and storytelling gifts to offer us a method of applying the values of our Franciscan

heritage to everyday life through the eyes of Francis, and of course, through walking in the Gospel footsteps of Jesus. He offers us some heart-changing reflections on the following seven topics: "The Wonder of the Incarnation", "The Paradox of Evangelical Poverty", "Live the Gospel", "Go and Repair God's House", "Making Peace", "God's House is all of Creation", "The Joy of Humble Praise and Service", and "The Teaching of Teachings: Love". In his own words, Fr. Murray wrote that "... these teachings are both a way and a destination, the way being transformation and the destination being the love of God."

I'd like to share one other quotation from Fr. Murray's book in the Introduction to "Surrounded by Love": "This book attempts to explore these experiences and these choices of St. Francis and show how they resulted in lessons that when we act upon them today, continue to unfold as counterbalances to the negative, immature 'acting out' that has led and continues to lead into the division and hatreds that split us apart. The teachings of St. Francis enable us to imagine another future that gives us hope; the hope is the grace to image a future more positive, more loving, and more joyful than the world we now find ourselves in. As St. Francis used to say to his brothers, 'Let us begin to do good, for up to now we have done nothing.'"

"Surround by Love" may be purchased from Franciscan Media in Cincinnati, or it may also be purchased on Amazon in book form or downloaded to Kindle.



Sister Death has called home . . .

*May all our Franciscan Brothers and Sisters, who have passed to our Heavenly Father's hands, rest in peace!*

Please pray for the repose of the soul of our sister, Mary Kubsch. She passed January 7. She was a member of Queen of All Saints Fraternity, Logansport, before moving to Wausau, Wisconsin.

(QAS Fraternity has since deactivated and members are now with Lady Clare Fraternity, Kokomo.)

Mary was an avid rosary maker and prayer. She was always most generous in her contributions to the common fund. Mary and her husband traveled world wide and she especially enjoyed the holy sights they visited.

Mary was a gentle soul.



## They'll Know We're Franciscans by our TAU

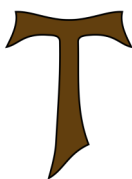
*The following reflection was submitted by Sharon Marmalejo, OFS, from Our Lady of Lourdes Fraternity in Cedar Lake.*

As Franciscans, we profess our fidelity to our Rule, which promotes our way of life. I think it's best said in a letter from General Minister, Tibor Kauser, OFS, on the 40th anniversary of our Rule. In it he said, "As the religious brothers and sisters wear a habit, we also shall have a habit that characterizes us, that makes us visible and recognizable. But this habit is not visible in that sense. We do not have a sewn tailored habit. We have a habit of our behavior, of the way we live our life in the family, in the Church, in fraternity, at work, or in our free time. Our habit shall be our kindness, our visible love to God and to one another, our readiness to serve, our simple manner of life, our real freedom as the

children of God. Our habit is our prayer, our sacramental life, our commitment to the Order, and to fraternity. Our habit is our Franciscan way of life, going from gospel to life and life to gospel."

I think that says it all, and that all days should be celebrated as Valentine's Day, not just the 14th of February, to show our love to everyone.

By the way, our "visible" habit that we wear is our TAU Cross to show that we are part of the Franciscan Order. Whether the TAU Cross is on a cord, pin or ring, the TAU is a mark of belonging, of one signed by the Lord.



**LENT**  
WE CAN THINK OF

as a time to

ERADICATE EVIL OR CULTIVATE VIRTUE

a time to  
pull up weeds or  
plant good seeds

WHICH IS BETTER IS CLEAR,

for the Christian ideal  
IS ALWAYS  
POSITIVE RATHER THAN NEGATIVE.

catholicALLYEAR.com -VEN. FULTON J. SHEEN

## Secular Franciscan Servant Leaders



- **Are willing to serve, when asked, for the good of the fraternity but do not seek positions of power.**
- **Seek to understand the vision and collaborate with others to bring it to fruition--no matter who gets the credit.**
- **See challenges as opportunities for creative solutions.** They do not blame others when the outcome is unexpected. The Holy Spirit may have other ideas!
- **Are gentle in leading others—true servant leaders are humble and communicate well with the entire group.**
- **Work for the good of the entire fraternity and Order.**
- **Begin, on the day they are elected or appointed, the search for and mentoring of those who will replace them.**
- **Understand the needs of the group and make use of the talents of the entire group to move the fraternity forward through collaboration.**
- **Pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit and use that inspiration to reach out in a concrete way to the world in which they live.**
- **Consider leadership an opportunity to invest the talents they have been given in the service of others.**

## Our Lady of Indiana Regional Fraternity—Secular Franciscan Order



International Website:

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

National Website:

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

Regional Website:

[www.olirf-ofs.org](http://www.olirf-ofs.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 like /follow us 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

March 14, 2020: Workshop for Formation Directors and Formation Teams: St. Joan of Arc, Kokomo: 10:00 a.m.

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*

September 17, 2020: Feast of the Stigmata of St. Francis

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

*November 17, 2020: Feast of St. Elizabeth of Hungary*



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

*100th Anniversary of First "Q" in 1920*  
*800th Anniversary of Rule of 1221*



**LENT**  
Pray + Fast + Give

A young couple moved to a new neighborhood. At their first breakfast the young woman saw her neighbor hanging the wash outside. "That laundry isn't very clean," she said. "She doesn't know how to wash correctly. Perhaps she needs better laundry soap." Her husband looked on but remained silent. This same conversation continued for a few weeks.

About a month later the woman was surprised to see a nice clean wash on the line. "Look," she said, to her husband, "she has learned how to wash correctly. I wonder who taught her." The husband said "I got up early this morning and cleaned our windows?"

BE CERTAIN THE WINDOWS OF YOUR HEART  
ARE CLEAN BEFORE JUDGING!