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Don't Forget
to bring
the gifts for the
children!

Please attach the tag
with the apartment #
to the bag or
wrapping.

Thank you for your
generosity!



The Cord

St. Francis Fraternity
Hackensack, NJ



FRATERNITY FAMILY DINNER

On **THURSDAY, December 11, 2025 at 6:00 PM Church Hall**

HELPERS: If you would like to help set up, we will be in the hall from 5 PM

THIS MONTH:

FRATERNITY FAMILY DINNER

Also: GIFT RAFFLE and COLLECTION OF CHILDREN'S GIFTS

Please see page 4 for information on our raffle and the gifts you promised to bring for the children



Leader/Reader Evening Prayer: Rosellina Iacono

Closing Prayer: Rosellina

Sweet Reminder: Everyone, please bring a small dessert to go along with our dinner

Health and Welfare: Polanco fam.; Pat Franz; Angie Mariniello; Anthony Vasile; Cono Spinelli & Fam.; Iris Campillo; Ed Atwood; Laura; Ken

Special Intentions: Tumminia family; P. Moclaire; D. Menditto

Family Members: Sara Tripodi, Ryan L.; Kathleen McGee, Cheyenne Travers; Jan Parker; Angela Panuccio; James McSweeney; John Casale; Frances Caruso (Domenica's niece); Vincenzo Demaio; Maria Rosaria & family; Filomena Savoia; Cathy Champon; Anna Panuccio, Joe Panuccio; Joanne Tumminia

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

Statue of Our Lady: December: Rosellina Iacono; January: OPEN; February: OPEN

BIRTHDAYS: December 29: Joann Tumminia; January 7: Lucy Stamilla; 27: Ed Atwood



Correspondence: We received a Thanksgiving card from **JoAnn Rean** who also sends congratulations to Josephine on her Profession. We received a Thank You card from **Rosemarie Henky (Harry's wife)** for the mass offered for his repose.

Calendar:

THURSDAY December 11th gathering: Christmas dinner and gift "raffle." Look around your house for gently used items that would make cute gifts for our raffle. Bring a small dessert or cookies to share for dessert.

ALSO: Please remember to bring your gifts for the children you chose.

Thank you to Mimma LoMuscio and her helpers for making this dinner possible!

December 18th : Our Fraternity will lead the Advent Novena. 6:30 followed by Mass at 7:15.

January 8th gathering: We will choose our saints for 2026.

Fraternity Brunch: To be announced

Apostolate of Prayer list December 2025
For the health and well being of our members and families
Please keep our Aspirants in your prayers

Holy Father's Intention for December- For Christians in areas of conflict: Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.

Dianne Ambrose	Genaro and Alicia	Fr. Nick (sp. Int.)	Jack Studely
Fr. Bill Arlia, OFM Cap	Carol Gentile	NFC	Dawn Suplicki
Aspirants, Inquirers & Cands	GEORGE FAMILY INTS.	OLA Region	Tara Suplicki
Ed Atwood and fam	Fr. Giles	OLGEA prayer line ints. & REC	Syrian Christians and churches
Fr. John Aurilia, ofm Cap	Carlos Ginart	PAGE FAMILY INTENTIONS	Tau Cross Region (all ints.)
Beacon friars	Linda & Tim Griffith	Padre Pio Friary friars	Cheyenne Travers
Zoila Blacio	Rosa Marta Garza	Padre Pio Pr. Grps. Int.	Eileen Travers
Pete Blake.	Flora Hand	Fr. Christopher Panagoplos, TOR	Kara Travers
BLESSING BOARD INTS.	Hank's intentions	Angela Panuccio	Sara Tripodi
Br. Jay, OFM Cap.	Elaine Hedtke	Anna Panuccio	Maria Trovini
BROS. & SISTS. OF PRAYER	Ralph & Frances Henry.	Domenico Panuccio	Ukraine (all intentions)
Ralph Calise (Linda)	Elsa Hill	Joe Panuccio	USA
Pat Cantelmo	Holy Name Resp. Care Dept.	Jan Parker	Anthony Vasile
Caroline and family	The Homeless & the Lonely	Paul and Sean (sp. int.)	Marie Vasta (All intentions)
John Casale	Hospital Intentions	PEACE	Victims of abuse
Josephine Cavallo (family)	Trevor Howe	Fr. Robert Pérez, OFM Cap.	Victims of fires, floods, storms
CIOFS Formation Secretariat	Hurr, flood, fire, and earthq victs	Perú	Victims of gun violence
Cathy Champon	Immigrant & refugee children	POOR CLARE prayer list	Victims of terrorism
Church in Nicaragua	IPRAY INTENTIONS	Pope Leo XIV	Victims of violence & hatred
Lucille Clapps	Iraqi and Coptic Christians	John and Marianne Previty	Viv and hub
Colleen.	Ryan L.	PRIESTS, FRIARS & SISTERS	Vocations
Madge Cooke	Lapsed OFS members	PUBLIC FIGURES	Bill & Carmel Watson Fam.
Joe Coralluzzo's ints.	Larry	Jo Puglisi	Carol Wickersheim
Steven Cornfield	Laura	Q committee	Willie
Ronnie Crispino	Peggy Ledger	REC	Fr. Robert Williams, OFM Cap
Denise Cubita	Bro. Lombardo (sp. Int.)	Regina Pacis (all ints.)	Victor York
Sara (Rosa) Daddario (Pam)	Madge (Sp. intention)	Region sp. Int.	Anna Z's sp. intentions
May D'Arminio	Patti Makely (Joe)	Ada Rivera's intentions	
Deacon Joe's group int.	Dcn. Joe Mantineo (Misty)	RJ (family)	
Deceased family members	Sr. Margaret	Nelson Roman	
Giuseppa Demaio	Angie Mariniello	Roman Catholic Church	
Vincenzo Demaio	Elide Marino	Maddie Romaine	
Eleanor DeRiso	Tom Mason (Vickie)	Maria Rosario (family).	
Anne DeRose (Joan and Jane)	Hank Meditz (Liz)	Madeline Rousseau	
Disa (family)	Fr. Meena (Sp. Int)	Baby Sam.	
Mark Diverio	Charity Menditto and fam	Debbie Saunders.	
Divine Mercy Fraternity Ints.	Diane Menditto (sp. Int.)	Filomena Savoia	
Dolores's Intentions	Joseph M.	San Damiano Frat. Ints.	
Earthquake victims	Michael M.	Fred Schaeffer, OFS	
Trish Endweiss	Middle Eastern Christians	Peggy Southwell	
Denise Erba (Joe, Matt)	MILITARY: LIVING & DECEASED	Frank Spina	
Bro. Alex Escalera, OFM Cap.	Margaret Milizzo	St. Anne's Frat. Ints.	
Ken Farkas	Ministry of Caring	St. Francis Youth	
FB friends/followers	Misty's ints.	St. Anthony of Padua Frat Intent	
Karen Ferrari (sp. ints.)	Pat Moclaire (Sp. Int.)	St. Joan of Arc OFS Region	
Maria Ficken	MOG lapsed and excused	St. John Vianney frat.	
Bob Fitzsimmons (Patty and fam)	Jeanette Mortorano	St. Jos. Maint. Dept.	
Flora's intentions	Mother Seton Grp. Ints.	St. Thomas More Frat. ints.	
Pat Franz	Bill and Anne Mulqueen	Lucy Stamilla	
FRAZZA FAMILY INTS.	Nancy	Stigmata Prov Council & friars	
Gabriel	NEC	Mary Stronach (Bob)	
Marie Faccone	NEC intentions	Grayce Studely	



During Advent we wait for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. We know that he walked on this earth. We know that he is always with us in the Eucharist. But now, we wait for Him to come again.

At this time, let us focus on the prayer that St. Francis said as he knelt before the Crucifix of San Damiano. Each part of it has significance during this time of waiting and conversion.

**Most High,
glorious God,
enlighten the darkness of my heart
and give me
true faith,
certain hope,
and perfect charity,
sense and knowledge,
Lord,
that I may carry out
Your holy and true command.**

Consider: *"Most High, glorious God, enlighten the darkness of my heart"*

Our Rule: Article 7— *"United by their vocation as "brothers and sisters of penance"11, and motivated by the dynamic power of the gospel, let them conform their thoughts and deeds to those of Christ by means of that radical interior change which the gospel itself calls "conversion." Human frailty makes it necessary that this conversion be carried out daily12.*

On this road to renewal the sacrament of reconciliation is the privileged sign of the Father's mercy and the source of grace13."

During Advent, we examine our lives to prepare for the coming of Jesus. We are called to **daily conversion**. Now is a good time to see if we are following that practice.

Consider: *"...and give me true faith, certain hope, and perfect charity, sense and knowledge, Lord,"*

Our Rule: Article 19— *"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."

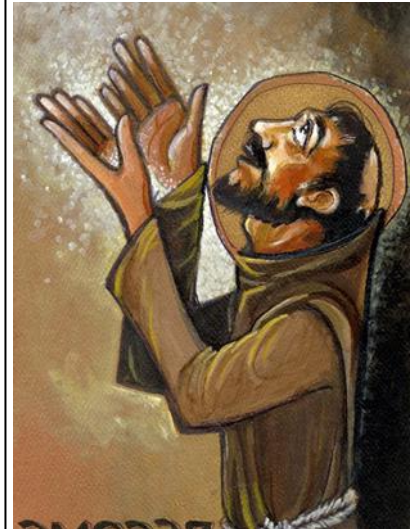
During Advent, we strive to imitate our Blessed Mother who brought joy and hope to the world through her "YES." Now is the time to ask ourselves if we are saying yes to what the Lord is asking of us and to what we promised at our Profession.

Consider: *"...that I may carry out Your holy and true command."*

Our Rule: Article 2— *"The Secular Franciscan Order holds a special place in this family circle. It is an organic union of all Catholic fraternities scattered throughout the world and open to every group of the faithful. In these fraternities the brothers and sisters, led by the Spirit, strive for perfect charity in their own secular state. By their profession they pledge themselves to live the gospel in the manner of St. Francis by means of this rule approved by the Church."*

During Advent, we focus on preparing for the coming of Christ. Our Rule asks that we live the gospel each day. Now is the time to ask ourselves if we are "going from gospel to life and life to the gospel." (Rule-Article 4)

"Most high
glorious God..."



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

Now is the time to
ask ourselves if
we are **"going
from gospel to
life and life to
the gospel."**

(Rule-Article 4)

For Your Information

- **Family Dinner!. Mimma and her team will cook** (yummy). Please bring cookies or a small dessert to share. I have been told that there will be arancini!
- **Gifts for the children in the Hearts Program:** Please place the tag you received on the OUTSIDE. If you don't have your tag, please check with Maureen or Lucy to get the **APARTMENT NUMBER** because this is how the gifts will be sorted and distributed.
- The **gifts for our fraternity raffle** may be new or gently used. You can bring more than one if you wish. Please do not wrap!
- **Fraternity Book Club** will begin again on Zoom on **Thursday, January 21st at 8PM** . We will pick up with Chapters 5 and 6 of the biography of St. Clare.
- **Fair Share is an important part of our commitment to fraternity.** We know that not everyone can contribute the full amount, but in conscience, everyone should be able to contribute something. If you have not contributed, please see Rosellina this month. We will be sending our Fair Share to the region in January. *(Professed members and candidates, also, professed who are excused.)*

Please bring with you pages 5-6 of the Advent Prayer to use at our gathering.

Treasurer's Report

Common Fund

Balance forward: \$ 3,366.74
Income: 00*
Expenses 281.80**
Ending Balance \$ 3,084.94

*Common fund—no income collected
**Locks for closets, Mass card, Profession cake and refreshments

Good & Welfare

Previous balance: \$ 207.75
Fraternity Donations 00

New balance: \$207.75

Fair Share

For **2024-25** our goal will be based on 21 professed

21 x \$45=\$945

Fair Share amount has been reached

Please see Maureen if you have not contributed yet this year!

Professed members and candidates are **asked by our Rule to contribute to Fair Share**. If you have not done so, please contribute this month.

Advent Prayer Service

Call to Worship:

Leader: The holy season of Advent is upon us. As we wait, in joyful anticipation, the coming of our Savior, Jesus, let us invite our Lord to join us in prayer, as we attempt to put our priorities around those things that will bring us closer to our Messiah.

Hymn: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL)
Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel!

Oh, come, our Wisdom from on high,
Who ordered all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel!



Leader: Isaiah 7: 10-15

The Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel."

(Pause for reflection.)

Psalm 85

Side 1: Let us see your mercy
and give us your saving help.
I will hear what you, God, have to say,
a voice that speaks of peace,
peace for your people and your friends
and those who turn to you in their hearts.
Your help is near for those who fear you.
and your glory will dwell in our land.

Side 2: Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven.

Side 1: Yahweh, you will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before you
and peace shall follow your steps.

Side 2: Glory to the Father, and to the Son and
to the Holy Spirit:

Side 1: As it was in the beginning, is now and
will be forever. Amen.

Canticle of Mary *(All together)*

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.

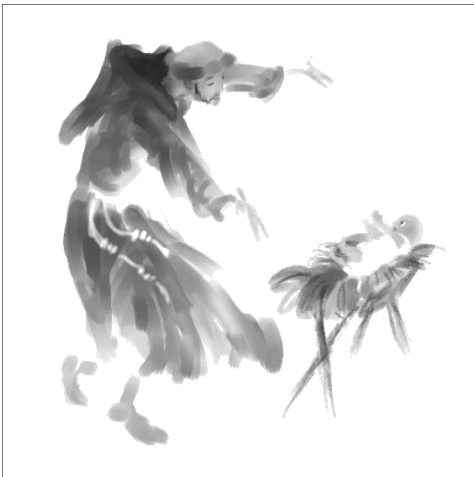
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, * and has lifted up the lowly.

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.

Intercessions:



Leader: To the One who is and who is to come, we pray:

Response: O come, O come, Emmanuel.

Leader: Because we are poor and needy and we long for your fullness, we pray . . .

Leader: Because your people are oppressed and in chains, teach us how to break the bonds that enslave them, we pray . . .

Leader: Because our hearts are stone and our eyes are blind, we ask that you create in us hearts of flesh to see your suffering world, we pray . . .

Leader: Because we await your coming at the dawning of each day, may those who await your final coming see the dawn of eternal life, we pray . . .

Our Father *(All together)*

Closing Prayer: *(All together)*

Loving God, your word comforts us and enables us to wait for your coming in hope. May we not lose heart but, with joyful and thankful hearts, continue to praise you for the wonder of your incarnation.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.