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St. Francis Fraternity, S.F. ©
Hackensack, NJ

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT: <http://franciscanhackensack.tripod.com>

Gathering: Thursday, December 10, 2015 in the Church Hall at 6:30 PM

Edson Atwood, OFS
Minister
201-281-6291

Patricia Franz, OFS
Vice Minister
201-546-7269

Laura Buda, OFS
Secretary
201-944-7363

Anthony Buda, OFS
Treasurer
201-944-7363

Diane Menditto, OFS
Formation Director
201-343-0950
201-446-0667

Karen Ferrari, OFS
Councilor
201-482-4928

Bro. John Salvas, OFM
Cap.
Spiritual Assistant
201-343-6243

This Month:

Fraternity Christmas Dinner

*Please remember if you volunteered to bring water, soda, wine or dessert!
Please bring new or gently used items for our raffle.*

WINTER PROJECT FOR THE HOMELESS

Closing Prayer: Stefani Pedone

Sweet Reminder: Desserts for Christmas Dinner

**WE WOULD LIKE TO SEND IN A PARTIAL PAYMENT FOR OUR FAIR SHARE IN JANUARY.
PLEASE SEE TONY BUDA TO MAKE A DONATION—THE FULL FAIR SHARE IS NOW \$40.00.
(FULL OR PARTIAL; FOR YOURSELF OR SOMEONE ELSE)**

HEALTH AND WELFARE: Karen Ferrari and Fam.; Mary Berrillo; Ramona Torres; Marie Sortino; Maria Terranova; Virginia Franco; Alice LeForest; Josephine Gebbia; Adelina Marino; Polanco Family; Eileen Ferrara; Pat MoClaire; Anna Licamelli

Special intentions F. Cavallo. M. Sortino, Tumminia Family, J. Coralluzzo & T. Gassenheimer; K. Ferrari; Pat MoClaire

Family Members: Marguerite Philips; Eddie Nash; Liz Cox; Michael Ferrari; David Ferrari; Ed McManus; Fr. Sylvester; Chelsea Rose Ferrara; Licamelli Family; Mimmi Parente; Patricia Davis; Fr. Damian Colicchio; Vincenzo Quasarano; Rosangela Tumminia; Fr. Pius; LoBue Family; Kathleen McGee; José Tineo; Baby Ryan LoMuscio; Stefani Pedone; Joe Savoia; Sara Tripodi; Karen (Lucy's niece); Mariano Ortiz (Migdania's brother); Gaetana Licamelli; Rae Davenport (Joe's godmother); Carmela Schymanski (Joe's aunt); Mary Ianucci (Ed's Sister-in-law); Josephine Cavallo.

Repose of the Soul of: Angela Canfora Demaio (Domenica Panuccio's mother)

Treasurer's Report

<p>Common Fund \$ 2359.59 Balance + 323.00 * Income \$ 2682.59 - 354.49 **Expenses \$ 2328.10</p> <p>*CF & Donations **Debit card; books, stipends & reimbursement</p>	<p>Good and Welfare \$343.50 + \$16.00* = \$359.50 *Donations</p>	<p>***Fair Share 2015</p> <p>Please begin making full or partial contributions for Fair Share for 2016. Fair Share is now \$40 per person.</p>
<p>Spiritual Life Fund Bal: \$102</p>		

STATUE OF OUR LADY: Dec. Joe C.; Jan. Tony & Laura; J. Taveras; Mar. Natale; Apr. Mimma L.; May Migdania; June Frank C.; Jul. Tony & Laura; Aug. OPEN; Sept. Angie M.; Oct. Cono; Nov. Frank C.; Dec. Joe C.
BIRTHDAYS: December 6: Adelina Marino; 23: Gene Ciaralli; Migdania Polanco; 29: Joann Tumminia
January 7: Lucy Stamilla; 20: Ron Romano; 27: Ed Atwood

Correspondence: Fr. Damian thanks us for the birthday wishes and prayers.

Apostolate of Prayer: Please pray for those on the **PRAYER LIST** and for their intentions.

Mark Your Calendar:

Formation classes will begin again in January

Council Members: **No Council Meeting in December**

When you invite friends for Christmas, please ask them to bring items for the homeless instead of a "hostess" gift.

WINTER
PROJECT FOR
THE HOMELESS

DONATE NEW
HATS, GLOVES,
WHITE SOCKS,
SCARVES,
EARMUFFS
& TOILETRIES

for
MEN, WOMEN,
& CHILDREN

FOR THE
SHELTER IN
HACKENSACK



Apostolate of Prayer list December, 2015

All persecuted Christians	Dolores's Intentions	Deacon Joe's Intentions	Ralph Padovano	Jen Stepanek.
Anjele	Dorcas	Sandy Kaiser	PAGE FAMILY INTENTIONS	St. John Vianney intents
Elaine Anzevino	Doris and Bill	Sarah Kessler (family)	Paris victims and families	Tara Suplicki
Buddy Bauer	Marie Dragan	Andy Klutkowski	Padre Pio Pr. Grps. Int.	Donald Sutton.
Deacon Tom Bello, OFS (Judy)	Edwin Fehrs.	Shawn Leddy & Family	Stefani Pedone	Joe Sweetland
Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI	Ethan Fehrs.	Alice LeForest	Maria Pedreiro (family)	Fr. Sylvester
Zoila Blacio	+Richard Fetkovich, OFS	Anna Licamelli	Josephine Pedulla..	Syrian Christians (& all refugees)
Pete Blake.	FB friends	Licamelli Family Intentions	Mike Pellegrino	Tau Cross Region (all ints.)
BLESSING BOARD INTS.	Karen Ferrari (sp. int.)	LoBue family	Marguerite Phillips	Maria Terranova
Dallas Boushey..	FERRARI FAM. INTENTIONS	Rosemary LoCascio	Ron Pihokker	Greg Thweatt..
BOYCE FAMILY INTS.	Bob Fitzsimmons	Baby Ryan LoMuscio	POOR CLARE prayer list	Tim Toine
BROS. & SISTS. OF PRAYER	Flora's intentions	The lonely & the homeless	PRIESTS, FRIARS & SISTERS	Ramona Torres
Miriam Bracetty	Robert Fox..	Toni LoSquadro	PUBLIC FIGURES	Silvio & Rachel Travia Family.
Dolores Bruno..	Fran	Dolly M.	Q committee	+Domenica Tripodi
Carmela Barbieri Buda.	Pope Francis	Madden & Tillson	Dawn R.	Sara Tripodi
Silvio Buda Family.	Virginia Franco	Carl and Kathy Magnifico	Sarah R.	William Turner Family.
+Salvatore Cacciatore	FRAZZA FAMILY INTS.	Julio Magnifico	Enzo Ragucci	Gerard & Ruth Villemaire.
Deacon David Campbell, OFS	Bro. Freddy and Formation class	Ed Malin	Regina Pacis (all ints.)	Lois Viola
President Carter	Anne Gadoury	Deacon Joe Mantineo (Misty & Fam.)	Region sp. Int.	Diane Vitale
+John Casale (Joy)	Frank Gallitano	Joe Mantineo, Jr.	Richard	Bill & Carmel Watson Fam..
Josephine Cavallo	Trudy Gassenheimer (sp. int.)	MARIE'S PRAYER INTS.	Ada Rivera's intentions	Barbara Robb Whalen..
Cathy Champon	Carol Gentile	Jackie Marlow.	Keith Roy.	Katherine Wobby.
Baby Charlie	Tom Gentile	Shirley Meacham.	Baby Sam.	Anna Z.'s sp. intentions
Angelo & Rose Cincotta..	GEORGE FAMILY INTS.	Charlie Mechanic.	Ilene & Neil Samuels..	Charlie Zoccoli
Paul & Lucille Clapps	Vincent & Maria Giambona, Sr. Fam..	Joe Mellone	San Damiano Frat. Ints.	
Ed Clayton	+Pablo Gonzalez	Theresa Mellone	Fr. Francis Sariego, OFM Cap.	
Fr. Damian Colicchio	Linda Griffith	MILITARY: LIVING & DECEASED	Pino Scordo.	
Colleen.	Carlos and Rosa Guerrero	Misty's ints.	Ramon Sesin.	
Joe Coralluzzo's ints.	Sally Haddad	Pat Moclair (Sp. Int.)	Andrew Shontz.	
Marguerite Cox	Nancy Haskell..	Mother Seton grp. Ints.	James & Andrea Smullens Fam..	
Helen D.	Ralph & Frances Henry..	MS intentions	John & Mary Smythe.	
Lee D'Arminio	Hospital Intentions	NEC	Linda Solis	
May D'Arminio	Mary Iannucci	NFC	Marie Sortino	
Dave (Helen)	Rose Ingoglia	Doug Noble	SPIRITUAL FIGURES/LEADERS	
Deacon Joe's group int.	IPRAY INTENTIONS	James and Lola Norton Fam.	St. Anne's Frat. Ints.	
+Angela Canfora Demaio (fam)	Iraqi and Coptic Christians	Parente Family	St. Francis Youth	
Development Office Intentions	Joan & Nick	OLTA Region & REC	St. Anthony of Padua Frat. Ints	
Diane (Sp. int.)	Jil	Brian O'Regan.	St. Jos. Maint. Dept.	
Divine Mercy Fraternity Ints.	Jill	Brian & Lynn Ortale Fam..	St. Thomas More Frat. ints.	

Holy Father's Intentions for December, 2015

Universal: Experiencing God's mercy That all may experience the mercy of God, who never tires of forgiving.

Evangelization: Families That families, especially those who suffer, may find in the birth of Jesus a sign of certain hope.

"Rebuild My Church"



We have heard the message of our Lord and Savior just as St. Francis did while praying in front of the San Damiano Cross.

And so, we Pray:

IN THE NAME OF
THE FATHER, Our Creator,
THE SON, Our Savior,
THE HOLY SPIRIT, Our Sanctifier...

ABBA, FATHER! Thank You for the gift of our life and the wonders of Your creation.

We ask You to inflame the hearts of our brothers and sisters, especially the young, to "Seek Your Face."

LORD JESUS, You are our Shepherd. We thank You for showing us the way, for taking up the cross and conquering death. May we have the grace necessary to take up Your cross

in order to bring back the members of our Catholic family who have strayed from the church.

O HOLY SPIRIT, may we be strengthened by the knowledge that You will always be with us.

We pray for Our Holy Father, the clergy, religious and lay people. Inspire and strengthen all of us so that through our prayers, love and sacrifices, we may be able to reach out to our brothers and sisters and bring them back to the fold.

Only with Your help can we Rebuild Your Church so that, united, we may praise You forever.

We ask all this through the Intercession of our Blessed Mother, St. Francis, St. Clare and all Your Saints. Amen

As we approach Christmas, we are busy with many preparations. Let us meditate on the beauty and wonder our Seraphic Father found in the celebration of the Incarnation

St. Francis of Assisi and the Christmas Crib

"The manger was prepared, the hay had been brought, the ox and ass were led in. There simplicity was honored, poverty was exalted, humility was commended, and Greccio was made, as it were, a new Bethlehem."

Francis' highest intention, his chief desire, his uppermost purpose was to observe the holy Gospel in all things and through all things and, with perfect vigilance, with all zeal, with all the longing of his mind and all the fervor of his heart, "to follow the teaching and the footsteps of our Lord Jesus Christ." He would recall Christ's word through persistent meditation and bring to mind his deeds through the most penetrating consideration. The humility of the incarnation and the charity of the passion occupied his memory particularly, to the extent that he wanted to think of hardly anything else.

What he did on the birthday of our Lord Jesus Christ near the little town called Greccio in the third year before his glorious death should especially be noted and recalled with reverent memory. In that place there was a certain man by the name of John, of good reputation and an even better life, whom blessed Francis loved with a special love, for in the place where he lived he held a noble and honorable position in as much as he had trampled upon the nobility of his birth and pursued nobility of soul.



Blessed Francis sent for this man, as he often did, about fifteen days before the birth of the Lord, and he said to him: "If you want us to celebrate the present feast of our Lord at Greccio, go with haste and diligently prepare what I tell you. For I wish to do something that will recall to memory the little Child who was born in Bethlehem and set before our bodily eyes in some way the inconveniences of his infant needs, how he lay in a manger, how, with an ox and an ass standing by, he lay upon the hay where he had been placed. "When the good and faithful man heard these things, he ran with haste and prepared in that place all the things the saint had told him.

But the day of joy drew near, the time of great rejoicing came. The brothers were called from their various places. Men and women of that neighborhood prepared with glad hearts, according to their means, candles and torches to light up that night that has lighted up all the days and years with its gleaming star. At length the saint of

God came, and finding all things prepared, he saw it and was glad.

The manger was prepared, the hay had been brought, the ox and ass were led in. There simplicity was honored, poverty was exalted, humility was commended, and Greccio was made, as it were, a new Bethlehem. The night was lighted up like the day, and it delighted men and beasts. The people came and were filled with new joy over the new mystery. The woods rang with the voices of the crowd and the rocks made answer to their jubilation. The brothers sang, paying their debt of praise to the Lord, and the whole night resounded with their rejoicing. The saint of God stood before the manger, uttering sighs, overcome with love, and filled with a wonderful happiness. The solemnities of the Mass were celebrated over the manger and the priest experienced a new consolation.

The saint of God was clothed with the vestments of the deacon, for he was a deacon, and he sang the holy Gospel in a sonorous voice. And his voice was a strong voice, a sweet voice, a clear voice, a sonorous voice, inviting all to the highest rewards. Then he preached to the people standing about, and he spoke charming words concerning the nativity of the poor king and the little town of Bethlehem.

Frequently too, when he wished to call Christ Jesus, he would call him simply the Child of Bethlehem, aglow with

overflowing love for him; and speaking the word Bethlehem, his voice was more like the bleating of a sheep, His mouth was filled more with sweet affection than with words. Besides, when he spoke the name Child of Bethlehem or Jesus, his tongue licked his lips, as it were, relishing and savoring with pleased palate the sweetness of the word.

The gifts of the Almighty were multiplied there, and a wonderful vision was seen by a certain virtuous man. For he saw a little child lying in the manger lifeless, and he saw the holy man of God go up to it and rouse the child as from a deep sleep. This vision was not unfitting, for the Child Jesus had been forgotten in the hearts of many; but, by the working of his grace, he was brought to life again through his servant St. Francis and stamped upon their fervent memory. At length the solemn night celebration was brought to a close, and each one returned to his home with holy joy.

The hay that had been placed in the manger was kept, so that the Lord might save the beasts of burden and other animals through it as he multiplied his holy mercy. And in truth it so happened that many animals throughout the surrounding region that had various illnesses were freed from their illnesses after eating of this hay. Indeed, even women laboring for a long time in a difficult birth, were delivered safely when some of this hay was placed upon them; and a large number of persons of both sexes of that place, suffering from various illnesses, obtained the health they sought.

Later, the place on which the manger had stood was made sacred by a temple of the Lord, and an altar was built in honor of the most blessed father Francis over the manger and a church was built, so that where once the animals had eaten the hay, there in the future men would eat unto health of soul and body the flesh of the lamb without blemish and without spot, our Lord Jesus Christ, who in highest and ineffable love gave himself to us, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, God, eternally glorious, forever and ever. Amen. Alleluja, Alleluja.

Here ends the first book about the life and acts of Blessed FRANCIS."
-Thomas of Celano, First Life

