

July 2015

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Padre Pio Fraternity

The Brothers and Sisters of Saint Francis Region - Secular Franciscan Order



VOLUME 3, ISSUE 10

Our Servant Volunteers

For **Hospitality** suggestions see Marie Roccoforte, OFS!

For **Sunshine** see Marge Zombek, OFS!

For info on **JPIC & Website** see Sharon Winzeler, OFS (Treasurer, too.)!

Sign up for **Oak City Outreach** -see Ellen Ferrone!

Sign up for **CPO** see Joanne Jacovec, OFS

For **Prayer Requests:** See Susan Stamey!

Our **history and scrapbook** - go to Ida Irwin, OFS!

Our magnificent **library** is maintained by Maureen Copan, OFS
~~~~~Help yourself to SFO learning !

To add items to the **Newsletter** contact Frank E. Peluso, OFS!

**We're on the Web! Go to:**  
<http://ofscentralnc.org/>



“Serve the Lord with laughter.”  
— Padre Pio

FATHER STEVE AT ST, FRANCIS INN



July visit to the Inn . Pictured with volunteers from St. Francis Church.



## WHAT'S OUTSIDE THE WALL?

Father Steve Patti, OFM was our guest speaker for July. He is currently the pastor of The Community of St. Francis in Raleigh, NC. He grew up in a comfortable neighborhood in Burlington, MA where he felt secure. One day, he looked out the bedroom window and wondered what goes on out there (beyond his safe environment)?

Father Steve talked about moments when we receive grace in our lives that allows us to experience the Divine. He had an opportunity to volunteer in Philadelphia at the St. Francis Inn. (See p4).

Father Steve left a good job behind along with his brand new Acura Integra and the safe environment of Burlington, and went to live and minister among the poor and homeless. He worked with people he had always tried to shun and was told to avoid. Father Steve not only worked

feeding around 300-400 people each day but also listened to their stories. He discovered they were not much different from him but had fallen upon bad times. Being poor and homeless was not their fault.

Our culture is filled with walls, real or metaphorical. We need to recognize the different walls in our culture and ask, “What’s outside that wall?” It can open a whole new way of seeing people and the world. Father Steve knew he wanted to be a priest and from that experience became a Franciscan.

He took some questions. One was: “What are the greatest, most pressing walls?” His answer: “There is a loss of sense of civil dialogue. People are stuck in their own camp.” We thanked Father Steve for his insights.

## AUGUST, 2015 - OVERVIEW FOR THE MONTH - P2



### AUGUST DEDICATION

The month of August is dedicated to The Immaculate Heart of Mary. Pope Leo XIII tells us that all graces come to us from God, through the Sacred Humanity of Jesus Christ, then through the Hands of the Blessed Virgin Mary to us. Of course, we see from this order that God has laid down for our salvation that God is first and above all then the Sacred Humanity of Jesus Christ then Mary the Mother of Jesus. It is after Mary that the importance of the Catholic Church comes. Mary is the Mother of the Church and She is the highest member after Jesus Christ, the Head of the

Church. In the Gospel Jesus said, "You are my friends if you do what I command. Mary said, "Do whatever he tells you."

### HAPPY AUGUST BIRTHDAYS



**Thomas Ryan, OFS**  
August 18

**Bernie Dawson, OFS**  
August 27

**Lynn Oeser**  
August 30

"There are two great days in a person's life - the day we are born and the day we discover why." ~ *William Barclay*

"Oh Beautiful for smoggy skies, insecticided grain, For strip-mined mountain's majesty above the asphalt plain. America, America, man sheds his waste on thee, And hides the pines with billboard signs, from sea to oily sea." - G. Carlin

### COUNCIL MEMBERS

**Spiritual Assistant:**  
Rev. Douglas P. Reed

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**Area 3 Councilors:**  
Carmen Madero, OFS  
Frank Massey, OFS

I love you this much!

Totally love Him  
who gave Himself  
totally out of  
love for you.

*St. Clare Of Assisi*

meetville.com



### St. Clare's Mission in Life - *Joan Mueller OSC*

St. Clare's whole mission in her life was to make life better for the poor and to love God, to be with God and to contemplate God and in doing that in her living and in her life to really serve the poor and to be with the poor. She didn't separate contemplation from love of the poor, being with the poor. These two things were integral: contemplation and love of the poor. Clare had this idea – radical at the time – to take the dowries of the wealthy women and to give those dowries to the poor which was literally in the middle ages like turning the world upside down. The rich became poor and the poor became at least able to survive. What was astonishing was that this movement really caught on and throughout Europe there were many monasteries of women who were inspired by this poverty movement of St. Clare.

**MOST HIGH, GLORIOUS GOD, ENLIGHTEN THE DARKNESS OF OUR MINDS. GIVE US A **RIGHT** FAITH, A FIRM **HOPE** AND A **PERFECT** CHARITY, SO THAT WE MAY ALWAYS AND IN ALL THINGS ACT ACCORDING TO YOUR HOLY WILL. AMEN.**

### **AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

RALEIGH N.C.— In a June 16 meeting with the Raleigh City Council, Larry Jarvis, director of the housing and neighborhoods department outlined a five-year plan which will guide the city's affordable housing initiatives for the next five years.

Jarvis said the challenges facing affordable housing in Raleigh included the strong demand for homes near downtown, the rise in property values and weak links to transit.

On July seventh, a sea of of **white shirts** swept over town hall to support the affordable housing plan. Members of our fraternity joined the Interfaith Group to back the plan as proposed by Cathy Tamsberg.



**The Affordable Housing White Shirts  
Ellen, Joanne, Frank, and Susan**

### **FRANCISCAN SAINTS FOR AUGUST**

#### **2 Our Lady of the Angels of the Portiuncula**

3 Bl. Frederic Janssoone, priest, I Ord.

4 St. John Vianney, priest, III Ord.

7 Bls. Agathangelus and Cassian, priests and martyrs, I Ord.

9 Bl. John of La Verna, priest, I Ord.

**11 St. Clare of Assisi, virgin, II Ord.**

13 Bl. Mark of Aviano, priest, I Ord.

14 St. Maximilian Kolbe, priest, I Ord.

17 St. Roch, III Ord.

18 Bls. John-Louis Loir, Protase Bourdon and Sebastian François, priests, martyrs of Rochefort, I Ord.

19 St. Louis of Toulouse, bishop, I Ord.

21 St. Pius X, pope, III Ord.

23 Bl. Bernard of Offida, religious, I Ord.

**25 St. Louis IX, king, Patron of the Third Orders. He was renowned for his charity. The peace and blessings of the realm come to us through the poor, he would say. Beggars were fed from his table, he ate their leavings, washed their feet, ministered to the needs of the lepers, and daily fed over one hundred poor He founded many hospitals and other institutions.**

## **🦋 OAK CITY CENTER OUTREACH – FOURTH SATURDAY 🦋**

Our fraternity hosted the dinner at Oak City Outreach Center in downtown Raleigh on Saturday July 25, 2015. There were about 140 guests. The guest consumed most of the food we had including birthday cakes provided by a friend of Susan Stamey. More fruits such as bananas and oranges are needed, sign up when Ellen Ferrone e-mails the sign up list to you.

**CPO Volunteers** are working there on the third Monday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m,

**August 7-August 9, 2015:** Annual Regional Gathering at Ridgecrest Conference Center. 12 of us have signed up.

**October 2-4, 2015:** Secular Franciscan Retreat, Transitus and Feast Day Mass of St. Francis of Assisi at Avila Retreat Center, Durham, Facilitator: Joanita Nellenbach, OFS

**October 3, 2015:** Transitus of St. Francis of Assisi in Our Lady of the Angels Chapel at St.Francis Raleigh

**October 24-25, 2015:** Visitation by the Regional Minister and Spiritual Assistant

**December 5, 2015:** Annual Fraternity Retreat at the Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi Raleigh, NC



### SUMMER PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL KIDS

(A great Idea)

The St. Francis Inn is a Franciscan community located in the Kensington neighborhood of Philadelphia. Their community is composed of religious and lay people who live and minister among the poor and homeless. They seek to empower persons to break the cycle of homelessness and poverty and address structural injustices.

During the school year children eat free or reduced price-meals at school. The Philly Summer Meal program at St. Francis Inn of Philadelphia helps to fill that gap, so kids have the nutritious food they need to stay healthy all summer.

Contact: [www.stfrancisinn.org](http://www.stfrancisinn.org) ~ 2441 Kensington Ave / Philadelphia, PA



Summer Block Party at St. Francis Inn



ST. FRANCIS

Laudato Si

### ENCYCLICAL LETTER FROM 10 -19 POPE FRANCIS

10. I do not want to write this Encyclical without turning to that attractive and compelling figure, whose name I took as my guide and inspiration when I was elected Bishop of Rome. I believe that Saint Francis is the example par excellence of care for the vulnerable and of an integral ecology lived out joyfully and authentically. He is the patron saint of all who study and work in the area of ecology, and he is also much loved by non-Christians. He was particularly concerned for God’s creation and for the poor and outcast. He loved, and was deeply loved for his joy, his generous self-giving, his openheartedness. He was a mystic and a pilgrim who lived in simplicity and in wonderful harmony with God, with others, with nature and with himself. He shows us just how inseparable the bond is between concern for nature, justice for the poor, commitment to society, and interior peace.

11. Francis helps us to see that an integral ecology calls for openness to categories which transcend the language of mathematics and biology, and take us to the heart of what it is to be human. Just as happens when we fall in love with someone, whenever he would gaze at the sun, the moon or the smallest of animals, he burst into song, drawing all other creatures into his praise. He communed with all creation, even preaching to the flowers, inviting them “to praise the Lord, just as if they were endowed with reason”.<sup>19</sup> His response to the world around him was so much more than intellectual appreciation or economic calculus, for to him each and every creature was a sister united to him by bonds of affection. That is why he felt called to care for all that exists. His disciple Saint Bonaventure tells us that, “from a reflection on the primary source of all things, filled with even more abundant piety, he would call creatures, no matter how small, by the name of ‘brother’ or ‘sister’”.<sup>20</sup> Such a conviction cannot be written off as naive romanticism, for it affects the choices which determine our behavior. If we approach nature and the environment without this openness to awe and wonder, if we no longer speak the language of fraternity and beauty in our relationship with the world, our attitude will be that of masters, consumers, ruthless exploiters, unable to set limits on their immediate needs. By contrast, if we feel intimately united with all that exists, then sobriety and care will well up spontaneously. The poverty and austerity of Saint Francis were no mere veneer of asceticism, but something much more radical: a refusal to turn reality into an object simply to be used and controlled. <sup>19</sup> Thomas of Celano, The Life of Saint Francis, I, 29, 81: in Francis of Assisi: Early Documents, vol. 1, New York-Lon- don-Manila, 1999, 251.



<sup>20</sup> The Major Legend of Saint Francis, VIII, 6, in Francis of Assisi: Early Documents, vol. 2, New York-London-Manila, 2000, 590.