

# *Padre Pio Fraternity*

## *Brothers and Sisters of St. Francis*

### *Region*

### **On-Going Formation**

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” said Our Lord. Creation began with Christ, and is ever in the process of moving toward fulfillment in Christ. By taking a good look at the world around us, our glimpse of creation that is, we can see the beginning of this evolution which Fr. Teilhard de Chardin, SJ, had much to write about.

Ilia Delio, OFS, uses the term “Christo-genesis” to describe this movement.

Our brother David Shick, OFS, gave us an excellent talk about the ramifications and relevance of Christo-genesis in our modern world, as brought up in Chapter 7 of Ilia Delio’s *the Humility of God*. The proliferation of technology, travel, and international commerce has done much to make most all of us, all around the world, far more aware of our interdependence. Our world is more akin to a “global village” than ever before.



As Christians living in the world today, we are the catalysis of the living force behind this movement of all people toward unity in Christ, and therefore called to participate in Christo-genesis. That’s quite a responsibility we have!

To do this we must be *Christic* Christians, meaning Christ-centered, with a Christ-like love that bends down to embrace everyone, no matter what. The Holy Trinity is our model for this, a completely self-emptying love in which all is given to the other.

On the flip side, Delio defines sin as the failure to love, an “erasure of Christ” in the world.

“It is the task of Christians to help personalize the universe in the love of Christ,” Delio wrote. “We are called to...Christify the universe by our actions of love...This is the distinct Christian vocation, to discover Christ at the heart of the universe in all people...”

So remember to be that shining example!

## Holy Father’s Intentions for July –

### Elderly

We pray for the elderly, who represent the roots and memory of a people; may their experience and wisdom help young people to look towards the future with hope and responsibility.

### Candidate’s Corner –

#### Henry Simms



Henry Simms, nickname "Harry." I was born on August 10 in Long Island City, NY. Raised in the Ravenswood Housing Projects. My first career job was as a medical laboratory technician. After moving to Las Vegas, I entered the Apprenticeship of the International Union of Operating Engineers, working as a maintenance engineer at Circus Circus Hotel Casino for 32-1/2 years. So yes, I did work for a bunch of clowns.

After retiring, Nancy and I chose to follow our eldest daughter to Raleigh, in 2015. Melanie is a cardio ultrasound tech at Duke Children's Hospital. Our youngest daughter is a teacher in a small town called Winnemucca, in northern Nevada. I play computer strategy games and read (a lot). Nancy and I like going on cruises. She likes Alaska, and I want to go on a river cruise in Europe.

Member of Saint Francis of Assisi. What got me interested in the Secular Franciscans? I approached Father Steve Kluge after a Mass to thank him for calling me (and all of us) a saint. He told me I was one, and the challenge was to live like one, that I needed to join the Secular Franciscans.

Our website is at: <https://ofscentralnc.org/>

**Council Members**

**Spiritual Assistant:**  
Fr. Hugh Macsherry, OFM

**Minister:**  
Sharon Winzeler, OFS

**Vice Minister:**  
Ellen Ferrone, OFS

**Formation Director:**  
Charlotte Witosky, OFS

**a:**  
Zubair Simonson, OFS

**Secretary:**  
Anna Rzewnicki, OFS

**Councilors:**  
Dave Shick, OFS  
Joan Monti, OFS  
Jeanne Casciere, OFS

**BSSF Region Minister:**  
DorothyAnn Rowland, OFS

**Area 3 Councilors:**  
Ellen Ferrone, OFS  
Martha Roman, OFS



**Apostolates**

**For JPIC:**

Email Ellen Ferrone, OFS

**For the website:**

Email Sharon Winzeler, OFS

**For Oak City Cares:**

Email Lee

Cunningham, OFS, or  
Marylou Holoway, OFS

**For CPO or Library:**

Email Maureen Copan, OFS

**For Hospitality:**

Email Gladys Whitehouse,  
OFS

**For Prayer Requests:**

Email Deacon Phil  
Rzewnicki, OFS

**For Scrapbook:**

Email Jeanette Cottone, OFS

**For Sunshine:**

Email Mayra Rangel

**For the Newsletter:**

Email Zubair Simonson, OFS

**Candidate’s Corner –**

**Brian Dennison**

I was born on May 29 in Oakland, California. I have been married my wife Peggy for 44 years this past September. We have two children, Erika, and our son, Luke, who died in an auto accident in 1997. We have three beautiful grandchildren, Isabelle, Evan, and Justus.



I retired from the US Coast Guard in 1995 and then retired again from Coast Guard Civil Service in 2010.

I belong to St. Francis of Assisi Church in Raleigh. I am a former Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus and have been a member for over 30 years. Louis Coker, a brother Knight, inspired me to come and see about becoming a Secular Franciscan. I love the Franciscan way of life, the simple unencumbered joy of following St. Francis. I have lived in 5 states Alaska, California, Hawaii, Michigan, and North Carolina. I enjoy traveling, especially internationally, and visiting really old churches in Italy and other European counties. I enjoy walking, especially in scenic locations.



***Our next fraternity gathering will be on July 24, at the Church of St Francis of Assisi***

## Am I the only one?



When I think about God, and I look for Him, I find Him in the silence.

Those secluded places where the only sound is the wind in the trees,  
me and my thoughts. The quiet and the solitude.

I think about my favorite people. Jesus in the forest, Francis in the cave, John of the Cross in the cell.

Late at night, when the world is sleeping, those are our best conversations.

Just me and the Lord. My Abba. The only one who really understand me.

And I wonder, am I the only one?

*-Rachel Bongiorno, OFS*



**Chris Peffley, OFS – July 2**

**Victoria Romero, OFS – July 5**

**Sr. Bernadette Capola, OSC – July 7**

**Sr. Carolyn Forgette, OSC – July 10**

**Sr. Claudia Phillips, OSC – July 18**

*\*If you would like to donate to the Padre Pio Fraternity via Zelle, the email address linked to the bank account is: [secularppt995@gmail.com](mailto:secularppt995@gmail.com)*

**Profession Anniversaries:**

Maureen Copan, OFS,  
Suzie Nelson, OFS,  
and Sharon Winzeler, OFS,



All will be celebrating eight years as  
Secular Franciscans on July 12.



Christo-genesis, the world's movement toward the fulfillment of Christ, has not been a straight line. Our gathering in June was held only two days after the Supreme Court's decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, a stunning turn-of-events which reminds us that the world is indeed destined to become a much kinder place, and that our prayers do indeed get answered, so long as we are patient and our cause is just.

**Words of Faith by Padre Pio:**

“The conversion of the United States will be slow, but sure.” <https://catholicism.org/the-rosary-and-the-republic.html>

**Items of Interest:**

- If you intend to attend ARG this August 19-21, in Black Mountain, NC, please let Ellen Ferrone, OFS, know by July 4.
- Come and See will be on September 26, during our meeting time, so please let anyone who may be interested know!
- Mass at St. Francis will be offered at 5:30 pm on July 9 for our departed brother Louis Coker, OFS. Dinner at the Leesville Tap Room will be afterwards. Please let either Sharon Winzeler, OFS, or Ellen Ferrone, OFS, know if you intend to attend dinner afterwards.
- Our fraternity directory is being updated. Please let Sharon Winzeler, OFS, know if there have been any changes in your address, email, or phone number.

## July – Month of the Precious Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ

1. Feast of the Precious Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ
2. Feast of the Visitation of Our Lady
3. Bl. Marie Anne Fontcuberta, Virgin, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1886
4. [40 Martyrs of China, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order and Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1900](#)
5. Bl. Ignace Falzon, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1865
6. St. Maria Goretti, Virgin Martyr, Cordbearer, d. 1902
7. [Bl. Oddino Barrotti, Priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1400](#)
8. [St. Elizabeth of Portugal, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1336](#)
9. [St. Veronica Giuliani, Virgin, Capuchin religious, d. 1727](#)
10. 8 Martyrs religious of the Franciscan 1st Order of Damas, d. 1860
11. [11 Martyrs religious of the Franciscan 1st Order of Holland, d. 1572](#)
12. [Sts. Geoffrey and Joachim, Priests, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, martyrs 1679](#)
13. [St. Francis Solano, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1610](#)
14. [St. Bonaventure, Bishop, Doctor of the Church, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1274](#)
15. [Bl. Bernard of Baden, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1458](#)
16. Our Lady of Mount Carmel; [St. Marie-Madeleine Postel, Virgin, religious of the Third-Order Regular \[living in community, under a Rule\], d. 1846](#)
17. Bl. Pierre De Foligno, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1614
18. St. Camillus de Lellis, Priest, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1614
19. St. Vincent de Paul, Priest, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1660
20. St. Jerome Emilien, Priest, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1537
21. [St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest, Capuchin religious, Doctor of the Church, d. 1619](#)
22. [Bl. Angelina of Marciano, Virgin, religious of the Third-Order Regular \[living in community, under a Rule\], d. 1435](#)
23. [Bl. Louise of Savoy, Virgin, of the Franciscan 2nd-Order; a "Poor Clare" sister, d. 1503](#)
24. Bl. Modestin de Jesus-Marie, Priest, religious of the Franciscan 1st Order, d. 1864
25. Bl. Antoine Lucci, Bishop, Conventual religious, d. 1752
26. St. Anne, mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary
27. [Bl. Mary Magdalene Martinengo, Virgin, Capuchin, d. 1737](#)
28. Bl. Marie-Therese of the Infant Jesus, Virgin, Capuchin, martyr 1941
29. Bl. Alphonse de l'Immaculee, virgin, religious of the Third-Order Regular [living in community, under a Rule], d. 1946
30. St. Leopold de Castelnovo, Priest, Capuchin religious, d. 1942
31. St. Ignace de Loyola, Priest, had been a tertiary before founding or joining another religious Institute, d. 1556