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The Cord

St. Francis Fraternity
Hackensack, NJ



In case of Zoom:
Dial: 646-876-9923
Enter:
meeting ID
835 5948 1464 #
Passcode is 364515.

FRATERNITY GATHERING
On Thursday, April 11, 2024 at 6:30 PM

This Month: Sharing on the Saints: St. Leopold Mandic and St. Agnes of Assisi

Please bring your copy of Evening Prayer to the gathering (pp 5-8).

If necessary, call a Council member for an excused absence and pray Evening Prayer at home.



Please see page 4 for information about upcoming projects and events

Leader Evening Prayer: Dawn Farkas (Please choose a reader)

Closing Prayer: Maureen Menakis

Volunteer to share about your Patron Saint: Tony Buda and Natale Tumminia

Sweet Reminder: Domenica and Josephine

(Please keep quantities small)

Volunteers for Clean-up: Vivian and Alicia

(We need a second volunteer for the May gathering)

Health and Welfare: Polanco fam.; Jim & Eileen Ferrara; Pat Franz; Harry Henky; Rosemary LoCascio; Angie Mariniello; Anthony Vasile; Diane Menditto; Cono Spinelli & Fam.; Iris Campillo; Ed Atwood

Special Intentions: F. Cavallo; Tumminia family; P. Moclair; D. Menditto

Family Members: Stefani Pedone, Sara Tripodi, Franz family, Ryan L.; Kathleen McGee (Harry's daughter), Cheyenne Travers; Jan Parker; Ron Pihokker; Rosa Daddario (Pam's mom); Angela Panuccio; James McSweeney; John Casale; Frances Caruso (Domenica's niece); Ken Farkas; Vincenzo Demaio; Maria Rosaria and fam.

Apostolate of Prayer: Please pray for those on the [PRAYER LIST](#) and for their intentions.

Statue of Our Lady: **Apr:** Rosellina **May:** Mimma **June:** Dawn **Jul:** Alessandra **Aug:** Domenica **Sept:** Josephine **Oct:** Lucy **Nov:** Rosellina **Dec:** Domenica



BIRTHDAYS: **April 28:** Dawn Farkas; **May 10:** Teresa Iozzia; **23:** Mimma LoMuscio

Correspondence: We heard from Bro. Bruce. They are looking forward to the gift cards. They would appreciate them closer to Christmas.

Calendar:

Convivenza: April 27, 2024

Brunch: June 9, 2024 (Tickets available at this month's gathering. See Lucy.)



We will start collecting gift cards for the Southwest Missions in May.

We will collect throughout the spring and fall.

Please purchase gift cards for Target or Walmart.

We will need 50

Ten dollar gift cards.

Apostolate of Prayer list April 2024

For the health and well being of our members and families

Please keep our Seekers, Inquirer, and Candidates in your prayers

Holy Father's Prayer intentions for April--For The Role Of Women: Let us pray that the dignity and worth of women be recognized in every culture, and for an end to the discrimination they face in various parts of the world.

Carmen Aguilar and family	Bob Fitzsimmons (Patty)	Hank Meditz (Liz)	Baby Sam.
Irma Aguilar	Flora's intentions	Fr. Meena (Sp. Int)	Josephine Savino
Dianne Ambrose	Pope Francis	Charity Menditto and fam	San Damiano Frat. Ints.
Angela	Franz Family	Diane Menditto (sp. Int.)	Fred Schaeffer, OFS
Fr. Bill Arlia, OFM Cap	Pat Franz	Robert Menditto (Stephanie, Michael)	Bro. Doug Soik, OFM Cap.
Aspirants, Inquirers & Cands	FRAZZA FAMILY INTS.	Middle Eastern Christians	Frank Spina
Beacon friars	Fred	MILITARY: LIVING & DECEASED	SPIRITUAL FIGURES/LEADERS
Zoila Blacio	Gabriel	Ministry of Caring	St. Anne's Frat. Ints.
Pete Blake.	Jean Garofalo (Marie)	Misty's ints.	St. Francis Youth
BLESSING BOARD INTS.	Genaro and Alicia	Pat Moclair (Sp. Int.)	St. Anthony of Padua Frat Intent
BOYCE FAMILY INTS.	Carol Gentile	MOG lapsed and excused	St. Joan of Arc OFS Region
BROS. & SISTS. OF PRAYER	GEORGE FAMILY INTS.	Mother Seton Grp. Ints.	St. John Vianney frat.
Caleb (Flora)	Fr. Giles	Bill and Anne Mulqueen	St. Jos. Maint. Dept.
Ralph Calise (Linda)	Patrice Goodman	Nancy	St. Thomas More Frat. ints.
Pat Cantelmo	Gretchen (Sp. Int.)	NEC	Marcia Stamboulian
Donald Carton	Linda & Tim Griffith	NEC intentions	Lucy Stamilla
John Casale	Willie Guadalupe	Fr. Nick (sp. Int.)	Stigmata Provincial Council & friars
Joyce Cassidy	Carlos & Rosa Guerrero	NFC	Peter Suplicki
Frank Cavallo	Flora Hand	James & Lola Norton Fam.	Tara Suplicki
Josephine Cavallo (family)	Hank's intentions	OLA Region	Megan Swords
CIOFS Formation Secretariat	Elaine Hedtke	OLGEA prayer line ints. & REC	Syrian Christians and churches
Cathy Champon	Harry Henky & Rosemarie	Brian & Lynn Ortale Fam..	Tau Cross Region (all ints.)
Church in Nicaragua	Ralph & Frances Henry.	PAGE FAMILY INTENTIONS	Cheyenne Travers
Lucille Clapps	Holy Name Resp. Care Dept.	Padre Pio Friary friars	Eileen Travers
Colleen.	The Homeless & the Lonely	Padre Pio Pr. Grps. Int.	Kara Travers
Madge Cooke	Hospital Intentions	Paige	Silvio & Rachel Travia Family.
Joe Coralluzzo's ints.	Hurr, flood, fire, earthquake victs	Marie Palazzone	Sara Tripodi
Steven Cornfield	Immigrant & refugee children	Angela Panuccio	Ukraine (all intentions)
Ronnie Crispino	Jack Ingoglia	Domenica Panuccio	Anthony Vasile
Denise Cubita	Rose Ingoglia	Helen Parciasepe	Marie Vasta (All intentions)
Sara (Rosa) Daddario (Pam)	IPRAY INTENTIONS	Jan Parker	Victims of abuse
Paul Dale	Iraqi and Coptic Christians	Paul and Sean (sp. int.)	Victims of fires, floods, storms
May D'Arminio	Julie	PEACE	Victims of gun violence
Deacon Joe's group int.	Sandy K.	Serafina & Stefani Pedone	Victims of terrorism
Deceased family members	Kate	Howie Pfeiffer	Victims of violence & hatred
+Richard Delillo (friends)	Ryan L.	Perú	Vincent
Vincenzo Demaio	Sal Lagatutta	Ron Pihokker	Vocations
Demas Family.	+Latha (family)	POOR CLARE prayer list	Ross Wagner
Eleanor DeRiso	Lapsed OFS members	PRIESTS, FRIARS & SISTERS	Bill & Carmel Watson Fam.
Mark Diverio	Muriel Lechenbusch	PUBLIC FIGURES	Carol Wickersheim
Sue Diverio	Peggy Ledger	Q committee	William
Divine Mercy Fraternity Ints.	Alice LeForest	REC	Fr. Robert Williams, OFM Cap
Dolores's Intentions	Rosemary LoCascio	Regina Pacis (all ints.)	Caroline Yandell
Donna Dorsey	Bro. Lombardo (sp. Int.)	Region sp. Int.	Anna Z's sp. intentions
Paul E.	Barb Luebbers	Ada Rivera's intentions	
Bro. Alex Escalera, OFM Cap.	Barbara Lyne	RJ (family)	
FB friends	Madge (Sp. intention)	Roman Catholic Church	
Ken Farkas	Carl Magnifico (Kathy and fam.)	Ron (Sp. int)	
Ferraras	Angie Mariniello	Ronnie Romano	
Karen Ferrari (sp. int.)	Maria Rosaria (and fam.)	Maria Rosario (family).	
FERRARI FAM. INTENTIONS	Elide Marino	Madeline Rousseau	
Maria Ficken	Tom Mason (Vickie)	Pat Ruggiero	



The Call to Love

Anyone who has been professed for a significant amount of time knows that fraternity can be a source of great joy and great pain and a lot of emotions in between and, yet it **is** our community of love. The virtue that allows us to experience great joy and overcome emotional pain is love. I like to think of love as the activating agent that enables the other virtues to flourish. Love is the balm for broken hearts and the wings to lift souls to God.

The Beatles once sang, “All you need is love.” And that’s a true statement, but what kind of love do we need? The Beatles may have been referring to *Eros*, sensual love, but *Eros* will never deliver balm to the soul or transcendence to the spirit.

Our rule speaks of love many times. Article 12 asks us to “acquire purity of heart ...” so that we are free “... to love God and our brothers and sisters.” Article 19 asks us to honor the divine seed in everyone and to believe in the “...transforming power of love and pardon.” Article 22 identifies our fraternities as communities of love.

The love our Rule speaks of is warm, familial, spiritual, selfless, sacrificial, and unconditional. That is a tall order and one we grow into through conversion. Those of you familiar with the children’s book, the **Velveteen Rabbit**, know that becoming real—and for us that means becoming holy—takes a long time. Blessedly, we have a God who loves us unconditionally. Now, what we have to do is believe it, respond to that love, and share it.

It would be unwise to end this message without mentioning that in addition to fraternal love, healthy boundaries are indispensable in human relationships. Healthy boundaries allow love to grow and thrive. Every person deserves respect and if someone is challenging the dignity of another, in love it must stop. Initially it is best for those involved—not the whole fraternity—to settle the matter privately. (See Matthew 18:15-17) If this fails, pray and forgive that person, but maintain safe emotional boundaries.

When we follow Christ as Secular Franciscans, we resolve to love our brothers and sister even when it is inconvenient or possibly painful. Ponder these questions for personal reflection.

- Reflect on the love you may have experienced in fraternity.
 - What effect did it have on you?
 - Who in your fraternity could use a dose of fraternal love?
 - Are you willing to supply it?
- Reflect on the pain or betrayal you may have experienced in fraternity.
 - How did you handle it?
 - Did you handle it at all?
 - Has it changed you? In what way?
- What role does forgiveness play in our healing and our ability to love?

Thank you to Anne Mulqueen, OFS, Spiritual Assistant to the National Formation Commission, for allowing us to use her work.

“...they should set themselves free to love God and their brothers and sisters.”
Art. 12 Rule



Artist--Sister Victoria Masil of
Franciscan Sisters of Christian
Charity

“To promote fidelity to the charism as well as observance of the Rule.”

Rule Art. 26

For Your Information

- Please bring your copy of **Evening Prayer pages 5-8**
- **OUR SAINTS:** This month **Tony** will share about St. Leopold Mandic and **Natale** will share about St. Agnes of Assisi. Natale will also tell us about his trip to Medjugorje.
- In response to our email, Bro. Bruce let us know that **gift cards** will again be a welcome gift to the Children of the **San José Catholic School** serving **50 children** from Acoma and Laguna Pueblos in New Mexico. There are 7 teachers. We hope that we will again be able to provide 50 gift cards with, perhaps, a few extras for the teachers. We will also **write notes** to the students and teachers as we have done in the past. (**Blank note cards will be appreciated!**) This year we are asking the members to purchase one or more \$10 gift cards from Target or Walmart rather than give cash. (You can bring the gift cards any time between **May and July.**)
- **Contribute to the 2024 Fair Share at any time.** Remember, Fair Share is not dues—it is a share in the support of our fraternity and the higher fraternities. Therefore, according to your means, you can donate a full share, a partial share, or even more than one share.
- **April 18th:** Fraternity Book Club on Zoom at 7PM—Book Club members will be sent the Zoom link. We will discuss **the Epilogue to A Knight and a Lady. The new book (Breath of God) has arrived and will be available at the April meeting. Those who owe me \$17 can pay in May.**
- **Brunch June 9th**
Our guest speaker will be Fr. Robert Williams, OFM Cap., newly elected Provincial Minister of Stigmata Province. Tickets will go on sale at our April gathering. **See Lucy for tickets.**
- **Convivenza April 27th**
The family gathering of Our Lady of the Angels Regional Fraternity will be held at St. Bonaventure Church, 174 Ramsey Street, Paterson, NJ. (Bishop Manning Hall)

Treasurer's Report

<u>Common Fund</u>	<u>Good & Welfare</u>	<u>Fair Share</u>
Balance forward: \$ 2187.60 Income: +31.00* Expenses \$ -50.00** Ending Balance \$ 2168.60	Previous balance: \$355.75 Fraternity Donations +23.00 Donation H2O project -100.00 Don. Eucharistic Cong -100.00 New balance: \$178.75	We have submitted our Fair Share for 2023. For 2024-25 our goal will be based on 28 professed + 1 Candidate 29 x \$45=\$1305
*Common Fund **2 stipends @\$25 each for our Regional Minister and Regional Spiritual Assistant		

You may contribute toward
 2024 Fair Share at any
 time! (See Rosellina)

Evening Prayer April 11, 2024 Thursday, Second Week of Easter

LEADER: God, + come to my assistance. **ALL:** – Lord, make haste to help me.

LEADER: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

ALL: – as it was in the beginning, is now, will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

HYMN: Jesus Christ is Risen Today

Jesus Christ is risen today
Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day
Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross
Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss
Alleluia!



LEADER: Ant. 1 God has appointed him to judge the living and the dead, alleluia.

Psalm 72 -1

Side I

Side II

O God, give your judgment to the king, *
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice *
and your poor in right judgment..

May the mountains bring forth peace for the
people *
and the hills, justice.
May he defend the poor of the people †
and save the children of the needy *
and crush the oppressor.

He shall endure like the sun and the moon *
from age to age.
He shall descend like rain on the meadow, *
like raindrops on the earth.

In his days justice shall flourish *
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea, *
from the Great River to earth's bounds.

Before him his enemies shall fall, *
his foes lick the dust.
The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts *
shall pay him tribute.

The kings of Sheba and Seba *
shall bring him gifts.
Before him all kings shall fall prostrate, *
all nations shall serve him.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, *
and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, *
and will be for ever. Amen.

ALL: God has appointed him to judge the living and the dead, alleluia

LEADER: Ant. 2 All the peoples of the earth will be blessed in him, alleluia.

Psalm 72-2

I

II

For he shall save the poor when they cry *
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak *
and save the lives of the poor.

From oppression he will rescue their lives, *
to him their blood is dear.
Long may he live, *
may the gold of Sheba be given him.
They shall pray for him without ceasing *
and bless him all the day.

<p>May corn be abundant in the land * to the peaks of the mountains. May its fruit rustle like Lebanon; † may men flourish in the cities * like grass on the earth.</p>	<p>May his name be blessed for ever * and endure like the sun. Every tribe shall be blessed in him, * all nations bless his name.</p>
<p>Blessed be the Lord, God of Israel, * who alone works wonders, ever blessed his glorious name. * Let his glory fill the earth.</p>	<p>Amen! Amen!</p>
<p>Glory to the Father, and to the Son, * and to the Holy Spirit:</p>	<p>as it was in the beginning, is now, * and will be for ever. Amen.</p>

LEADER: Psalm Prayer: We call upon your name, Father, and pronounce it blessed above the earth. Give your people the fullness of peace and justice in your kingdom.

ALL: All the peoples of the earth will be blessed in him, alleluia.

LEADER: Ant. 3 Christ, yesterday and today: he is the same for ever, alleluia.

Canticle: Revelation 11:17-18; 12:10b-12a

I	II
<p>We praise you, the Lord God Almighty, * who is and who was. You have assumed your great power, * you have begun your reign.</p>	<p>The nations have raged in anger, * but then came your day of wrath and the moment to judge the dead: * the time to reward your servants the prophets and the holy ones who revere you, * the great and the small alike.</p>
<p>Now have salvation and power come, † the reign of our God and the authority * of his Anointed One. For the accuser of our brothers is cast out, * who night and day accused them before God.</p>	<p>They defeated him by the blood of the Lamb † and by the word of their testimony; * love for life did not deter them from death. So rejoice, you heavens, * and you that dwell therein!</p>
<p>Glory to the Father, and to the Son, * and to the Holy Spirit:</p>	<p>as it was in the beginning, is now, * and will be for ever. Amen.</p>

ALL: Christ, yesterday and today: he is the same for ever, alleluia.

READER: READING: Revelation 7:14b-17

These are the ones who have survived the great period of trial; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

It was this that brought them before God's throne:
 day and night they minister to him in the temple;
 he who sits on the throne will give them shelter.
 Never again shall they know hunger or thirst,
 nor shall the sun or its heat beat down on them,
 for the Lamb on the throne
 will shepherd them.
 He will lead them to springs of life-giving water,
 and God will wipe every tear from their eyes.

RESPONSORY

READER: The splendor of the just will shine before God, alleluia, alleluia.	ALL: — The splendor of the just will shine before God, alleluia, alleluia.
READER: The upright of heart will rejoice,	ALL: — alleluia, alleluia.
READER: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.	ALL: — The splendor of the just will shine before God, alleluia, alleluia..

GOSPEL CANTICLE Canticle of Mary Luke 1:46-55 The soul rejoices in the Lord

LEADER: Ant. Unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains just a single grain of wheat; but if it dies, it will bear much fruit, alleluia.

1

2

My + soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, † my spirit rejoices in God my Savior * for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.	From this day all generations will call me blessed: † the Almighty has done great things for me, * and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him * in every generation.	He has shown the strength of his arm, * he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, * and has lifted up the lowly.	He has filled the hungry with good things, * and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel * for he has remembered his promise of mercy, the promise he made to our fathers, * to Abraham and his children for ever.	Glory to the Father, and to the Son, * and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, * and will be for ever. Amen.	

ALL: Unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains just a single grain of wheat; but if it dies, it will bear much fruit, alleluia.

INTERCESSIONS

LEADER: This is the hour when the King of martyrs offered his life in the upper room and laid it down on the cross.

Let us thank him and say:

ALL: We praise you, O Lord.

READER: We praise you, O Lord, our Savior, inspiration and example for every martyr, for loving us to the end:

ALL: We praise you, O Lord.

READER: For calling all repentant sinners to the rewards of life:

ALL: We praise you, O Lord.

READER: For entrusting to your Church the blood of the new and everlasting covenant poured out for the remission of sin:

ALL: We praise you, O Lord.

READER: For our perseverance in your grace today:

ALL: We praise you, O Lord.

READER: For incorporating our dead brothers and sisters into your own death today:

ALL: We praise you, O Lord.

LEADER: LET US JOIN NOW IN PRAYING THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name;

thy kingdom come;

thy will be done on earth

as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

LEADER: CONCLUDING PRAYER

Father,

to honor you, Saint Stanislaus faced martyrdom with courage.

Keep us strong and loyal in our faith until death.

Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

God, for ever and ever.

— Amen.

**ALL: May the Lord + bless
us,
protect us from all evil
and bring us to everlasting
life.
— Amen.**